

**APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE**

**Fall Quarter Course:**

***5 credits: Nature 150 with Prof. Elysia Mbuja***

***and/or***

***5 or 7 credits: Math 107 with Prof. Melonie Rasmussen***

**With travel to**

**KENYA**

**In December 2020**



**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:**

Students have the option of taking Nature 150, Math 107, or BOTH courses for up to 12 total credits. Register for courses for the fall quarter, with fall class attendance required, with intensive lab time in Kenya in December. Course content will be combined with orientation, language and tour preparation.

**Nature: NSCI 150** (5 credits): Taught by Prof. Elysia Mbjua.

**Math 107** (5 or 7 credits): Taught by Prof. Melonie Rasmussen.

**What Will We Be Doing?**

* Full days of culture and/or nature immersion.
* Buffet meals for breakfast, lunch, and dinners.
* Travel from location to location with expert tour guides in safari vehicles.
* Evening reflection, relaxation, and optional group activities.
* Note: Due to the safety of participants and the remote destinations, there will be minimal outside activity other than what is planned or located at the accommodation location.

**Tourist and Class Visits from 2019, subject to change in 2020 based on availability:**

* Hotel in Nairobi, mostly arrival and departure days.
* Feed giraffes at the Giraffe Centre and meet orphaned elephants at the Sheldrick Trust Elephant Orphanage.
* Bomas of Kenya— see traditional dancers convey the history of Kenya’s past & present through live percussion, string and wind instruments, then tour traditional homesteads.
* Maji Moto Massai Cultural Camp, includes walks on the hill with Maasai Warriers to learn about traditional life, visit a school, see manyatta homes, and see the hot spring which provides water to the local community.
* Visit Lake Naivasha and the Field Study Centre to walk with giraffes and zebras.
* Visit the Thomson falls and Great Rift Valley.
* Visit the equator and drive through the farmlands.
* Ol Pejeta Conservatory including the rhino & chimpanzee sanctuaries.
* Local Kenyan University visit.

**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. The goal is to provide an enriching cultural experience, while still meeting all of the course outcomes and credit hours.

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 course credits through an engaging course curriculum, then this is the program for you.

**Expectations for Students on the 2020 Kenya Study Tour:**

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. Below are details about what we expect of Study Tour participants:

**We Expect That You Will…**

* Share rooms/accommodations with another member or two of the trip.
* Although the lodging and classroom space is reserved for our group, 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 as well as at our pre-departure orientation.
* Attend ALL pre-trip activities, meetings and the pre-departure orientation. Please note, these pre-trip meetings are mandatory for all participants.
* 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.
* Have a valid passport, which will not expire within 6 months of the travel dates. If you are applying for a new or renewed passport, begin the 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 receive further instructions as we get closer to the travel dates. Typically, application visas for Kenya occur within 30 days of leaving for the country. Please do not apply for your visa separate from the notification sent from Pierce College.
* 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.
* 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.
* 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.
* 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: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/kenya>.

#### In Return, You Can Expect To:

* Receive direction and support from the Department of International Education in the form of training and resources prior to your trip.
* Receive transportation, lodging and excursions.
* 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 14th |
| Interviews (Scholarship App due @ interview) | Week of April 27th |
| Participants Notified of Acceptance | May 11th |
| Agreement Packet Due with Deposit and  Copy of Passport Application | May 21st |
| Payments and Deposits Due | |
|  | |
|  | |
| Agreement Packet Due - with Deposit | May 21st - $1,000 non-refundable |
| Second Trip Payment Due | July 10th - $1,250 |
| Final Trip Payment Due | September 25th - $1,250 |
| Fall Quarter Class Tuition Due | September 2019 |
| Departure Dates | |
| Pre-Departure Orientation | TBD |
| Departure from Seattle to Nairobi, Kenya | Around December 10 (TBD) |
| Departure from Nairobi to Seattle | Around December 21 (TBD) |
| Arrival in Seattle | Around December 22 (TBD) |

**Cost, Payments and Fundraising:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **\*\*Study Tour Fees** | **$3,500.00** |
| **Tuition** | **Dependent on course load** |

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

#### Additional Costs:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Meals | $75.00 (Estimated) |
| Personal Expenses (souvenirs, gifts, incidentals) | $150-$400 (Estimated) |
| Immunizations | Depending on insurance coverage |
| Cost of a new US passport, if needed | $145 |
| Kenya visa (for US passport holders) | $52 |

**Scholarships**:

A limited number of scholarships are available of up to $500 in assistance, awarded based upon your application and financial need. Scholarship participants are still required to pay the deposit amount with their agreement package. Scholarships are non-refundable if you don’t go on the trip.

**Group & Individual Fundraising:**

Available, dependent on your enthusiasm! Once students have been selected and a team is formed, students are welcome to organize and lead fundraisers with the support of the chaperone and study tour coordinator. Ideas for group and individual fundraising opportunities will be discussed.

**Refunds:**

For full refund information, please see the Study Tour Refund Policy. Students withdrawing voluntarily for any reason, including withdrawals because of medical reasons not covered under the medical refund policy, receive no refund of fees paid.

#### Once your first payment and your agreement package is received, you will be given the course registration to add the course to your fall quarter. Please note—class attendance is mandatory and is graded during the fall quarter.

**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:

Last First M.I.

Student ID #:

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

Which class(es) do you plan to take? (Circle one or both) NSCI 150 MATH 107

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. 1, 2020)

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

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

-When rooming assignments are created, I prefer to room with (circle): a person of the same gender/open to any gender.

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 humility mean to you? Share a story about a time where you learned about another culture, or experienced a different culture.
  3. Traveling Abroad under any circumstance means putting yourself under significant amount of stress including physical, mental, emotional, intellectual, social, environmental and cultural stresses. For the Kenya trip, this is especially true. Knowing yourself and how you operate is key for success. Please describe how you function under stress (give at least 1-2 examples), and convey In what ways will you prepare yourself for each type of stress for the trip, and explain what types of resources and support you will need.

**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 the International Education Office 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 June 1st, 2020.**

**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 alcohol and 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 the International Education Office, StudyAbroad@Pierce.ctc.edu.

**Application Checklist**

Only COMPLETE applications will be accepted. If you do not submit a complete application, your application will not be reviewed. Use this checklist to ensure your application is complete.

Participant Application with your advisor’s signature at the bottom

3 written responses – maximum 2 pages double spaced per statement

One sealed reference form

Student Commitment Statement

\_\_\_\_Copy of Student ID Card

Optional scholarship applications are due at the time of your interview. Please

request an application from [StudyAbroad@pierce.ctc.edu](mailto:StudyAbroad@pierce.ctc.edu). We recommend scheduling a meeting with Pierce College Financial Aid to see if you qualify for additional funds.