



Center for Global Education

Faculty-led Study Abroad Programs

South Africa

January 2018

Wheaton College  
Center for Global Education  
5 Howard Street

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# AFDS201: Witnessing Contemporary African Society in South Africa

*Travel dates: January 4-20, 2018*

## Faculty Director

**James Freeman**

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## Course Description

“Witnessing Contemporary African Society” is an intensive, interdisciplinary course designed to give students exposure to and an overview of South Africa’s history and culture. Course activities and assignments include visits to townships, historic sites, neighborhoods and museums, meetings with community leaders, lectures from local academics, and participation in community service projects. The course is a **one-credit course** and it also satisfies the Beyond the West (BW) requirement in Wheaton College’s Foundation courses.

## Application Information

Apply online at [globaled.wheatoncollege.edu](http://globaled.wheatoncollege.edu)

Complete applications, including faculty recommendations, must be submitted by the application deadline in order to be considered.

Applications may be reviewed and students accepted on a rolling basis.

Accepted students will be expected to confirm participation within two weeks of notification of acceptance.

## Program Costs

Program fee: \$3,800. Will be charged to Wheaton fee bill upon confirmation of participation.

Program fee includes: airfare, accommodations, breakfasts, guides, field trips, in-country transportation



Need-based financial aid is available—indicate need on program application online!

Additional expenses: Personal spending money, meals



## Program Highlights

January 4-6	Depart from Boston to Cape Town Check in to Never at Home World Hostel Group orientation: Expectations, Conduct, Honor Code, and Title IX Tour of Alfred and Victoria Water Front and neighborhood
January 7	Discussion of Nelson Mandela's autobiography and movies Tour of Fort Castle, District Six Museum, Green Market Square Evening group discussion Table Mountain (optional)
January 8-9	Robben Island Museum Langa Township Community Service Project—visit with Children's Youth Development Group Evening group discussion; Work on digital stories and research paper
January 10-11	Community Service Project—Wola Nani, AIDS and HIV Advocacy Evening group discussion; Work on digital stories and research paper
January 12	Lectures by University of Western Cape faculty Optional tour to Cape of Good Hope, Seal and Penguin Colony
January 13	Depart from Cape Town to Johannesburg
January 14	Tour of Apartheid Museum, Soweto, Mandela's House, Hector Peterson Museum Evening group discussion
January 15	Community Service Project—Visit to mega Tong Primary School and Orlando Children's Home Evening group discussion; Work on digital stories and research paper
January 16	Trip to Pretoria and Pilanesburg Game Park Evening group discussion
January 17-18	Lectures by local academics Johannesburg City Tour—Old Fort Prison, Constitution Hill Evening group discussion; Work on digital stories and research paper
January 18-20	Depart from Johannesburg to return to Boston, arriving on January 20

**NOTE: Dates and itinerary are subject to change by the Center for Global Education and the Faculty Director.**



### **Textbooks, Short Stories, Documentaries and Movies:**

Mandela, N. (1994). *Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela*. Boston: Little, Brown and Company.

Steyn, M. E. (2001). "Whiteness Just Isn't What it Used to Be": *White Identity in a Changing South Africa*. State University of New York Press. ISBN-13: 978-0791450802

Thompson, L. (2001). *A History of South Africa*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New Haven: Yale University Press. Chapters 6-9. (Available on-Course)

*Tsotsi*, feature film, dir. Gavin Hood, 2006. Wheaton Library DVD Collection (Call number:PR9369.3.H64 T76 2006).

*Skin*, feature film, dir. Anthony Fabian, 2011. Wheaton Library DVD Collection (Call number:PS3606.A253 S556 2011).

*Today the hawk takes one chick*, documentary film, dir. Jane Gillooly, 2008.

*Zulu Love Letter*, feature film, dir. Ramadan Suleman, 2004,

Mini-anthology of South African short stories and poems and journal articles will be available on OnCourse

*PAN! Our Music Odyssey*, A film by Kim Johnson 2016

### **Assignments and Grade Calculation:**

Discussion of Mandela's Autobiography, Steyn's Monograph, Movies and Documentaries (20%)

#### Participation Abroad (20%)

The January program to South Africa is not a tourist excursion and attendance and active participation in all lectures, visits and community service activities are essential and will be evaluated. Because writing your reactions about your experiences abroad facilitates substantive participation, we strongly encourage you to journal regularly throughout the trip. Journaling aids you in processing your impressions and perceptions, formulating opinions about your experiences, and honestly exploring your feelings about your interactions and experiences. The journals will be submitted for review and feedback during and after the trip.

#### Critical Review of Nelson Mandela's *A Long Walk to Freedom* (15%)

To demonstrate your understanding of the history of South Africa's struggle for political, economic, and social equality, you will be required to read Mandela's autobiography, *A Long Walk to Freedom*, during the holiday break and submit a **four-page (minimum and maximum)** critical review of it at our departure. This review should argue a thesis about how Mandela's childhood and experiences at Robben Island shaped his views about leadership, equality, and justice. **The critical review is due on January 4, 2018. Please save it to a flash drive if you can't print a hardcopy.**

#### Research Paper (20%)

The goal of the research paper is to explore contemporary *social, economic, political or artistic* themes and issues. Your paper should use at least three references from scholarly publication and journal articles. You may incorporate your experiences and conversations that you have with residents to provide context and interpretation to the themes in your research paper. You are expected to abide by the Wheaton College Honor Code. Your research paper must be 6-8 pages. **An electronic copy or hard copy of your paper is due no later than 5 p.m. on March 1, 2018. Late papers will be assessed a 10 points penalty for each day past the due date.**

#### Digital Story Telling (2-Person Group Project) (25%)

Each group of two students will prepare and present a 5-to-8-minute digital story based on their experiences and pictures/images during the trip. **The presentations will take place on February 21, 2018.**