

North Central College D-Term 2017 Study Abroad

NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 9, 2016

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Exploring the Natural History
of Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea (West Africa)

Dr. Gregory Ruthig, assistant professor of Biology



Itinerary:

Fall Term 2017: Weekly pre-departure sessions (TBA)

Monday, November 27: Travel to Bioko Island

Tuesday, November 28: Arrival to Bioko Island

Wednesday, November 29: Tour of capital city Malabo and the village of Moka

Thursday, November 30- Monday, December 4: Moka Field Station for study of tropical ecology

Tuesday, December 5- Wednesday, December 6: Village of Ureka in Gran Caldera Scientific Reserve and hike to the BBPP/UNGE Moaba research camp

Thursday, December 7: Hike back to Ureka and drive to Malabo

Friday, December 8: Drive to Pico Basile in Pico Basile National Park to explore high-elevation ecosystem, depart Bioko Island

Saturday, December 9: Return to Chicago



NORTH
CENTRAL
COLLEGE
NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS
Founded 1861



Course details subject to change.

The Course (GLS 260-D2: Study Abroad in Equatorial Guinea)

This course will introduce students to the rich natural and cultural history of Bioko Island, a volcanic island 32 kilometers from the African mainland and home to the bulk of the human population of Equatorial Guinea. Its original population of Bubis were likely among the first human colonizers of the island, but there are now many ethnic groups of West Africans who live there. Colonized by the Portuguese, British, and Spanish, the island (where Spanish is now an official language) is ecologically unique and diverse. Like many islands that are located off the coasts of large mainlands (such as the Galapagos), Bioko was invaded by many mainland species, but was separated enough to allow these species to evolve independently of their mainland relatives. There are many rare and unique species that live only on Bioko Island. Students will live and learn at the Moka Field Station, conducting field research with local biologists to learn about monkeys, birds, amphibians, and sea turtles and their ecosystems--from beaches, to lowland forests, to the upland forest at the top of the volcanic island.

Enrollment Instructions

To enroll in GLS 260-D2, Study Abroad in Equatorial Guinea, students are required to:

- Meet with the faculty leader(s).
- Confer with their academic advisors.
- Complete a green "Add a Course/Instructor Consent" form and have it signed by the appropriate faculty leader.
- Bring the consent form to the Center for Global Education, Abe House, 48 E. Jefferson Ave., and fill out a brief application.
- Pay \$400 nonrefundable airfare deposit by April 13, 2017.

Registration Procedure: March 1-April 13, 2017

Beginning March 1, the Center for Global Education will enroll each student as each deposit is received, March 1-April 13. After April 13, students will be placed on a waiting list and notified if spaces become available. Students with the highest number of credits earned at the College will be given first priority. Final registration will appear in the student's Merlin account.

Contact Information

Dr. Gregory Ruthig, assistant professor of biology
gruthig@noctrl.edu 630-637-5186

Initial Deposit due April 13, 2017

Scholarships: Deadline March 10, 2017

A limited number of scholarships (up to \$1,000) will be awarded to selected sophomores, juniors and seniors with 3.0 or better GPA and demonstrable financial need. Applications are available in the the Center for Global Education and must be submitted by March 10, 2017.

Statement of Conditions

1. Estimated cost and minimum number of participants:

\$3,500-3,800 based on a minimum of 10 registered students. The course will be offered to no more than 10 students. The price includes:

- Airfare estimated \$1,900-2,100
- Program fee, including land expenses and meals: estimated \$1,600-1,700
- Fees NOT included for required immunizations (yellow fever, malaria, typhoid, and hepatitis A)

2. Accommodation and meals: Twin/group accommodation and all meals included

3. Payment schedule:

- \$400 nonrefundable airfare deposit due April 13, 2017.
- Balance of the airfare due no later than September 15, 2017, according to payment schedule determined by the faculty leaders; most deposits will be due during the summer.
- \$500 nonrefundable program fee deposit due October 13, 2017.
- Program fee balance is billed to the student's account in late November as part of the invoice for winter term 2018.
- In addition to these airfare and program fees, tuition for this course will be billed as part of each student's Winter 2018 invoice.

4. Cancellation and refund policy:

- Refund schedules for airfares depend on individual airlines; faculty leaders will inform all participants of the relevant deadlines and policies.
- If the student participant drops the course before November 1, 2017, 50 percent of the remaining balance of the program fee will be refunded.
- If the student participant drops the course after November 1, 2017, 100 percent of the program fee is forfeited.

5. Exclusions: The following items are NOT included in the fees listed above:

- Meals other than those included in the itinerary
- Optional entertainment and excursions
- Excess baggage charges
- Personal items, including telephone calls, laundry fees, room service
- Departure taxes (except U.S.)
- Passport fees

6. Other matters:

- **Proof of a valid passport is due May 19, 2017: EITHER a color copy of the photo ID and signature pages of a passport valid through June 20, 2017, OR a receipt from applying for your passport.**
- All North Central College students are covered under a secondary insurance policy (EIIA) and will be given emergency information and telephone contacts by the lead professor.
- Every student participant is required to abide by College policies as outlined in the North Central College Student Handbook and by the rules listed on the course syllabus. If, in the judgment of a faculty member leading the course, a student has violated the course rules or College policy as stated in the Student Handbook, the student may be sent home at his or her own expense. In such circumstances, a student's parents may also be notified and additional disciplinary action may be taken by the College upon a student's return to the United States.
- All courses include required pre-departure sessions on campus and at least one follow-up session in January 2018 upon return.
- Final course assignments are due as specified on each course syllabus but no later than week 4 of winter term 2018.