



Fall Quarter Nature 150 class, with field
study in Kenya
December 12 - December 24, 2019



APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE

Welcome

Thanks for your interest in studying in Kenya!

What is the Study Tour Program and how is it different from Study Abroad?

Study Tour programs combine the excitement of study abroad with the academic expertise of classes taught by Pierce College faculty. You will have the opportunity to earn Pierce College credits while studying in your host country. We strive to create inclusive programming by offering 2-week courses abroad that cater to working students, students with family commitments, and those who are cost conscious.

Course Schedule:

Nature: NSCI 150 during fall quarter (5 credits): Meets once a week. Will include lecture, discussion, language and tour preparation.

Weekly Schedule in Kenya:

Study Tour is not a vacation, it is an academic program grounded in experiential learning first and foremost, and will be treated as such. Your days will be full and spent on unique excursions and outings that are related to the content of the course. You will spend time in local conservation centers, safari, etc.

Please be aware, in order to meet the academic objectives of this program we will have a very full schedule throughout the week. You can expect to have most of the hours in your day occupied by cultural excursions, class time, social outings, and specially planned tourist activities. If you want a truly unique cultural experience, with the opportunity to learn about your host nation with the locals, and earn 5 credits through an engaging course curriculum, then this is the program for you.

What Will We Be Doing?

Learning through unique cultural experiences, and instruction by a Pierce College faculty member and faculty, staff and students of the host institutions.

Expectations for Kenya:

- Lodging is dorm style and in some areas tent still, you will be sharing a dorm room or tent with a student or maybe 2 students of the same gender.
- Although the lodging and classroom space is private, we will be staying in both the large city and the countryside.
- Almost all meals are included in the trip cost. Students are responsible for all meals not included in the trip cost. We will go over a cost breakdown for this in this application as well as at our pre-departure orientation.

A Typical Day on the Study Tour:

- Meet at 8am for breakfast at the hotel or other accommodation.
- Travel on the shuttle service for the destination of the day
- Visit the reservation, safari, etc
- Stop for lunch or have lunch at the destination
- Visit more of the location for the day or head to another travel destination
- Dinner at accommodations
- Evening group activities or private space. Due to the safety of participants and the remote destination, there will be minimal outside activity other than what is planned or located at the accommodation location.

Other tourist and class visits include:

- Hotel in Nairobi-3 nights (total), mostly arrival and departure days
- Visit the Giraffe Centre, which includes giraffes and orphaned elephants.
- Cultural Villages at the Bomas of Kenya—dancers convey the history of Kenya's past & future through live percussion, string and wind instruments.
- Local Kenyan University visit
- Visit the equator and through the farmlands
- Ol Pejeta Conservatory (2 nights) including the rhino & chimpanzee sanctuaries
- Visit the Thomson falls and Great Rift Valley
- Visit Lake Naivasha and the Field Study Centre (2 nights)
- Maji Moto Massai Cultural Camp (3 nights) includes walks on the hill with Maasai Warriors to learn about traditional life, visit with locals and learn beadmaking, see manyatta homes, and visit the hot springs.

Study Tour Expectations

What You Can Expect:

In order for us to fulfill our program's mission and goals, it is imperative that all participants fully engage in all aspects of their Study Tour. Being a Study Tour participant requires time, energy, and commitment, including meeting requirements before, during, and after the Study Tour.

We Expect That You Will:

- Attend ALL pre-trip activities, meetings and the pre-departure orientation. Please note, these pre-trip meetings are mandatory for all participants.
- Begin the passport process as soon as you confirm your enrollment in the program. It can take several weeks to get your passport; you are financially responsible for the costs associated with obtaining your passport. Failure to get your passport in time and a copy turned into the IEO office by the indicated

deadline will result in termination of your enrollment in the program. You will be held financially responsible for any portion of the program paid according to the cancelation schedule.

- You will need a tourist visa in order to gain entry to Kenya. You will need your passport before you can begin the visa process, it is imperative you begin this process early! Please visit the following website for instructions on obtaining your visa: <http://evisa.go.ke/evisa.html>
- Adhere to the Pierce College Code of Conduct at all times. You are a representative of the College while abroad and should conduct yourself appropriately at all times. We have a zero tolerance alcohol and drug policy on all program sponsored activities, outings and events. We will review the terms of the Code of Conduct at our pre-departure orientation.
- Participate actively in any pre-trip fundraising events with your group to assist in covering the cost of the trip. Scholarships are available on a need basis.
- Participate actively in all aspects of your trip, including classes, reflection, and activities. You will respect others in your group and be willing to cooperate. You will be flexible, open-minded, and responsible as a representative of Pierce College.
- Basic Insurance is MANDATORY, and is included in your fees; however, it will only cover cancellation due to medical concerns. Additional travel insurance is optional, but recommended.
- Adhere to the curfews and use of the “buddy system” policy for this program. Safety is our number one priority on all Study Tour programs, however safety and the policies and procedures associated with safety on the Kenya program are even more critical. Sneaking out, breaking curfew, excessive partying, and any other behavior that violates the Code of Conduct or interrupts the program in any way is grounds for immediate dismissal from the program at the student’s expense.
- Every student is individually responsible for the success of the trip and must exercise good judgment and cultural sensitivity, respect the rights and feelings of others, and observe the laws and customs of the host country.
- While Kenya is considered a developing nation, there are important health risks to consider. We will cover in detail at the pre-trip orientation.
- You will need certain immunizations & vaccines. Please visit www.iamat.org/country/kenya/risk

In Return, You Can Expect To:

- Receive all imperative trip information leading up to your departure.
- Be educated about your trip location and host site.
- Have a once in a lifetime experience.

Due Dates: IMPORTANT

| Milestone | Date |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Application and Acceptance | |
| Application Deadline | April 19 |
| Interviews (Scholarship App DUE) | April 23-24 |
| Participants Notified of Acceptance | April 25 |
| Apply for passport | April 25 |
| Apply for Visa | As soon as you get your passport |
| Passport Copy Due | June 28 LATEST |
| Payments and Deposits Due | |
| Agreement Packet Due - with Deposit | May 8 --\$500 due |
| Payment Plan | Dates, TBD based on student need |
| Final Field Study Payment Due | Sept 2019 *TBD* Up to \$2500 |
| Fall Quarter Nature 150 Class Tuition Due | Sept 2019 *TBD* Up to \$550 |
| Departure Dates | |
| Pre-Departure Orientation | TBD |
| Departure from Seattle to Nairobi, Kenya | December 12 |
| Departure from Nairobi to Seattle | December 23 |
| Arrival in Seattle | December 24 |

Cost, Payments and Fundraising:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Study Tour Fees | \$3,000.00 |
| Tuition | \$550.00 (depending on course load) |

**Study Tour Fees Include: Airfare, lodging, most meals, entrance fees for excursion sites & mandatory travel insurance

Additional Costs:

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Meals | \$50.00 (Estimated) |
| Transportation & tips | \$75.00 (Estimated) |
| Personal Expenses (souvenirs, gifts, incidentals) | \$150-\$400 (Estimated) |
| Immunizations | Depending on insurance coverage |
| Visa & Passport Costs | \$51-\$150 (estimated) |

Scholarships: Limited scholarships are available and awarded based upon financial need. Scholarship participants are still required to pay the deposit amount, including insurance, with their agreement package.

Group & Individual Fundraising & Payment Plans: Available; once students have been selected and a team is formed, fundraising and plans will be made.

Due May 8th – Deposit: \$500 (This payment is non-refundable)

Due Sept 2019 (TBD) – Final Trip Cost Payment: \$2,500.00 (See refund policy for refund details)

Due Sept 2019 (TBD) – Class Tuition (Estimated \$550 for 5 credits. Scholarships available!)

Once your first payment and your agreement package is received, you will be given the Pre-Departure Orientation dates. You may register for the course at the first orientation.

By filling out the following application you give Pierce College Department of International Ed permission to view your academic history at Pierce College.

Participant Application: Kenya

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete all required information and be sure to write legibly. Return this form in-person with attached short responses to the International Education Office

Basic Information: (Please list name as it appears on license or passport)

Full Name: _____ Student ID #: _____
Last First M.I.

Current Address: _____
Street Address City State Zip Code

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____ Passport Number: _____

Where do you currently attend class? (Circle) Puyallup Fort Steilacoom Online Military Other
*must enroll as a Pierce College student for Fall Quarter to participate in Study Tour

Have you already applied to Pierce College? (Circle) Y / N
How long do you plan to remain enrolled as a student at Pierce College? _____

Program of Study: _____ GPA: _ Gender: _____

Please circle yes or no to the below questions:

-Do you have any criminal history? (circle) Y / N (If yes, please explain on a separate sheet of paper. This is important, as some countries will not allow people with certain charges on their records to enter into the country).

-Are 18 years of age or older? (circle) Y / N (You must be 18 years of age on or before Dec. 11, 2019)

-Are you a US citizen? (circle) Y / N (If not, what country are you from? _____)

-Do you currently have a Passport? (circle) Y / N

How did you hear about this trip? _____

Written Responses: Please attach answers to the following question on a separate typed sheet of paper. Please answer each question thoroughly in no more than 2 pages per question.

1. Why are you interested in participating in the Study Tour Program in Kenya, and what do you hope this experience will help you learn about yourself, others, and the community?
2. What does cultural competency mean to you? Share a story about a time where you learned about another culture, or experienced a different culture.

References

Please see attached instructions and forms. As a participant you are responsible for including **one** sealed reference form with your application. Your reference should be from a current Community College faculty member or administrator. **You are also required to meet with your advisor in order to assure the course you are selecting aligns with your academic plan and that you understand the use of financial aid used to pay for tuition during Fall Quarter.**

Advisor's Signature X _____ Date: _____

Advisor Comments: _____

Please return this form with attached short response & sealed reference form to: ATTN Ashley Chambers at Pierce College Fort Steilacoom CAS 509 or Puyallup CTR 290F.

Reference Form

To the student:

After completing this "To the student" section, please give this form to a current Community College faculty or administration member, or a job/volunteer supervisor who can accurately describe you. They must return the reference form **to you** in a sealed envelope. You must turn in **one** sealed reference form **with your application** to the International Education Office - Fort Steilacoom @ Cascade 509 or Puyallup @ College Center 290F.

Applicant Name: _____ ID Number: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

To the evaluator completing this form:

The Study Tour Program uses these evaluation forms to help us choose our Study Tour applicants from among highly-qualified applicants. You are requested to seal the completed recommendation in an envelope and provide it to the student in a timely manner. The student's application packet, including your recommendation form, must be submitted to the International Education Office **No Later Than April 19th 2019**.

Background Information:

How long have you known this student and in what context?

What are the first words that come to your mind to describe this student?

Ratings:

| | Poor | Satisfactory | Good | Excellent |
|-----------------------------|------|--------------|------|-----------|
| Quality of work/service | | | | |
| Willingness to Work | | | | |
| Cooperative Attitude | | | | |
| Acceptance of Feedback | | | | |
| Takes Initiative | | | | |
| Works well with others | | | | |
| Punctuality & Dependability | | | | |
| Reaction to Setbacks | | | | |
| OVERALL | | | | |

Additional Comments: We welcome any additional comments you would like to include. Please feel free to write on back of this form or attach a separate sheet.

Evaluator's Name: _____ Email: _____

Evaluator's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return the completed reference form to the student applicant in a sealed envelope, allowing enough time for the student to turn it in with **their** application.

Student Commitment Statements

Please initial next to each statement signifying your agreement and commitment.

_____ I have voluntarily chosen to participate in this program and therefore will treat my participation in service, group activities, and educational events as my first priority during my trip.

_____ I pledge to abide by the Study Tour Program no alcohol and no drug policy, the Study Tour safety guidelines, and the Pierce College Student Code of Conduct while on the entire trip. If I choose to violate this agreement I may be **sent home from the trip at my own cost** and my participation in future Study Tour trips may be temporarily or indefinitely suspended.

_____ I agree to all posted deadlines.

_____ Upon my selection as a Study Tour trip participant, I also understand that I will be required to attend and fully engage in all meetings and special events leading up to the trip, all of which I will make a top priority to attend.

_____ If selected to participate in the Study Tour trip, I understand that I will be required to make payments on the scheduled payment due dates.

_____ I understand that if I am not currently a Pierce College Student I will apply to Pierce College for Fall Quarter as soon as I am accepted to the program in order to meet all registration deadlines.

By signing as an applicant for Study Tour, I hereby give permission for Pierce College administration to check my academic, judicial, and public records that may be seen as relevant to ensure the safety and security of myself and the group with which I am traveling. I recognize that any information that is received as a result of the aforementioned will be handled in the strictest confidence and with the utmost discretion. Further, discoveries will not necessarily preclude participation but will warrant a conversation with the Pierce College administration.

Student Signature

Date

If you have questions or concerns please contact
Ashley Chambers at Achambers@pierce.ctc.edu or (253) 912-2276