

SMALL WORLD NEWSLETTER

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GLOBAL MAY UGANDA



Students had the opportunity to interact with and learn from local leaders in the community during the May 2019 Global May Uganda trip.

Dr. Salome Wekisa Fouts serves as the Resident Director for the Global May Uganda study abroad program at OSU. Her interest in this program is fueled by the desire to share her home country with others, and by her concerns relating to human security and sustainable development in Uganda, and world wide. In Uganda, Dr. Fouts is actively engaged in improving access to quality

educational resources in various elementary schools within her village community of Bujuuko.

The East African country of Uganda is characterized by the beauty and resilience of its natural landscape as well as that of the people who live there. How Ugandans have sought their livelihoods, developed their culture, and pursued

peace, security and prosperity in their lives is the focus of this three week program. Students spend a third of their time in Uganda's bustling capital, Kampala, attending lectures at the School for International Training and in interactive visits of sites, organizations, and with people that embody historical and contemporary Uganda. Students also con-



In addition to teaching Swahili, Dr. Fouts leads the Global May Uganda Study abroad program.

Students on a local tour boat on Lake Victoria—heading to the Nile Source.

sider issues facing rural Ugandans in a number of communities. Development, rural health, education, agriculture, the environment and tourism are explored from bases in Jinja and Kapchorwa east of Kampala. A visit to the Murchison Falls National Park will immerse students in Uganda's natural environment. Above all the program promotes engagement with many representatives of Ugandan society: educators, professionals, artists, politicians, students, activists and others who advocate for Ugandans' human security. Three days are also spent in the neighboring country of Rwanda.

Kampala is a vibrant city of over a million people which has experienced tremendous growth in the last decade. The urban landscape features the opportunities this has brought, in the form of new businesses and shopping malls.

Jinja is the second city of Uganda located at the source of the Nile. The neighboring country of Rwanda and its capital Kigali will also be visited.

Accommodations

Students are housed in a combination of hotel/hostel style accommodations for the beginning of the program and during excursions. For the remainder of their time in country students are housed in secure home stays close to the SIT facilities.

During the Global May Uganda abroad program, students get the chance to explore the concept of "Human Security" and what it means to the modern Ugandan citizen living in a post-colonial urban or rural environment. For the developing world the idea of "Human Security" is especially important to its citizens as they grapple with issues such

as how they will access clean water, healthcare or how their families will receive a good education. Students also reflect on larger concepts within these issues such as food production, the environment and its protection, ethnic group identities, the role of women, and access to government services, etc. Our students were based in Kampala and lived with local families allowing an immersive experience into the everyday life of Ugandans. They went on trips and excursions to locations across Uganda including rural communities, a refugee settlement, local markets, a national park, and the source of the Nile. In 2020, a short excursion to Rwanda will allow students to compare Uganda's development model to Rwanda's.