

## ***Poverty, Altruism, & Hope in Tanzania (PY 332)***

### ***January 2010***

- Trip Leader:** Dr. Patricia Bruininks, Associate Professor of Psychology
- Credits:** 3 upper division Psychology credits
- Fulfills:** Global Perspectives general education requirement
- Prerequisites:** PY 330 – Psychology of Poverty and Social Class (Fall 2009 – 3 credits)  
PY 331 – Tanzania Prep Course (Fall 2009 – 2 credits)

#### **Course Description:**

This service-learning course will take place primarily at the Baobab Home, an orphanage run by spouses Terri Place and Caito Mwandu in Bagamoyo, Tanzania. Bagamoyo is a town of about 30K located on the Indian Ocean, approximately 70 km north of Dar Es Salaam. In addition to serving as an orphanage, Terri, Caito, and their employees are also involved in the following activities that benefit their community:

- Educating residents about HIV/AIDS
- Helping support street boys by funding their secondary education and tutoring;
- Working with the Tanzanian NGO Society of Orphaned Children and AIDS Control (SOCAC) to serve breakfast to over 60 most vulnerable children (MVC) at a local primary school
- Constructing homes for families with MVC that are better suited to ward off the elements and protect children from illnesses ranging from malaria to pneumonia;
- Raising Dora, their cow, who provides milk for the SOCAC breakfast program
- Providing a play center for the kids of Bong'wa, the village surrounding the Baobab home;
- Creating the Baobab Alternative School, a Montessori learning environment where orphaned children in the Baobab family can develop a love of learning while remaining a part of the community to which they belong.

There are two pre-requisites for this course, both which occur during Fall 2009. In PY 330, students will learn about local, national, and global poverty, and have first-hand contact with the homeless and marginal in Spokane's West Central neighborhood via a Community-Based Research Project. In Tanzania, students will see more abject poverty by U.S. standards, but less income disparity. This contrast will encourage students to consider fully what it means to be poor, and how each community has advantages and disadvantages in terms of how their physical, social, and spiritual resources affect the psychological well-being of their members. A continuation of the Community-Based Research Project will take place at the Baobab Home. In PY 331, students will receive a brief overview of the history and culture of East Africa; discuss the psychology of altruism; and gain a beginning knowledge of Swahili so that communication with residents will be possible.

**Anticipated Cost:** \$4800 (includes airfare, housing, transportation, safari, and most meals)

- ❖ \$500 Non-refundable deposit within 48 hours of acceptance
- ❖ \$1000 by May 1
- ❖ \$1000 by June 1 (so airline tickets may be purchased)
- ❖ \$1000 by August 1
- ❖ \$900 by October 1
- ❖ \$400 by November 1

**Additional Costs** for students not included in the price of the trip include obtaining or renewing their passport (must be valid for at least 6 months following planned return), and immunizations (yellow fever is required; typhoid, hepatitis A&B, and rabies vaccinations are also recommended; malaria pills are STRONGLY recommended).

**Off-Campus Programs Scholarships** deadline for application is September 17, 2009.

**Early Bird Special** deadline is November 5, 2009. ALL paperwork must be turned in and all payments made on-time to receive this discount.

**Off-Campus Programs Contact Info:**

- ❖ Charles Tappa: [ctappa@whitworth.edu](mailto:ctappa@whitworth.edu), 777-4499
- ❖ Kavita George-Terrells: [kgeorge-terrells@whitworth.edu](mailto:kgeorge-terrells@whitworth.edu), 777-4562

***Tentative Itinerary***

**M 1/4 – W 1/6**                      **Course preparation at Whitworth**

**Th 1/7 – Sa 1/9**                      **Travel to Bagamoyo, Tanzania**

We will be staying on the farm in new but sparse lodging (we may or may not have power). We will cook most meals together and live in community.

**Su 1/10**                                  **Acclimate to time zone and climate; attend church service**

**M 1/11 – W 1/20**                      **Volunteering and Cultural Activities in Bagamoyo**

Volunteer work may consist of construction on the children's home or school; agricultural work, including milking Dora, their cow; spending time with the children at the Baobab Home and the SOCAC breakfast program; soccer training; working at the Baobab Alternative School; and outreach in the community surrounding the farm.

Cultural activities may include following a family for a day (as home stays are impractical); drumming and dance lessons; batik making; mat weaving; visiting the Bagamoyo museum, Kaole ruins, and salt flats; going on a boating/fishing trip; discussion with Sunni and Shia Muslim leaders; henna tattoos; visiting the Wamangati, a nomadic tribe; visiting secondary schools in the area; visiting the hospital; attending church.

**Th 1/21 – F 1/22**                      **Dar es Salaam**

Visit the University and/or agencies with the mission of poverty reduction.

**Sat 1/23 – M 1/25**                      **Selous Game Reserve Safari**

**M 1/25 – W 1/27**                      **Travel back to Spokane**