



Uganda/Rwanda

Post-Conflict Transformation

Credits 16

Program Bases Kampala and Kigali

Homestays Gulu and Kigali, 2 weeks each

Rural Visit 3–4 days in each country

Educational Excursions Gulu, Butare

Independent Study Project 4 weeks

Prerequisites Although there are no prerequisites, students should have an understanding of conflict theories and exhibit the sensitivity and maturity required to deal with these difficult and intense subjects. An interview may be required prior to acceptance.

Post-Conflict Transformation Seminar

PEAC 3000 / 6 credits / 90 class hours

An interdisciplinary course conducted in English, with required readings, examining contemporary theories of conflict resolution, reconciliation, and redevelopment in the context of the long-running civil war in northern Uganda and the 1994 Rwanda genocide. Resources utilized in the delivery of course content include the Center for Conflict Management at the National University of Rwanda and the Institute for Peace and Strategic Studies at Gulu University. Lectures and discussions for this course generally include:

Sociopolitical History of Uganda and Rwanda

Settlement and early history; traditional social and political organization; policies and political upheavals of the colonial era; cultural and political reconfiguration during independence movements; traditional systems in the face of conflict; post-conflict politics in Rwanda; constitutional reforms in Uganda; post-conflict state building.

Lake Victoria Basin Conflict Dynamics

International dimensions of conflict; actors and agents in the Rwandan genocide; the role of media in conflict; critical analysis of the Amin era in Uganda; root causes and warning signs; portraying conflict and its causes; displaced persons and refugees; resettlement and relocation due to conflict; economic and social impacts of large-scale conflicts; international media coverage and global understanding.

Conflict Resolution and Prevention

Stages of conflict and genocide; local and international responses to conflict: the role of the International Criminal Court and international tribunals; justice at local and national levels; the role of Gacaca in Rwandan reconciliation; reintegration of former child soldiers in Uganda; analysis of peace negotiations; post-conflict education and training programs; the effectiveness of messaging in museums, memorials, and outreach programs.

Educational Excursions

From each of the four main program locations—Gulu, Kampala, Butare, and Kigali—the program engages in a number of short excursions that are designed to complement classroom discussion and field-based educational activities including the Independent Study Project. These experiences enhance students' understanding of the region by allowing them to engage firsthand with critical issues in reconciliation and redevelopment, and to apply concepts introduced through their coursework.

Rural Visit

To afford direct knowledge of Ugandan and Rwandan rural life, program participants will spend three to four days living in rural communities in each country. Living conditions are basic, frequently without electricity or running water, and provide an invaluable opportunity to learn from rural people in Uganda and Rwanda.

National and Ethnic Identity Seminar

AFRS 3500 / 4 credits / 60 class hours

This seminar examines the cultural values, history, and evolution of national and ethnic identities in Rwanda and Uganda. Topics include contemporary and historical influences on identity; contemporary cultural values; communication styles; age structures and respect; views of foreigners; the role of national identity in reconciliation; clan and ethnicity; the role of language in identity; nonformal cultural education; marriage, family, and ethnicity; concepts of community. Introductory Kinyarwanda and Acholi language will be featured.

Field Study Seminar

ANTH 3500 / 2 credits / 30 class hours

A course in the concepts of learning across cultures and from field experience. Introduction to the Independent Study Project. Material includes cross-cultural adaptation and skills building; project selection and refinement;

appropriate methodologies; field study ethics and the World Learning/SIT Human Subjects Review Policy; developing contacts and finding resources; developing skills in observation and interviewing; gathering, organizing, and communicating data; maintaining a field journal.

Independent Study Project

ISPR 3000 / 4 credits / 120 class hours

Conducted in Kampala, Kigali, or in another approved location appropriate to the project. All topics must be approved by the academic director and local review boards to ensure ethical compliance. Sensitive topics, particularly those that would require extensive interviews with genocide survivors or victims of violence, will not be allowed. Projects done in Rwanda will require special permission and support of local organizations. Sample topic areas include: migration in northern Uganda; economic disparity among returned Rwandans; the planned role of genocide memorials in reconciliation; peace camp curriculum; language use in contemporary Rwanda; national holidays and celebrations as markers of identity development; local perspectives on peace negotiations; print and radio coverage of conflict in Uganda; traditional political structures; economic dimensions of conflict.

Homestay

Two weeks in Gulu and two weeks in Kigali. Other accommodations during the program include hostels, guest houses, or small hotels.