

**SYLLABUS – UF in MADAGASCAR
BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION IN A DEVELOPING COUNTRY**

Class Syllabus

Course Number and Credits

ZOO4956 [Overseas Studies]

6 UF GPA credits

Prerequisites: BSC 2011 and 2011L with minimum grades of C and undergraduate advisor permission. Students who haven't completed BSC 2011 and/or 2011L may enroll in this study abroad course by obtaining prior approval from the instructor.

Instructors

Course Director: Michele R. Tennant, PhD, University Librarian, Health Science Center Libraries, Email:

tennantm@ufl.edu (cell phone and WhatsApp number while in Madagascar: 352-222-5502)

Co-Instructor: Michael M. Miyamoto, PhD, Professor, Department of Biology, Office: Bartram 328, Telephone: 352-392-3275, Email: miyamoto@ufl.edu (cell phone number while in Madagascar: +261 32 79 082 93)

Course Description

This course focuses on experiential learning through guided action. Students will examine the relationship between humans and the environment in Madagascar by comparing and contrasting the ecological, geographic, social, economic, political, and historical factors influencing the island's natural resource management. Through their travels around the country, students will be exposed to Madagascar's diverse and unique peoples, cultures, ecosystems, and wildlife; will be introduced to several constituencies affecting conservation and sustainable development in Madagascar; and will improve their conceptual and practical skills to critically examine and assess these conservation efforts and the various ethical dimensions of sustainable development practices.

Course Goals and Objectives

- Increased knowledge and appreciation of the unique animals, plants, and environments of Madagascar
- Increased knowledge and appreciation of the culture, geography, and people of Madagascar
- Enhanced understanding of conservation management strategies and the value of biodiversity
- Development of new or improved field skills
- Increased intercultural awareness and sensitivity
- Increased global awareness and intercultural competence

Textbook and Class Readings

Required: Scales, I. R. (Ed.). 2014. Conservation and Environmental Management in Madagascar. Taylor and Francis, Hoboken, NJ. **Note – An electronic version of the textbook can be found in the UF Catalog, and a physical copy will be placed on reserve at the Health Science Center Library.**

Plus, selected articles from the primary literature related to the locations in which the class will study; these will be available in Canvas.

Recommended:

Austin, D., Bradt, H. 2014. Madagascar (chapters 1-6), 11th edition. Bradt Travel Guides, IDC House, Bucks, England.

Jolly, A. 2015. Thank You, Madagascar: The Conservation Diaries of Alison Jolly. Zed Books Ltd, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL.

Tyson, P. 2001. *The Eighth Continent: Life, Death, and Discovery in the Lost World of Madagascar*. Harper Collins Publishers, New York, NY.

- Also note that the instructors will bring the following field guides for use throughout the program.
Garbutt, N. 2007. *Mammals of Madagascar: A Complete Guide*. Yale University Press, New Haven, CT.

Glaw, F., Vences, M. 2007. *A Field Guide to the Amphibians and Reptiles of Madagascar*, 3rd edition. Vences & Glaw Verlag, Cologne, Germany.

Sinclair, I., Langrand, O. 2013. *Chamberlain's Birds of the Indian Ocean Islands: Madagascar, Reunion, Rodrigues, Seychelles, and the Cormoros*. Struik Nature, Cape Town, South Africa.

Graded Activities and Grades

Final grades will be determined as follows:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>% of total</u>
Participation	500 points	50%
Field Journal	300 points	30%
Final Report	200 points	20%
Total	1,000 points	

Minimum grade cutoffs are listed below. Final grades will not be curved at the end of the semester nor are there any extra credit points.

<u>Point Range (%)</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
≥90%	A
≥87%	A-
≥83%	B+
≥80%	B
≥77%	B-
≥73%	C+
≥70%	C
≥65%	C-
≥55%	D
<55%	E

Participation:

All students are expected to actively participate in all aspects of this course and program. Since this course does not rely on exams or many lectures, its success is dependent upon the students taking part in organized activities and contributing to assignments, presentations, and discussions.

Prior to departure, we will have four on-campus group orientations to discuss both academic aspects (e.g., the people, cultures, wildlife, geography, and environments of Madagascar) and more practical issues (e.g., vaccinations, food and water, health, individual safety, travel, money, customs, and behavior). Each pre-departure orientation will be 50 minutes and will likely be held in room C2-41A inside of the Health Science Center Library.

Field Journal:

All students will document and write a summary of what they learn each day for the duration of the program. These daily entries should combine the new experiences and information for the day (e.g., as gained through a hike and through their guides) with their own personal observations and experiences. Field journals are due upon return from Madagascar.

Final Report:

Students will select a topic and then present their report to the two co-instructors 7 to 10 days after the in-country part of the course ends. Sample topics may include such items as: the relationship between Malagasy people, their culture, and the environment; effects of recent political and economic turmoil on the environment; the impact of community-based natural resource management; geographical issues affecting the environment; protection of endangered species; or the effects of exportation and demand for Madagascar's natural resources. Students should inform their reports with information from guest lectures and field work in Madagascar, and will be encouraged to include their own opinions and reflections from their field journals.

Additional Comments on Grading:

Your instructors truly want your visit to Madagascar to be special, unforgettable, transformative, and enjoyable. However, for this to happen, you will need to prepare for each daily activity, participate in all activities, collaborate with the other course participants and with the local experts (e.g., guides and researchers), and keep up with your assignments (e.g., pre-departure readings).

Attendance at all specified (i.e., in-class and in-field) activities is mandatory. Absences will only be excused because of illness or personal emergency. Unexcused absences will be penalized by a 5% deduction from your grade. Late work will be penalized 5 points each day.

Your participation, field journal, and report will be evaluated in terms of how thoroughly you treat the current topic; whether your ideas and points are well-thought out, organized, and developed; and whether you make good connections (i.e., real insights) between the material and your personal experiences and opinions.

COURSE WEBSITE:

Course website: E-Learning (Canvas) website, <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>

The E-Learning (Canvas) website is where the class syllabus, handouts, notes and assignments will be posted, along with any announcements. This site is also where you will find basic course-related information. Please remember that you are responsible for all announcements made in lecture and/or posted on the course website for this class.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT:

We are committed for this course to be helpful and engaging for students of all diverse backgrounds and perspectives and that your learning needs are served in and out of class. We will present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, nationality, race, religion, sexuality, socioeconomic status, and more.

It is our goal to make all class materials and assignments accessible to everyone, using the principles of universal design for learning.

If you require specific academic accommodations, please discuss this with us as soon as possible in the semester and additionally check out the resources of the Disability Resource Center (<https://disability.ufl.edu/>, 352-392-8565).

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS:

Please provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing the online evaluation at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but you

will be informed about specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to you at any time at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states,

“We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.”

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

RESOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL HELP:

Health and Wellness

- U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/> , 392-1575
- UF Title IX: inform@titleix.ufl.edu , 352-273-1094
- University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

- E-learning technical support, <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml> , 352-392-4357 (select option 2), Learning-support@ufl.edu
- Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>
- Student Complaints On-Campus: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>
- UF Student Success: For improving study skills to connecting with a peer tutor, peer mentor, success coach, academic advisor, and wellness resources, go to <http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu>

See below for tentative course schedule and lodging information; note that all dates, times, locations, and activities are subject to change based on weather or other local conditions.

Date	Topic	Lodging
March 2	In class at UF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student and Professor Meet and Greet/Q&A, trip itinerary, class syllabus 	
March 22	In class at UF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staying Healthy in Madagascar (UF Travel Clinic) 	

April 5	In class at UF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology and Peopling of Madagascar 	
April 12	In class at UF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malagasy Culture and Food (Jill and Victor Ranaivoson) 	
April 19	In class at UF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Trip Preparation 	
Day 1 Tuesday, May 23	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students arrive and are met at airport • Welcome to Madagascar and student briefing • Dinner Sakamanga 	Hotel Sakamanga Lot IBK7bis rue Ratianarivo AMPASAMADINIKA ANTANANARIVO 101 261 20 22 358 09
Day 2 Wednesday, May 24	Study Abroad – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City tour including Queens Palace • Lunch Lokanga • Malagasy dinner 	
Day 3 Thursday, May 25	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parc Tsarasaotra (bird watching and nature; approximately 2 hours) • Natural History Museum (approximately 2 hours) • Dinner with conservation specialist at Italian restaurant 	
Day 4 Friday, May 26	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambohimanga-atelier “Valiha” – traditional music • Depart Antananarivo for Andasibe • Mobile Library of Madagascar • Lecture on projects at NGO Association Mitsinjo • Night walk on the road 	Hotel Feon'ny Ala Andasibe, Madagascar +261 20 56 832 02 contact@feonnyala- hotel.com
Day 5 Saturday, May 27	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiking with Association Mitsinjo • Mitsinjo Reforestation Project • Frog Facility • Association Mitsinjo night hike 	
Day 6 Sunday, May 28	Study Abroad – Pentecost Sunday – national holiday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiking in Andasibe-Mantadia National Park (Mantadia side) • Night hike to V.O.I.M.M.A. 	
Day 7 Monday, May 29	Study Abroad - Pentecost Monday – national holiday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiking in Analamazaotra half of Andasibe-Mantadia National Park, or Vohimana Reserve (depending on what nature has been seen thus far) • Village tour 	
Day 8 Tuesday, May 30	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early morning drive and boat to Palmarium • Aye-aye tour 	Palmarium Hotel <u>Lake Ampitabe sur le</u> <u>canal des Pangalanes</u> <u>Bp 257, Toamasina</u> <u>(Tamatave) 501</u> <u>Madagascar</u> <u>+261 34 17 729 77</u>

Day 9 Wednesday, May 31	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palmarium lemur tour • Palmarium night walk 	
Day 10 Thursday, June 1	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early morning drive back to Tana • Dinner at Sakamanga 	Hotel Sakamanga Lot IBK7bis rue Ratianarivo AMPASAMADINIKA ANTANANARIVO 101 261 20 22 358 09
Day 11 Friday, June 2	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flight departs Antananarivo to Toliara (Tulear) • Flight arrives Toliara • Sea Cucumber company • Aro and Gildas and CHAMP project (at dinner) 	Hotel Moringa Tsianaloka, Toilara 601 +261 32 12 511 05 moringa@lerelais.mg
Day 12 Saturday, June 3	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reniala morning walk • Honko (mangrove restoration) • Presentation by Peter IRT conservation of spiny forest 	La Bella Donna Hotel <i>Village de Mangily, Ifaty</i> +261(0)34 25 921 70 tony- francia@labelladonn ahotel.com
Day 13 Sunday, June 4	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea cucumber village • Reniala night walk 	
Day 14 Monday, June 5	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish farming • Arboretum day walk • ATM; shop for snacks at Jumbo Score 	
Day 15 Tuesday, June 6	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive to Andavadoaka • BV talks (Welcome to BV and conservation; LMMA) 	Coco Beach Andavadoaka +261 34 14 001 58
Day 16 Wednesday, June 7	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snorkel at Nosy Fasy from pirogues • Intertidal Zone • BV talks (Blue Carbon) 	
Day 17 Thursday, June 8	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snorkel from catamaran • Snorkel sea grass • BV talks (Map Project) 	
Day 18 Friday, June 9	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baobab forest • Italian hospital • Steph-andava • BV talks (Health Outreach) 	

Day 19 Saturday, June 10	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive to Toliara • Stop at PK32 along the way • Night walk at Arboretum 	Hotel Moringa Tsianaloka, Toilara 601 +261 32 12 511 05 moringa@lerelais.mg
Day 20 Sunday, June 11	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive the RN7 • Zombitse National Park • Sapphire mine 	Hôtel le Relais de la Reine BP01 313 Ranohira + 261 34 41 782 73 resa@lerelaisdelareine.com
Day 21 Monday, June 12	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hike Isalo 	
Day 22 Tuesday, June 13	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depart Ranohira • Hike Anjaha Community Reserve 	Betsileo Country Lodge RN7, 8 km south of Ambalavao +261 (0)34 42 363 16 info@betsileocountrylodge.com
Day 23 Wednesday, June 14	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive Ambalavao - Tour paper and silk factories • Arrive Centre ValBio • Tour CVB and introductory lecture • Conservation, Biodiversity, Health and Education program lectures 	Centre ValBio BP 33 Ranomafana, Ifanadiana 312 +261 034 135 8171 ask@valb.io
Day 24 Thursday, June 15	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village cultural tour and welcome • Medicinal plant garden • Traditional basket weaving • Night hike 	
Day 25 Friday, June 16	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lemur forest hike in Ranomafana National Park • Ifandiana/PIVOT • Night hike 	
Day 26 Saturday, June 17	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birding hike in Sahamalaotra/Health Outreach trip • Thermal baths • Local musicians/dancers 	
Day 27 Sunday, June 18	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depart CVB • Morning – Visit craft studios and shops in Ambositra • Arrive Antsirabe 	Royal Palace Lot 512 C 61 Tsarasaotra Route d'Ambohitra Rue D'Ambohitra Antsirabe, 110, Antsirabe, +261 34 49 040 40 royalpalace.resa@mooov.mg

Day 28 Monday, June 19	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depart Antsirabe • Morning – Visit craft studios and shops in Antsirabe and Ambatolampy • Arrive Antananarivo • Dinner Sakamanga 	Hotel Sakamanga Lot IBK7bis rue Ratianarivo AMPASAMADINIKA ANTANANARIVO 101 261 20 22 358 09
Day 29 Tuesday, June 20	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre Fihavanana (“orphanage”) • Sustainable tourism students • Reentry, course ends Hot seat with Michel • Celebration dinner at Ibis Hotel • AirFrance students leave 	
Day 30 Wednesday, June 21	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-AirFrance students leave 	

Our course will be traveling throughout the country, staying at several different places as arranged by our two tour companies (Za Tours and Madagascar Unique Discovery Tours; please see below).

Lodging

Sakamanga Hotel in Antananarivo

Address: Lot IBK7bis, Lalana Adriary Ratianarivo, Ampasamadinika 101, Madagascar

Telephone: +261 20 22 358 09

Hotel Feon’ny Ala in Andasibe

Address: 3C39+39C, Andasibe, Madagascar

Telephone: +261 20 56 832 02

Palmarium Hotel

Address: Lake Ampitabe sur le canal des Pangalanes Bp 257, Toamasian, 501, Madagascar

Telephone: +261 34 17 729 77

La Bella Donna

Address: VJH5+3RQ, Ifaty, Madagascar

Telephone: +261 34 25 921 70

Coco Beach Hotel in Andavadoaka

Address: W6FM+9Q5, Andavadoaka, Madagascar

Telephone: +261 34 14 001 58

Hotel Moringa in Tulear

Address: Tulear Centre, Toliara 601, Madagascar

Telephone: +261 34 07 255 77

Relais de la Reine in Ranohira
Address: Shi BP01 Isalo, Ranohira 313, Madagascar
Telephone: +261 20 22 336 23

Betsileo Country Lodge
Address: Iarintsena, Ambalavao 303, RN7, Madagascar
Telephone: +261 34 42 363 16

Centre ValBio Research Campus in Ranomafana
Address: BP 33, Ranomafana, Ifanadiana 312, Madagascar
Telephone: +261 034 135 8171
Email: centrealbio@gmail.com

Royal Palace in Antsirabe
Address: Lot 512 C 61, Tsarasaotra Route d'Ambositra, Rue D' Ambositra, Antsirabe 110, Madagascar
Telephone: +261 20 44 490 40

In addition to the lodging information for these dates listed above, another mode of contact could be through our two tour operators – Za Tours and Madagascar Unique Discovery Tours.

Za Tours
Address: Lot II 178 AB bis Ambodivoanjo Ambohitovo, Antananarivo 101, Madagascar
Telephone: +261 20 22 424 22
Email: zatour@iris.mg

Madagascar Unique Discovery Tours
Address: Lot GIV 111 bis, Soamanandrarinny, Antananarivo 101, Madagascar
Telephone: +261 33 02 136 73
Email: blisoussa@gmail.com

UF International Center Study Abroad: 352-273-1539

CISI:
For 24/7 emergency assistance, call AXA ASSISTANCE at (855) 327-1411 (in U.S.); (312) 935-1703 (toll collect from outside US)

Madagascar locations and travel are depicted in the figure below.

