

INTERNATIONAL COMPARATIVE HIGHER EDUCATION (SOUTH AFRICA)
EAD 972
Spring 2015 and May 17-May 30

TRIP/COURSE LEADERS:

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PURPOSE

The purpose of the HALE Field Experience in South Africa is to enable HALE students to link knowledge and skills they are gaining as scholars and practitioners in higher education to actual issues and challenges in the international context. It is designed to be a professional experience for the students, involving collaborative projects with colleagues in South Africa.

Much of the experience is focused on providing students with an opportunity to engage in supervised professional interactions, consultations, and work. A primary goal is mutual learning. The experience is designed to enable HALE students and faculty to learn about higher education in another country, ways to engage in organizational and cultural analysis, and ways to relate specific theoretical and content knowledge to actual issues and problems. Students practice skills as professionals, interacting with a wide array of colleagues. At the same time, the South African colleagues gain new knowledge and participate in professional development workshops facilitated by MSU student/ faculty teams.

We spend about a week at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) in Port Elizabeth, and conclude the trip with several days in Cape Town. While at NMMU, one team of MSU students and faculty will focus on teaching, learning, and organizational issues in collaboration with South African colleagues, and a second will focus on student affairs issues. Each MSU team will be responsible for giving major presentations, facilitating workshops, and interacting in meetings with institutional leaders, faculty members, and student affairs staff.

Students also engage in pre-reading about South Africa, including its history and higher education system, reflective writing, and a paper on a topic of choice.

In addition to the collaborative work at NMMU, the group will learn about South Africa through informal conversations and visits with diverse students, faculty, and townspeople, a day visiting animal preserves, and special meals hosted by university leaders. The trip will conclude with several days in Cape Town, exploring the city and surrounding areas, visiting the craft market and historical sites, and spending time at Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela and his colleagues were imprisoned for many years.

In the past, the experience has been very meaningful and productive for everyone involved--the MSU students and faculty, and the NMMU colleagues. Leaders at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University report that the collaborative work has contributed to consideration of new policies

and practices at the institution pertaining to faculty work and student life. The MSU students write about professional confidence gained, discoveries about self and other, deeper understanding of issues they have studied in class but about which they now have been more nuanced views, and new perspectives about how they want to use their professional and scholarly talents.

REQUIREMENTS

- Participate in several pre-trip meetings, with dates selected during the initial group meeting, as well as group meetings during the trip.
- Read and discuss selected readings and review assigned materials concerning South African history, culture, and higher education.
- After completing your study of the course readings and materials, write a 1,200-1,500 word reflective essay discussing these questions: a) What questions or issues pertaining to education do the preparation materials raise for you that you wish to learn more about during your time in South Africa? (B) Based on the preparation readings, what issues do you expect that we may encounter in our work in South Africa? Due: April 15
- Prepare, participate in, and co-lead workshops, seminars, and professional conversations about topics of relevance to the issues identified by Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University colleagues.
- Upon our return, write a reflective paper in which you discuss how your expectations and initial thoughts as expressed in your April 15 essay have been developed, challenged, extended, or answered. Also discuss how the experience has affected you as a professional and person. Due: June 14

COURSE EVALUATION

Evaluation will be based on the professional work, papers, and contributions to discussions outlines above.

TRAVEL DATES AND ITINERARY

Sunday, May 17	Depart from LAN
Monday, May 18	Arrive in Port Elizabeth. Settle in.
Tues, May 19	Orientation --City/Township Tour
Wed-Fri, May 20-22	Work at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University
Sat & Sun, May 23-24	Excursions/Site Seeing in and around Port Elizabeth Addo Elephant Park (1 full day) Port Elizabeth Ocean Front attractions
Wed., May 27	Finish work at NMMU. Fly to Cape Town.
Wed – Sat, May 27-30	Excursions in Cape Town: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Robben Island• Cape Point and Penguin Colony• Table Mountain• Kistenbosch Botanical Garden• Cape Town Waterfront
Sat, May 30:	Depart for LAN in the afternoon

COSTS AND REGISTRATION

Your costs:

- Your flight
- Lunch and Dinner each day (about \$20 per day)
- Three credits of MSU tuition and fees
- Admissions for sightseeing excursions (about \$350)
- Immunizations and passport, if you need them (there are no visas for South Africa if you are a US Citizen)
- Souvenirs
- Miscellaneous odd expenses

Please note:

- Department/HALE Center are covering some ground transportation and lodging.
- NMMU is covering faculty lodging and flights, and some ground transportation.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

You will need to book one international flight and one in-country flight for this trip. Cost for international flight approximately: \$1900.00

In Country Flight

South African Airways, Flight

Depart: May 27

PLZ to CPT

More information to come.

LODGING

May 18-27: Port Elizabeth	Lodging TBD
May 27-30: Cape Town	Lodging TBD

PACKING

Suitcases: Plan on just one suitcase and a carry-on. We will not have space for lots of excess luggage. Your bag should not weigh more than 45 pounds.

Clothes: It will be winter in South Africa (temps between 40s and 60s; could be rainy and windy). Plan on wearing business clothes for the workdays. Take casual clothes for site seeing. Bring layers to stay warm, coat, warm socks, gloves, raincoat, umbrella. You will be able to drop off laundry in the morning and pick it up in the afternoon several times during the trip.

Converter plugs: It is a good idea to bring converters for charging computers, etc.

Gifts: You may want to bring small gifts that are easy to carry—CDs, small momentos of MSU. We may want to contribute together to a gift for our hosts.

Credit Cards and Bank Arrangements: You will be able to access ATMs. Tell your bank and credit card companies that you will be traveling in South Africa.

TRAVEL ISSUES

Passport (no visa is needed for US Citizens)

Health Issues: Insurance and Immunizations: Check with your health care provider. Immunizations are available at MSU's Olin Health Center International Travel Office and at the Ingham County Health Clinic in Lansing. *Be sure to start early as you may need several immunizations spread over several weeks.*

Registering with State Dept.-- Go to State Dept website (<https://step.state.gov/step/>)..

Emergency Contact Information: Please email copies of your completed Emergency Contact form, passport, and International Student Form to Karla Bellingar (bellinga@msu.edu) by April 1. Also, if you have specific health issues that could be of concern (e.g., diabetes, etc.), be sure to provide that information when you submit your emergency contact information. We would keep such health information confidential, but if there were a health emergency, we would need to know this information.

READINGS

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University Website: <http://www.nmmu.ac.za/Default.asp?bhcp=1>

Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela—This is Mandela's autobiography and is essential reading. You'll learn about apartheid through Mandela's struggles, and it will make your trip to Robben Island even more meaningful. You will also learn much about the history of South Africa's struggle for freedom,

and this information will provide a base on which you can build your understanding of the current culture and political context.

Knowledge in the Blood by Jonathan Jansen - This book tells the story of white South African students—how they remember and enact an Apartheid past they were never part of. How is it that young Afrikaners, born at the time of Mandela's release from prison, hold firm views about a past they never lived, rigid ideas about black people, and fatalistic thoughts about the future? Jansen offers an intimate look at the effects of social and political change after Apartheid as white students first experience learning and living alongside black students.

Overcoming Apartheid website (<http://overcomingapartheid.msu.edu/index.php>).-- The MSU African Studies Center created an exceptionally comprehensive website on the history of Apartheid. If you don't have a lot of time for reading, skim the overview for each of the 8 units listed below. Each one is about 3 pages in length and will provide an overview the origins apartheid, insight into the struggle, and what is happening in post-Apartheid South Africa.

Visit <http://overcomingapartheid.msu.edu/listunits.php> to see a list of all 8 units; click on unit title to get to the 3-page summaries of each unit.

1. Introduction Unit 1
2. Colonialism and Segregation: The Origins of Apartheid Unit 2
3. The Rise of Apartheid Unit 3
4. Protest and Resistance through the Rivonia Trial (1964) Unit 4
5. Reigniting the Struggle - The 1970s through the Release of Nelson Mandela Unit 5
6. The End of Apartheid and the Birth of Democracy Unit 6
7. Exploring the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Unit 7
8. Building Democracy After Apartheid Unit 8

Printable Articles

- **African Higher Education: Challenges for the 21st Century**—Teferra & Altbach
<http://www.acui.org/uploadedFiles/Programs/Professional_Development/Teferra.pdf>
- **Race is nowhere and race is everywhere: Narratives from Black and White South Africa University Students in Post-Apartheid South Africa**—Melanie Walker
<http://www.acui.org/uploadedFiles/Programs/Professional_Development/Narratives%20from%20Black%20and%20White%20SA%20students.pdf>

Publications specifically on Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University

- Austin, A. E., & Foxcroft, C. (2010). Fostering organizational change and individual learning through “ground-up” inter-institutional cross-border collaboration. In R. Sakamoto, & D. W. Chapman (Eds.), *Cross-border partnerships in higher education: Strategies and issues*, (p. 115-132). New York: Routledge.
- Austin, A. E. (2001). Transformation through negotiation: The University of Port Elizabeth's experiences, challenges, and progress. In R. O. Mabokela & K. L. King (Eds.), *Apartheid no more: Case studies of Southern African universities in the process of transformation* (pp. 1-36). Greenwood Press.
- Wawrzynski, M.R., Heck, A., & Remley, C. (2012). An exploration of student outcomes in a South African context. *Journal of College Student Development*, 53, 106-123.

- *Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University 2020 Plan*

Supplemental Readings (not required, but very interesting and useful)

- *A History of South Africa*. Leonard Thompson. Yale University Press, 2001.
- Literature by Andre Brink or Nadine Gordimer. Their novels provide much insight into the culture and the historical factors that influenced South Africa today.