

SYLLABUS - 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: 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)

Co-Instructor: 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)

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.

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

In order to graduate, students must have an overall GPA and an upper-division GPA of 2.0 or better (C or better). A C- average is equivalent to a GPA of 1.67, and therefore, it does not satisfy this graduation requirement. For more information on grades and grading policies, please visit: <http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

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.

Academic Integrity

All students are required to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines of the University. The UF Honor Code reads: "*We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.*" 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." For more information please refer to <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide>.

Students with Disabilities

Every possible accommodation will be made to allow students with disabilities to successfully complete the course (see <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this to the instructors when requesting accommodation.

Counseling

Students having class-related problems should meet with the instructors. Additionally, there are resources on campus for students having various personal, career, and academic problems: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/>.

Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of The University of Florida to provide an educational and working environment for its students, faculty, and staff that is free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment. In accordance with federal and state law, the University prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment. Sex discrimination and sexual harassment will not be tolerated, and individuals who engage in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action. The University encourages students, faculty, staff, and visitors to report promptly sex discrimination and sexual harassment. A person who believes that he or she has been subjected to sex discrimination or sexual harassment should report the incident to the instructors or any University official, administrator, or supervisor. **The Office of Human Resource Services investigates all complaints.** Incidents should be reported as soon as possible after the time of their occurrence (larry-ellis@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 local conditions.

Date	Topic	Lodging
Feb. 1, 4:00-4:50	In class at UF <ul style="list-style-type: none">Student and Professor Meet and Greet/Q&A, trip itinerary and class syllabus (Drs. Miyamoto and Tennant)	
Feb. 21, 4:00-5:30	In class at UF <ul style="list-style-type: none">Malagasy Culture (Jill and Victor Ranaivoson)	
Mar. 14, 4:00-5:00	In class at UF <ul style="list-style-type: none">Staying Healthy in Madagascar (Nurse Karen Brennan, UF Travel Clinic)	
Mar. 27, 2:00-3:00	In class at UF <ul style="list-style-type: none">Biology and Peopling of Madagascar (Drs. Tennant and Miyamoto)	
Apr. 26, 9:00-10:30	In class at UF <ul style="list-style-type: none">Final Trip Preparation (Drs. Miyamoto and Tennant)	
Tuesday, May 14	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tennant and Miyamoto arriveStudents requested to arrive in Antananarivo May 14– are met at airportWelcome to Madagascar and student briefing	Check in Hotel Sakamanga (Antananarivo) +261 20 22 358 09
Wednesday, May 15	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none">Parc Tsarasaotra (bird watching and nature; approximately 2 hours)City tour including Queens Palace (orphanage and social services; approximately 2 hours)Dinner with conservation specialist at Malagasy buffet	
Thursday, May 16	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none">Local marketAmbohimanga-atelier “Valiha” – traditional music (approximately 2 hours)Mobile Library of MadagascarDepart Antananarivo for Andasibe (Perinet)	Check in mantadia Lodge +261 34 05 100 42
Friday, May 17	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lecture on projects at NGO Association Mitsinjo8:00 AM-noon – Hiking with Association Mitsinjo	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:00-4:00 PM – Mitsinjo Reforestation Project • Night hike in Andasibe (approximately 2-3 hours) 	
Saturday, May 18	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 AM-noon – Hiking in Andasibe-Mantadia National Park (Mantadia side) • Optional activity during free time - Vakona Lemur Island (25,000 Ariary/person) • 6:30-8:30 PM – Association Mitsinjo night hike 	
Sunday, May 19	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM-2:00 PM – Hiking in Analamazaotra half of Andasibe-Mantadia National Park, or Vohimana Reserve (depending on what nature has been seen thus far) • Andasibe village tour • Night hike to V.O.I.M.M.A. 	
Monday, May 20	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitsinjo tour of Frog Facility and Education center • noon - Depart Andasibe (Perinet) for Antananarivo • 7:00 PM - Arrive Antananarivo 	<p>Check in Hotel Sakamanga (Antananarivo) +261 20 22 358 09</p>
Tuesday, May 21	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flight departs Antananarivo to Toliara (Tulear), via Tolagnaro (Ft. Dauphin) • Arrive Toliara • Arboretum D’Antsokay for Blue Ventures check-in, tour, and lunch • Pre-departure briefing, rules, etc • ATMs and shopping for stay in Andavadoaka 	<p>Check in Hotel Moringa (Toliara) +261 34 07 255 77</p>
Wednesday, May 22	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depart Toliara; 4X4 ride approximately 8-10 hours • Arrive Andavadoaka (Blue Ventures) • Staying healthy onsite and tour of Blue Ventures facility • Introduction to Blue Ventures and Tampolove presentation 	<p>Check in Blue Ventures Andavadoaka site 0044 20 7697 8598 (phone # in UK)</p>
Thursday, May 23	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swim test • Breakfast and hazardous marine creature presentation • Walk to Baobab forest • Women’s Association Lunch • Talk on Locally Managed Marine Area Conservation • Introduction to Benthic • Introduction to Fish Families • Dinner 	
Friday, May 24	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast • Spider tortoise monitoring • Lunch • Presentation on BV Education project • Shadowing at hospital for pre-health students • Talk on Steph’Andava • Dinner • Goat party 	<p>During Andava portion of the trip one night will be spent camping at Lamboara for spider tortoise monitoring; exact night to be determined on arrival.</p>
Saturday, May 25	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast • Sailing trip to Nosy Fasy, including snorkeling • Lunch • Village tour • Visit to the Italian Volunteer Hospital • Dinner with local families 	
Sunday, May 26	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast • Depart to Tampolove 	<p>Check in Blue Ventures Tampolove site</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquaculture activities (sea cucumbers, sea weed) • Communal dinner with sea cucumber farmers and families • Night monitoring of sea cucumbers; night walk 	0044 20 7697 8598 (phone # in UK)
Monday, May 27	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast • Depart Tampolove • Samosa and bokoboko cooking class • Lunch • Benthic walk/point out • Dinner with Vezo families 	Back to Blue Ventures Andava site 0044 20 7697 8598 (phone # in UK)
Tuesday, May 28	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast with local families • Day in the Life - Vezo experience • Lunch with Vezo families • Walk to see flamingos, or whale watching, or mangroves (depending of what is available) • Talk about BV community health program • Dinner 	
Wednesday, May 29	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast • Boating and snorkeling at Aquarium • Lunch • Pack up to leave • Photo sharing • Dinner 	
Thursday, May 30	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast • Depart Andavadoaka; 4X4 drive 8-10 hours • Lunch • Arrive Toliara 	Check in Hotel Moringa (Toliara) +261 34 07 255 77
Friday, May 31	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00 AM – Depart Toliara (Tulear) • 10:00 AM-noon – Hike Zombitse-Vohibasia National Park • 2:30-3:30 PM – Tour Colorline sapphire mine • 6:30 PM – Arrive Ranohira 	Check in Jardin du Roy +261 20 22 351 65
Saturday, June 1	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 AM-3:00 PM – Hike Isalo National Park 	
Sunday, June 2	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 AM – Depart Ranohira • 10:00 AM-noon – Hike Anjaha Community Reserve • 2:00 PM – Arrive Ambalavao • Tour paper factory at Bougainvilliers 	Check in Betsileo Country Lodge +261 34 10 311 36
Monday, June 3	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 AM – Tour silk factory • 9:00 AM – Depart Ambalavao • 12:30 PM – Arrive Centre ValBio • 2:00 PM – Village cultural tour and welcome • 4:00 PM – Tour CVB and introductory lecture 	Check in Centre ValBio +261 034 135 8171
Tuesday, June 4	<p>Study Abroad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 AM -noon – Lemur forest hike in Ranomafana National Park • 1:00 PM – Lecture on biodiversity • 2:00 PM – Health outreach visit to local village • 5:30 PM – Night hike 	
Wednesday,	Study Abroad	

June 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 AM – Reforestation project • 10:00 AM – Medicinal plant garden • 3:00 PM – Traditional basket weaving • 6:00 PM – Night hike 	
Thursday, June 6	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:00-10:00 AM – Birding hike in Sahamalaotra • 1:00 PM – Lecture on mobile health • 2:00 PM - Women’s weaving association • 3:00-5:00 PM – Local musicians/dancers 	
Friday, June 7	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 AM – Discussions with researchers • 9:00 AM-2:00 PM – Kayaking • 3:00 PM – Thermal baths 	
Saturday, June 8	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00 AM – Depart CVB • Morning – Visit craft studios and shops • Arrive Antsirabe 	Check in Royal Palace (Antsirabe) +261 20 44 490 40
Sunday, June 9	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 AM – Depart Antsirabe • Morning – Visit craft studios and shops • Arrive Antananarivo 	Check in Hotel Sakamanga (Antananarivo) +261 20 22 358 09
Monday, June 10	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre Fihavanana (orphanage), sustainable tourism students, dinner at Italian Restaurant 	
Tuesday, June 11	Study Abroad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rentry; course ends • Students transported to the airport 	

Our course will be traveling throughout the country, staying at several different places as arranged with several different groups.

Lodging

Sakamanga Hotel in Antananarivo

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

Telephone: +261 20 22 358 09

Mantadia Lodge in Andasibe

Address: Route du Perinet II, Analamazaotra, Andasibe 511, Madagascar

Telephone: +261 34 05 100 42

Hotel Moringa in Toliara

Address: Tulear Centre, Toliara 601, Madagascar

Telephone: +261 34 07 255 77

Blue Ventures in Andavadoaka

Address: Sarah Harris, Level 2 Annex, Omnibus Business Centre, 39-41 North Road, London, N7 9DP, UK

Telephone: 0044 20 7697 8598.

Coco Beach Hotel in Andavadoaka

Address: Andavadoaka, Madagascar

Telephone: +261 34 14 001 58

Le Jardin du Roy
Address: Isalo, Ranohira 313, Madagascar
Telephone: +261 20 22 351 65

Betsileo Country Lodge
Address: BP 63, Ambalavao 303, Madagascar, 7
Telephone: +261 34 10 311 36

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

May 14-21 and May 30-June 11

In addition to the lodging information for these dates listed above, another mode of contact could be through our tour operator for these dates – Za Tours.

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

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.

