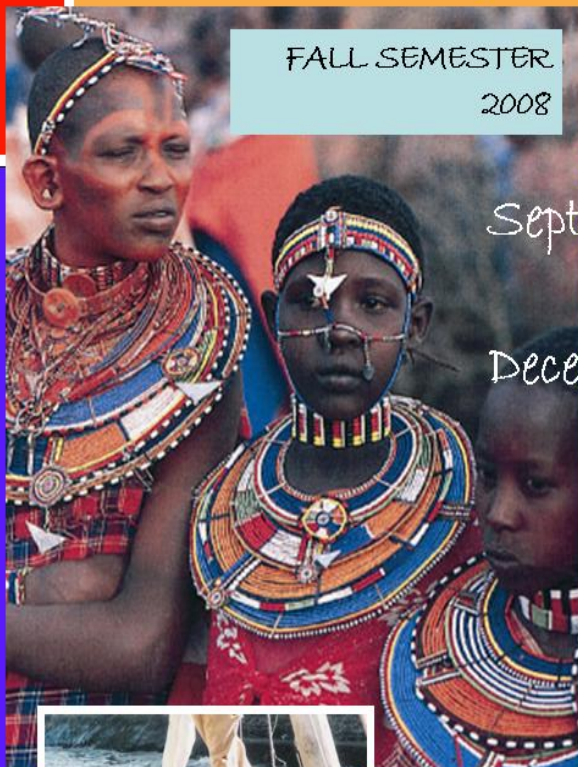

OHIO WESLEYAN IN KENYA

FALL SEMESTER
2008

September 4
to
December 12



Contact:
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THE PROGRAM

The Director of the Program is Randolph Quaye, Director of Black World Studies at Ohio Wesleyan.

Professor Quaye has many years of experience directing international programs, having recently directed study abroad programs in Kenya and Zimbabwe.

This one-semester study program is recommended especially for students interested in medical systems, the status of women, economic development and social policy. The Ohio Wesleyan in Kenya Program will be affiliated with the Department of Health Sciences and Sociology at the University of Nairobi. All courses will be taught in English (except Swahili). Fifteen full weeks of classroom instruction begin the first week of September and conclude with final exams and papers the first week of December. The major portion of the East African culture course will be conducted during the three weeks students will be out of Nairobi.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The tentative schedule of field experiences for the program are:

Week 1: (Nairobi) National Museum of Kenya, Bomas of Kenya (National Dance Troupe)

Week 2: Nairobi National Park, Nakuru National Park, Lake Nakuru

Week 3: Visits healing centers in Nairobi

Week 4: Menangai Crater and Lake Magadi (Nakuru)

Week 5: Akamba Wood Carvers, local markets

Week 6: Maasai Mara (Maasai Village and Game Drive)

Week 7: Nairobi

Week 8: Nairobi (Thika farms-tea and coffee plantations)

Week 9: Visit to Rift Valley (Nakuru area)

Week 10: Nairobi

Week 11: Exams and papers on all courses except East Africa Culture

Week 12: Tanzania Trip Tour of Neil Mith Centre, Arusha, Moshi, Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Week 13: Western Kenya: Shikokho Village--7 days of home stay

Week 14: Kampala (Uganda): Visit to royal Baganda capital, Kasubi tombs, Bamboo Court, National Museum

Week 15: Mt. Kenya and Mau Mau caves, Mombasa-Malindi (Swahili Coast), visits to Swahili Islands and Fort Jesus.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Eat Africa is not only the cradle of humankind but also has continued to play an essential role in the history of the world as a cultural crossroads for both political and social experiments in Africa. Kenya is a country of striking cultural contrasts. Such diversity makes it ideal for the study of the causes and effects of economic development, women's changing roles, medical systems and cultural development.

The Ohio Wesleyan in Kenya Program is designed to provide students with an intensive first hand experience of another culture by exposing them to the political, economic, and social realities of life in twenty-first century east Africa. Learning in Kenya is meant to be experiential by providing students with the opportunity to do social research in a foreign work field setting. From the traveling and home-stay experience, students will learn a great deal about themselves and about their new country.

COURSES

Each student will take four courses.

1. East Africa Culture (BWS 300.3)

Students will examine various East African settings by reading both primary and interpretive texts and visit major historical, cultural and environmental sites. Topics covered would include: migrant labor, class and ethnic structures, human rights and political struggles in relation to externally imposed structural adjustment programs (SAPs).

2. African Medical Systems (BWS 300.5)

Students will explore the African concept of health and illness, the social context of illness, construction and deconstruction of illness, role of networks in healthcare utilization, access to healthcare, cost control and role of non-governmental organizations in the delivery of healthcare services.

3. Women, Development and the Environment (BWS 300.4)

Several decades of feminist research has focused on women as social actors who utilize the options available for their social and economic development (Potash, 1992). This course is designed to explore gender relations in Africa with special reference on Kenyan women. Topics covered will include: historical role of women in independent Africa, their role in the formal and informal sectors, population control politics and family planning and recent economic reforms on the welfare of mothers and children.

4. Kiswahili (SL 110, SL 225)

This course will help students develop basic Kiswahili language skills.

5. Internship in Kenya (400.2)

In addition, students will be linked with a professional social services or research institution, depending on the interests of the students. These organizations will include: Undugu society (Street Children), Federation of Kenya Lawyers, and Environmental Liaison Center, among many others.

- **Nairobi**

As the capital of Kenya, and with a population of over 2 million, Nairobi is the center of urban life for the entire country. The activities of business and government make this a dynamic setting for the program. While most of the country is rural, many families have a kinship connection with the city. Our urban home stay in Nairobi is geared toward helping to explore the range of lifestyles in urban Kenya and to take advantage of university faculty, experts, library resources and internship placement opportunities.

- **Lake Nakuru**

This is the only freshwater lake in the Rift Valley, the home to numerous bird species and now the center of a flourishing horticulture industry. Hells Gate National Park is in the vicinity—the only national park where visitors are allowed to travel on foot. We will also visit Mt. Longonot (only for a brief view), which is the highest mountain in the Rift Valley.

- **Maasai Mara**

Maasai Mara is a national reserve that is the northern extension of the famous Serengeti plains ecosystem. The sweeping grasslands dotted with acacias trees is often what we picture when we think of Kenya. Since time immemorial, the Maasai (pastoralists) have lived side by side with nature. We will have a four-day stay, spending our days on game drives in the reserve, visiting a Laibon (Maasai village chief), learning about Maasai culture and

sharing information about the role of women and children in the community. On our way back to Nairobi, we will learn about medical plants, animals, and birds.

- **Kisumu-Kakamega**

West Province is lush and green, and peaceful in contrast to other parts of the country. The people farm on a subsistence level growing their principal diet of maize, beans, cabbage, and tomatoes, and raising a few chickens and cattle. Some families also grow tea or coffee for export. During this period, we will tour Kisumu museum, study the fish industry, tour the hippo point and visit Lake Victoria, the largest freshwater lake in the world. At this location, students will stay with Kenyan families on their **Shambas** (farms).

- **Coastal Tour- Mombasa and Lamu**

Spending time on the coast allows us to learn about the Swahili people—a group derived from indigenous coastal groups and peoples from the Arabian Peninsula. The Swahili are Muslim and Kiswahili is their language. Our main locations will be Mombasa and Lamu. Lamu, as Wiwa writes for the *Telegraph Travel*, is a curious place. “Although it is just off the coast of Africa, it is not Africa. It is the second most holy Islamic place after Mecca and the oldest living town in East Africa. The racial mix of the islanders gives an indication of the many influences—Arab, black African, Asian, and European—that have left their mark on the island.”

- **Uganda**

While in Uganda, we will tour the source of the River Nile starting from Owen and Bujagli Falls. We will have a day tour of Kasumbi tombs, Makere University, Mulango Hospital, and hear a lecture on “Health Care Challenges in Africa.”

- **Tanzania**

Tour of Neil Mith Centre, Arusha, and Moshi. This will include a discussion of Tanzania's socialist experiment along with examination of local economy and a visit to the Ngorogoro Crater, an early civilization site.

RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Students will be housed at the Swara Safari Lodge/Kenya YMCA.

Home Stays: Rural home stays will take place during the three weeks students are out of Nairobi with Luo, Luhyia and Kissi peoples.

PROGRAM FEES

Participants will be enrolled in Ohio Wesleyan University as students and pay fees to Ohio Wesleyan University. The deadline for the application is February 15, 2008. Students will be notified no later than February 22, 2008 about the status of their application and will have up until March 3, 2008 to make a deposit of \$200.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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The Ohio Wesleyan in

KENYA

program
