
Global Education Office
Reves Center for International
Studies
The College of William & Mary



Photo Courtesy of Ariel Cohen

Cape Town Summer Handbook

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Visa Information and Budgeting



Travel Documents

Passport

- You should apply as early as possible before departure to secure your passport through a Passport Agency (found in major cities), a local issuing office, a Federal or State Court House, or a Class I Post Office.
Start the process early so that there will be plenty of time to resolve any problems that may arise. If you will be using your current passport, make sure that it is good for six months after your return to the U.S. If it is not, you will need to renew it.
- Guidelines on renewing your passport or applying for a new one can be found at:
<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports.html>

Visa

- **United States passport holders** do not need a visa to visit South Africa for less than 90 days. When entering through Immigration, state that you are a TOURIST since you will be there less than 90 days. However, please be aware that students and academics do need visas to visit South Africa for more than 90 days, therefore it is **ESSENTIAL** that you say you are in South Africa for less than this period. ALSO, you MUST ensure that your passport has at least one unused visa page (not the amendment/observation/endorsement page) when you land in South Africa.
- **Non-US passport holders** need to check with the South African consulate as soon as possible about Visa requirements. More information is available at <http://www.southafrica-newyork.net/homeaffairs/trp.htm>.

Budget

- Your budget for incidental expenses will depend on your personal taste/extravagance and the amount of independent travel you intend to do before or after the program. The program fee covers most of your necessary expenses: tuition, housing, and transportation and entrance fees for program excursions. You are responsible for your round trip airfare to Cape Town, incidentals, laundry, personal expenditures and any additional travel.

- Entertainment, travel and incidentals during the weeks of the program may vary greatly with individual tastes. You should expect to budget around one and a half times the amount you normally spend at home per week, or roughly \$125-\$175 per week, keeping in mind that expenditures will depend largely on your own spending habits and plans to travel. It is wisest to bring more than you expect to spend in order to be prepared for emergencies or for special occasions.
- Former students have reported spending between \$500-\$1,500 on this program, with most students spending close to \$1,000. Former students have mentioned additional meals and taxis as unexpected additional expenses.

How do you plan to fund your program:

Sources:	Amount:	When Available:
Scholarship(s)		Varies by deadline, Reves scholarships will reduce your total balance due. You will find out if you've been awarded a Reves scholarship by the end of February.
Financial Aid (Loans, grants, through W&M)		First day of classes on campus or the first day of the summer program, whichever is LATER.
Savings		
Parental/Guardian support		
Other		
Total		



Traveling to Cape Town

NOTE: *You are responsible for your own travel arrangements to and from South Africa*

Airport Pick-Up

You are responsible for your flight arrangements to and from Cape Town. Your accommodations at the University of Cape Town will be available on July 6. The Program Director will contact students about specific arrival times and airport pick-up plans. You will need to leave the United States no later than the afternoon/early evening of July 5 or, in some cases, July 4 (depending on the length and location of your layover). The program officially ends August 3rd (i.e. you will need to leave by that date or make arrangements for your own housing for that night and beyond). Please notify the Program Director immediately if your travel plans change or your flights unexpectedly change.

From the Airport to the University of Cape Town: *Students will be picked up at the airport and taken directly to the University of Cape Town.* Look for a SHAWCO sign in the arrival hall. There are ATM machines in the arrival lounge, too. Additionally, at the end of the program students will be transported to the airport.

Please be aware that you may have a significant layover in London or Johannesburg or another major European or African country en route to Cape Town. South African Airways flies directly from Washington D.C. to Johannesburg with connections to Cape Town (<http://www.flysaa.com/>). Many airlines (British Airways, American Airlines, etc.) that fly to South Africa require stopovers in Europe or multiple stops en route to Cape Town – so it is VERY IMPORTANT that you carefully look at the departure and arrival dates when booking your flight.

Immigration: As you leave your aircraft, signs will direct you to the arrival area where you will show your passport to immigration inspectors. You may also be asked to show your return ticket. Since you will be in the country less than 90 days, it is important to state that you are a TOURIST. If you indicate you are a student, the immigration officer may ask for a letter of admission to the program. If this happens, you can show them your acceptance email into the program. Please see VISA information above in the Visa section.

After you arrive, remember to call or email your family to let them know you have arrived safely. This will not only save them from worry, but also will help the Global Education Office and SHAWCO from receiving panicked phone calls regarding your whereabouts.

The University of Cape Town

The University of Cape Town (UCT) is South Africa's oldest university, and was founded in 1829 as the South African College, a high school for boys. The College had a small tertiary-education facility that grew substantially after 1880, when the discovery of gold and diamonds in the north - and the resulting demand for skills in mining - gave it the financial boost it needed to grow. The College developed into a fully-fledged university during the period 1880 to 1900, thanks to increased funding from private sources and the government.

During these years, the College built its first dedicated science laboratories, and started the departments of mineralogy and geology to meet the need for skilled personnel in the country's emerging diamond and gold-mining industries. Another key development during this period was the admission of women. In 1886 the Professor of Chemistry, Paul Daniel Hahn, convinced the Council to admit four women into his chemistry class on a trial basis. Owing to the exceptional standard of work by the women students, the College decided to admit women students permanently in honor of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1887. UCT was formally established as a university in 1918, on the basis of the Alfred Beit bequest and additional substantial gifts from mining magnates Julius Wernher and Otto Beit. The new university also attracted substantial support from well-wishers in the Cape Town area and, for the first time, a significant state grant. Ten years later, in 1928, the university was able to move the bulk of its facilities to the magnificent site at Groote Schuur on the slopes of Devil's Peak on land bequeathed to the nation by Cecil John Rhodes as the site for a national university, where it celebrated its centenary the following year.

As of 2009, 23,500 students were enrolled, of which 6,700 (28.5%) were postgraduate students. The ratio between male and female students is almost exactly 50:50. Over 50% of the student body is non-white. International students account for 19% of total student enrollment at 4300, representing over 100 countries. UCT employs approximately 4500 staff members of whom 44% are academic staff, the rest are administrative and support staff. In 2007 UCT had 866 permanent academic staff members. Between 85% and 90% of academic staff hold doctoral or masters qualifications. The proportion of non-white academic staff is currently around 23%. According to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, UCT (the top-ranked African university) was ranked 107 (W&M received an impressive 75th).



Coursework

You will receive information on what materials you will need at your program orientation. Be sure that you arrange to purchase your textbooks and other materials (if applicable) before you leave the campus at the end of Spring Semester [Non-William and Mary students should contact the Program Director to arrange for textbook purchase]. Plan to read as many of your texts as possible before you leave the United States consistent with an individual professor's instructions. Check with the professor of your courses for his/her particular suggestions.

Excursions & Activities

Official and Personal Travel Options

Once all arrangements have been made, the program faculty will provide you with detailed descriptions of the excursions that are designed to complement the courses you will be taking. Excursions have included a trip to Robin's Island (site of Nelson Mandela's imprisonment), Table Mountain, Cape Point, the Garden District and museums and sites in and around Cape Town. Cape Town is a very sophisticated and beautiful city where the mountains and the cape flats join two oceans—the Indian and the Atlantic. It has sophisticated malls and world-class restaurants. Long Street in downtown is a favorite watering hole for students. But, as we remind you below, do not let your guard down – treat this cosmopolitan city as you would San Francisco or New York City and use caution.

Housing and Meals

Housing

Housing for the Cape Town program has varied over the years and depends on the size of the overall group. In the past, students have stayed in UCT dormitories and in local hostels in the Observatory neighborhood, and in the SHAWCO house. Regardless of the location, all residences have strict access control and are covered by closed-circuit television monitoring. In keeping with the policy of the W&M Office of Residence Life, the Reves Center does not offer housing for the family of any students participating in W&M-sponsored study abroad programs. Also, family members or friends may not participate in any program activities or excursions. If you have family or friends who want to visit you while abroad it is recommended they do so after the completion of the program.

During your 1 credit course, you will receive information about your specific housing, including where it is located, and information on the surrounding area.

Meals

All meals are provided for you on the Cape Town program. Typically breakfast will be provided and available in the kitchen areas. For lunches and dinners, students usually will receive a weekly stipend so they can choose whether they would like dine out or go to the local grocery store and purchase meals to make at home. Sometimes bagged lunches are provided by SHAWCO on days when there is no break between classes and visiting the townships for service-learning. Former students have suggested supplementing your lunches on these days, as the sandwiches do not always satisfy our students' hunger or provide a great deal of variety.

Students with specific food allergies in past years have also indicated that supplementing for lunches and dinners is necessary, as restaurants may not always

understand preference over allergy. For students with celiac, past students and PDs have suggested using Woolworths (www.woolworths.co.za) which deliver groceries. They have the widest selection.

Communication

The GEO provides local cell phones for all students on William & Mary summer programs with *homestays*. Students that are not participating in a program with a homestay are responsible for researching and arranging their communication plan.

PLACING INTERNATIONAL PHONE CALLS

See the “Handy Information” section for a time zone conversion chart before you call!

Calling Galway from the United States: Dial 011 +-353-91 + Local Number

Calling the United States from Galway: Dial 00-1+area code + phone number.

Emergency Numbers

Police: 112 or 999

Medical Emergencies: 112 or 999

Fire: 112 or 999

Health & Safety

Immunization

Students are encouraged to consider updating standard immunizations against *meningitis* and *tetanus*. Immunization against *hepatitis A* and *hepatitis B* is recommended. In addition, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends long-term travelers and students to South Africa make sure their routine vaccinations are current AND receive up-to-date vaccinations for *typhoid*, *rabies*, and, if applicable, *polio*.

Finally, the CDC recommends **anti-malaria drugs**, particularly if you're traveling to an area of the country considered "high risk" for the disease. Anti-malarial drugs should be purchased before you travel (drugs purchased overseas may not meet FDA and CDC standards and may not be as effective). The CDC recommends one of the following anti-malarial drugs: atovaquone/proguanil, doxycycline, or mefloquine. Chloroquine is NOT an effective anti-malaria drug in South Africa and should not be taken to prevent malaria in the region.

One other immunization note: Yellow fever is not a risk in South Africa, but the government does require travelers arriving from countries where it is a risk to present proof of vaccination. If you'll be traveling to one of these countries, you'll need to get vaccinated.

Up-to-date travel information/disease information: For current information concerning recommended protection against communicable diseases for those planning to travel abroad, you may check the Center for Disease Control's website at <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/south-africa.htm>

If you prefer to talk to someone in person about the currently recommended immunizations, you can call *Travel Health of Williamsburg* at 757-220-9008 (located at 287 McLaws Circle), or consult with a physician in your area who has some expertise concerning immunizations for international travel.

Specific Concerns in South Africa

Post-apartheid South Africa is experiencing rapid economic, social and political change. While it is a developed country, there is a high incidence of unemployment and poverty. In addition, there is a high crime rate, particularly in urban areas. Several measures have been taken to insure you get to fully experience South Africa – but do so in a safe way.

Items to keep in mind/specific security measures:

- You will be picked up at the airport and taken directly to your housing.
- You will be driven to the airport when it is time to depart South Africa.
- You should always travel in groups. This cannot be emphasized enough. You should NEVER go out alone at night. Staying out after midnight for any reason is highly inadvisable, especially if you plan to take a taxi.
- The Program will have a driver to take you where you need to go for program-related business.
- For transportation outside of program-related needs, SHAWCO will be able to advise you on which taxi companies are the most reliable and should be used.
- Transportation to and from the township where you will have your service-learning experience is provided each day.
- You'll often be in the company of guides and William & Mary professors who have contacts and experience in the region.
- You should never explore unfamiliar areas of town on your own and never alone.
- You should always carry a list of phone numbers so you can reach someone in case of an emergency.
- You don't need malaria medication if you are staying in Cape Town the whole time. But be prepared if you want to leave the city.

Travel & Country Information

We encourage all students to research their study abroad destination. The State Department has important information available on their website. Be sure to read up on South African history, culture, and current events before your arrival, as well. Knowing as much as possible about where you are going will not only make you more comfortable during your time in the country, but will also allow you to talk more knowledgeably with SHAWCO faculty and staff and new friends.

We strongly recommend that you register your travel plans with the U.S. State Department at this website:

<https://step.state.gov/step/>

This will help the State Department contact you if there is a family emergency in the U.S., or if there is a crisis where you are traveling.

On this website you can find information ranging from geographic and political descriptions of the country, to special health and safety announcements.

Cape Town



CAPE TOWN (Afrikaans: *Kaapstad*) is the second-most populous city in South Africa and the largest in land area, forming part of the City of Cape Town metropolitan municipality. It is the provincial capital and primate city of the Western Cape, as well as the legislative capital of South Africa, where the National Parliament and many government offices are located. The city is famous for its harbor as well as its natural setting in the Cape floral kingdom, including such well-known landmarks as Table Mountain and Cape Point. It is hailed as one of the most beautiful cities in the world as officially recognized by Forbes. *National Geographic* has also listed Cape Town as one of the most iconic cities on the planet and "Places of a Lifetime". Cape Town is also Africa's most popular tourist destination.

Located on the shore of Table Bay, Cape Town was originally developed by the Dutch East India Company as a victualling (supply) station for Dutch ships sailing to Eastern Africa, India, and the Far East. Jan van Riebeeck's arrival on 6 April 1652 established the first permanent European settlement in South Africa. Cape Town quickly outgrew its original purpose as the first European outpost at the Castle of Good Hope, becoming the economic and cultural hub of the Cape Colony. Until the Witwatersrand Gold Rush and the development of Johannesburg, Cape Town was the largest city in South Africa. Today it is one of the most multicultural cities in the world, reflecting its role as a major destination for immigrants and expatriates to South Africa. As of 2007 the city had an estimated population of 3.5 million. Cape Town's land area of 948 sq miles is larger than other South African cities, resulting in a comparatively lower population density of 3,690/sq mi.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Global Education Office Contacts

You may call the Global Education Office and its advisors at the numbers below between 8am and 5pm (Virginia time), Monday through Friday. In case of an emergency that falls outside of these times, please call William & Mary Campus Police at (757) 221-4596. Campus police will then forward your call to the correct person or office.

Global Education Advisor: Molly DeStafney (mldestafney@wm.edu) - +001 (757) 221-3425

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*To call the U.S. from abroad: 001+ (Area Code) + phone number

At the University of Cape Town

Program Director

Professor Leah Glenn

Department of Dance

Cell will be posted on Blackboard

(rkadams@wm.edu)

Host Institution

University of Cape Town

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