

HIS 3252: Natural History of Africa

Instructors: TBA

Pre-requisites: first year biology or permission of the instructor.

This upper-level course is recommended for all Study in Africa students. The course is intended to raise student understanding and appreciation of the terrestrial wildlife/ plants, and marine/freshwater flora/fauna of East Africa. This will be a Science context course and is designed to take advantage of the biological/geographical opportunities presented by the game drives, bird walks, aquatic life in lakes/coastal regions and guest lectures at various locations during the program.

Format and Assessment:

Will involve mandatory lectures, guest lectures, attendance at field trips and game drives, reef walks, maintenance of a field journal, group projects and presentations, leading discussion sessions and fully participating in all other assigned activities during the semester. Students will be expected to work on an assigned project, suitable for their level of experience, record and analyze their results and give a report to the group. There will also be an identification/classification of East African plants and animals practical exam , appropriate to the students' academic background. The field journal will include observations, sketches and recording of questions/hypotheses reflecting a naturalists perspective.

Grading:

Grading assessment will be as follows:

Group project/presentation	40%
Field journal	40%
Practical Exam	10 %
Discussion Participation	10 %
Total	100 %

Reference Textbooks:

Readings will be assigned from the program library. Identification guides will be available as references or, if the student wishes, for purchase. Handouts may be distributed on various topics of interest at appropriate times during the program.