

Ethiopia 2017 (December 9-21)

Itinerary & Information

This international experience to Africa's second-most populous nation, Ethiopia allows our students to learn about one of the world's oldest civilizations with one of the most distinctive cultures. Ethiopia has experienced 50 years of rapid transition from monarchy to socialist revolution to the present hybrid regime. Their historical legacy brings a unique literary and cultural tradition that is resistant to European colonial rule.

The purpose and objective of this trip is to introduce teacher education students to working in a global setting where they are "the other" and must learn to navigate a different culture. This experience will prepare them as future North Carolina teachers to develop empathy and support for students who immigrate to North Carolina from other cultures. While in country, the UNCW students will work in two different schools. The Deborah School is a private school for students in grades pre-k through 12. The school delivers instruction in English so the students learn English as a world language. Our students will have opportunities to observe the teachers and students across different grade levels as well as have many opportunities to teach lessons. Students will also spend part of their visit at the Fregen School which will provide students a very different experience. The Fregen School is also a private school but operates solely on donations and provides education to students that live in high poverty areas. Lessons at the Fregen School are taught only in Amharic and while language will be a barrier for our students they will still be able to interact, observe, and teach lessons. The majority of the day will be spent at the schools with the afternoons focused on learning about the history and culture of Ethiopia.

December 9

Travel to DC- transportation plans to Dulles International Airport will be made once the Ethiopia tickets are booked.

December 10

Arrival in Addis Ababa. Students will travel to the Guest House and spend the day resting, unpacking and will have a van tour of the city and visit Kaldi's Coffee Shop.

Monday, December 11

Morning-2:30 – visit and have a tour of The Deborah School. Students will spend day in the school.

After dismissal – National Museum of Ethiopia where students will have an English speaking guide to learn about the history of Ethiopia. Museum is located in the city and is well-known for housing "Lucy" which is a partial skeleton of the early hominids.

Evening- Time at the "White House" to work on Blogs and prepare for the next day.

Tuesday, December 12

Morning-2:30 - Work in the Deborah School

Evening – Students will have a traditional Ethiopian dinner at Yod Abyssinia and after dinner they will experience live performance of songs and dance from the diverse Ethiopian ethnic groups. Website: <http://www.yodethiopia.com/>

Wednesday, December 13

Morning-2:30 - Work in the Deborah School

After dismissal – Students will be given the option to travel to experience the Addis Merkato to learn about the daily life in Ethiopia and have the chance to purchase Ethiopian goods. If students choose not to visit the Merkato they are welcome to stay at the guest house.

Evening- Time at the "White House" to work on Blogs and prepare for the next day.

Thursday, December 14

Morning – 2:30 Work in the Deborah School

After Dismissal – Our driver will take us on a van tour of Entoto Hill which is the highest peak overlooking the city of Addis Ababa and also the training ground for Ethiopia's greatest athletes like Haile Gebreselassie (Long-distant runner who has won 2 Olympic medals). The journey through eucalyptus trees at 3,200 meters above sea level. Not only will they be able to see extraordinary views of the city but they will also be able to meet and interact with the locals along the way. We will stop and tour the Entoto Maryam church and museum and then on the way back we will visit the ShiroMeda market.

Evening – Time at the "White House" to work on Blogs and prepare for the next day.

Friday, December 15

Morning – 2:30 Visit and have tour of the Fregen School

Evening – We will spend the early evening at Laphto where students will be given the option to go bowling and explore the art gallery. Afterwards we will enjoy dinner at one of the local eateries.

Saturday, December 16

Morning – Time at the "White House" to work on Blogs and prepare for the day.

Afternoon – Travel to Born Free Ethiopia which is a wildlife conservation and educational center who works to protect rare species of animals in their natural habitats. Students will have a chance to see these animals and learn about the work of Born Free from their knowledgeable staff.

Website: <http://www.bornfree.org.uk/about-us/born-free-ethiopia/>

Sunday, December 17

Open Day – TBD – group will travel together with guide or stay at the “White House”

Monday, December 18

Morning – 2:30 Work at the Fregnet School

Afternoon - Travel to the Holy Trinity Cathedral and explore the Kidist Selassie Museum.

Evening – Time at the “White House” to work on Blogs and prepare for the next day.

Tuesday, December 19

Morning – 2:30 Work at the Fregnet School

Afternoon – Travel to the Ethnological Museum which is located within the Addis Ababa University campus. The museum showcases the major tribes of Ethiopia, the history of Ethiopia, and the importance of coffee in Ethiopian culture.

Evening – Time at the “White House” to work on Blogs and prepare for the next day.

Wednesday, December 20

Morning – 2:30 Work at the Fregnet School

Afternoon – prepare for departure – flights typically leave between 9:00-11:00 PM and we need to arrive at least 2 hours prior.

Lodging:

We will be staying at “The White House” which is a Guest House in Addis Ababa located within a 15-20 minute drive to both schools. The guest house is owned and operated by Zac Mengestu. There are seven bedrooms and eight bathrooms to be shared by students and faculty. Each room accommodates two to six people with enough beds to comfortably room up to 35 people. The guest house has two cooks that travel to the house on a daily basis to prepare breakfast, lunch, and dinner. There is also a guard and a manager that live on the bottom floor of the house and are available 24/7. Bottled water is also provided as part of the cost for staying at the guest house.

Driver/Interpreter:

The owner of the guest house, Zac Mengestu is also an experienced driver and will transport us to all locations around Ethiopia. Zac and his family live around the corner from the Guest House and provides us with a cell phone that has direct access to his line if we need to get in touch with him once we return to the Guest House.

Safety, Health, and Security

- Like many other international experiences, our work with OIP will best prepare our students for risk mitigation; that is, for our students to be behaviorally ready to engage in a safe and secure experience. This will be the third visit to the Guest House for the program leader and she has continued to remain in contact with the owner of the Guest House as well as with the director of both schools.
- All university requirements will be followed in order to ensure that the university can contact the faculty leaders in case of emergency. An IECF will be approved and signed by the department chair or unit head, dean or director, and assistant provost of international programs before departure.
- The Watson College of Education has a contact liaison in the Dean’s Office for all International Programs. The liaison has all the pertinent information on file necessary for emergency communication which includes contact phone numbers, addresses, etc... for faculty and students traveling abroad.
- Students and the faculty will register with the American Embassy so that they will be known to be in country. Americans traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs website at: <http://travel.state.gov> where the current Travel Warnings and Travel alerts, as well as the Worldwide Caution can be found. Up-to-Date information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada, or for callers outside the U.S. and Canada, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). One can also register at <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>