South Africa Service Learning Program Brochure

Tammy Meyers

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Academic requirements: Marquette’s South Africa Service Learning Program is open to undergraduate students from any discipline enrolled in an accredited U.S. college or university.

- Preference will be given to students of junior standing and above.
- 2.75 GPA preferred.
- Demonstrated knowledge or previous study of Africa preferred.

Application requirements: Applications are due October 1 for the following spring semester and March 1 for the following fall semester. All applications will be reviewed after the deadline has passed. Along with your application, you will need to submit:

- Three references (character, academic and service)
- Motivation essay
- Official transcript (non-Marquette students only)
- Transcript Request Form (non-Marquette students only)
- Online Study Abroad Adviser Approval (non-Marquette students only)

Financial considerations: Marquette students can apply Marquette scholarships and federal and state financial aid to the program. Students from other institutions should consult their home campuses’ study abroad office about financial aid transfer policies. In addition to tuition, program expenses include airfare, room and board, medical insurance, and incidentals. Complete costs can be found at marquette.edu/sfrica.

Marquette reserves the right to modify or cancel the program as may be required by unforeseen circumstances.
EXPLORE SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE TOWN

Marquette’s South Africa Service Learning Program is based in cosmopolitan Cape Town, at the southern tip of the African continent. The people of South Africa call their country the Rainbow Nation to demonstrate pride in their racial, ethnic and linguistic diversity. The country has 11 official languages. In the Cape Town area, you will predominantly hear Xhosa, Afrikaans and English. While living in Cape Town, you will become acquainted with South Africa’s rich history and see firsthand how the country is rebuilding itself after decades of government-enforced apartheid. Cape Town’s diverse socioeconomic communities will become your classroom and its leaders your teachers.

HISTORY, CULTURE AND PEOPLE

You will have the opportunity to visit significant South African historical and cultural sites, such as Table Mountain; Historic District 6 in the city’s center; and Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners were incarcerated during apartheid. In addition to a spectacular array of wildlife unique to South Africa, you will experience powerful literary and artistic voices, traditional music, delicious foods, and diverse architecture.

STUDENT HOUSING — IMMERSE YOURSELF

You will live with fellow program participants in the Kimberley House in the Observatory neighborhood of Cape Town. Known locally as “Obs,” the neighborhood is an intimate community with great energy. As part of predeparture and on-site orientation, you will be advised of key precautionary measures and the safety resources available, such as how to access neighborhood security escort services.

To ensure a positive experience, a full-time program director is on site in South Africa to provide classes, as well as service learning placements.

ACADEMICS

From education to political science to nursing majors, students from all disciplines are eligible to study in South Africa. Throughout the semester, you will take four or five courses, two of which are designed specifically for program participants. You can choose the other two or three courses from University of the Western Cape curriculum.

REQUIRED PROGRAM COURSES

Theology of Forgiveness, Reconciliation and Justice
Explore how people of all faiths are called to play a positive role in bringing about forgiveness, reconciliation and justice.

Leaders in Grassroots Organizations: Community Development and Social Analysis
Investigate how people, empowered by leaders at the community level, address their development needs and bring about change through analysis of the economic, social, political, environmental, and cultural structures that create poverty and conflict. Text and refine your own models of grassroots leadership through service learning placements.

UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE

Founded in 1960, the University of the Western Cape is a leading research and teaching institution that was one of the first South African universities to formally oppose apartheid. With 14,000 students and more than 200 degree programs, UWC is a major university committed to academic excellence, cultural diversity, and building an equitable and dynamic society. Marquette is one of a select group of U.S. institutions that partners with the university.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Choose two or three electives from a variety of disciplines at UWC, including education, health sciences, humanities, mathematics, natural sciences and social sciences. More specific course information is available at marquette.edu/safrica.

LEARN THROUGH ACTION

SERVICE LEARNING

Put your education to work to address global challenges. You will serve with a community-based organization two days a week during the semester. These service learning sites will give you the opportunity to make a difference in the ongoing transformation of South Africa by working on community education, health issues, gender inequities, sustainable living and youth education. The selected organizations provide services for and advocate on behalf of people whose voices are not heard and who continue to struggle with injustice and pervasive poverty. Your interests and professional goals will be strongly considered in your placement.

PAST SERVICE LEARNING SITES INCLUDE:

- Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation
- Learn to Earn
- The Saartjie Baartman Center for Women and Children
- Youth Cultural Connection Project
- Cape Town Refugee Center
- The Saartjie Baartman Center for Women and Children
- Sustainable Business and Economic Development
- The Soweto Artisan and Farmers Market
- Education and youth
- Bertrand Wiler Center for Peace and International Justice
- To view the entire list of service learning sites and read student testimonials about their experiences, visit marquette.edu/safrica.