



Ubuntu Exposure Southern Africa
Exchange Program Brochure

Service Learning • Leadership Development
Community Service



Service Learning. Leadership Development. Community Service.



Vision

To expose students, faculty and professionals to opportunities to make a contribution towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Africa.

Mission

- To connect students, faculty and professionals to community service projects and service-learning sites in Southern Africa
- To provide opportunities for youth leadership development and exposure
- To build capacity and provide resources for non-profit organizations and those in need
- To promote cross-cultural understanding and expose the world to the beauty of Southern Africa.

Rationale

There is a tremendous need for international volunteers in Southern Africa. The United Nations has called upon the global community to take action and contribute to:

- developing a global partnership for development
- eradicating poverty
- combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- ensuring environmental sustainability
- universal primary education
- promoting gender equality and empowering women
- reducing child mortality
- improving maternal health





2008 Locations

South Africa
Swaziland
Other Southern African Development Community
Countries (SADC): Botswana, Zambia,
Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Mauritius, Namibia,
Lesotho, Tanzania, Democratic
Republic of Congo, Malawi, Angola

Fees

All Ubuntu service-learning programs \$1,800.00
for two weeks. The placement fee
includes:

- All your food and accommodation
- On-ground transport
- Excursions
- Administration costs
- Service-learning projects orientation
- Provision of security
- Provision of 24-hour on-call medical doctor
- Developing your full project itinerary

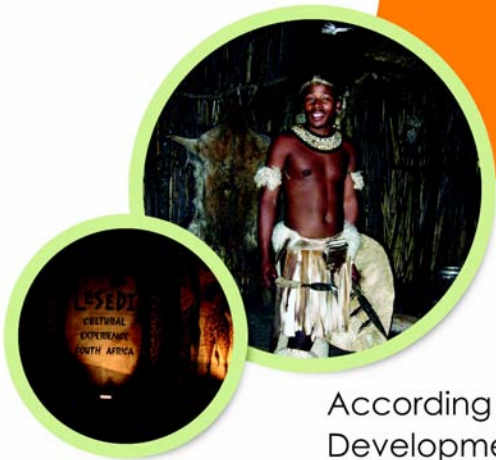
* Our fee schedule does not include airfare as
the price of airfare varies depending
on time of booking.

*For those wishing to stay for four weeks, the
program costs \$3,600.00

Methods of Payment

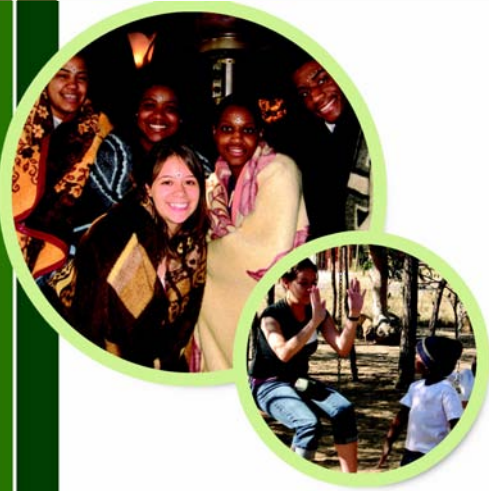
Electronic wire transfers

Credit cards



According to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Report (2005):

- Over half a million people are infected and living with HIV/AIDS in South Africa and the estimated adult HIV prevalence rate (aged 15-'5f49) is 18.85%.
- Life expectancy for countries such as Botswana, Zambia and Swaziland is as low as 35 years. Without AIDS, it is estimated that it would be 64 years. This means over half the 15-year-olds living today are not expected to reach the age of 60.
- Every day, about 6,000 young people are infected with HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Since 2001, 12 million children have been orphaned by AIDS. Many households are led by children as young as 12.
- 113 million of the world's children do not attend school. Sub-Saharan Africa currently accounts for 43 million of these. This number is expected to increase as more parents die as a result of AIDS.
- Hospitals are struggling to cope with the number of patients with HIV-'5frelated illnesses. Schools have fewer teachers because of the AIDS epidemic. In 2005 it was estimated that 21% of teachers in South Africa were living with HIV.
- Unemployment rates in South Africa are as high as 39% and the worst affected are the youth.
- In Africa, water scarcity afflicts 300 million people and claims at least 6,000 lives a year.
- An estimated 34% of the surface area of Africa is under the threat of desertification.



The United Nations has set the target of achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. According to their predictions, if no radical steps and interventions are made soon, Africa will not meet its MDG targets until 2145 – which may be too late for many smaller countries.

Projects/Opportunities to make a difference:

The Ubuntu Exposure South Africa program provides opportunities for all to make a difference and contribute towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Here are some examples of activities that students and volunteers can participate in:

- Providing nurturing care and loving attention to infants, orphans and youth affected by HIV/AIDS
- Building the capacity of organizations working on HIV/AIDS home-based care, prevention efforts, youth education initiatives or awareness campaigns, or even building new orphanages
- Establishing sustainable food sources for impoverished neighborhoods by identifying appropriate and sustainable crops and creating vegetable gardens at community centers
- Research into the legal and socio-cultural factors affecting the spread of HIV/AIDS, as well as how solutions can be found and implemented nationally.



2009 Spring Break Travel Period:

- March 8th – April 2nd

Summer Program Dates for 2009:

- May 17th – May 31st
- June 1st – June 14th
- June 15th – June 29th
- June 29th – July 14th
- July 6th – July 20th
- July 21st – August 4th
- August 9th – August 23rd

Winter Break Travel Period:

- November 25th, 2009 – January 5th, 2010

2010 Spring Break Travel Period:

- March 8th – April 2nd

Summer Program Dates for 2010:

- May 17th – May 31st
- June 1st – June 14th

Programs running longer than June 1st will be only 2010 Soccer World Cup

Volunteer Opportunities. Winter Break Travel Period:

- November 25th 2010 – January 5th, 2011





10. Selina Tsotseti (Office Caretaker)
Our offices are located in Centurion, Pretoria,
South Africa

Partnerships

University of the Witwatersrand
University of Johannesburg
UNISA
Numerous project sites (HIV/AIDS and health
sciences, business development,
tourism, environmental sustainability etc.)
Royal Global Tours Africa
South African Police Service
Swaziland Police Service
Morningside Clinic
South African Government
Swaziland Government
Time Schedule (travel dates are flexible and can
be modified to suit optimal travel dates for
participants)
2008

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- Working with women on empowerment projects for young girls.
- One of the factors that has caused the spread of HIV/AIDS has been the lack of choices and empowerment for women and young girls, who are often caught in prostitution and the cycle of poverty.
- Working on poverty eradication initiatives, especially in rural areas.
Education (especially mathematics, science and English).
Entrepreneurship support to small businesses trying to get out of the poverty trap
Working on agricultural economics projects, especially in rural areas.
Working on water purification and other environmental sustainability projects.
Working on urban design/architectural initiatives for development.
- Work in the legal and human rights sector, supporting empowerment for women and governance.
- Producing educational materials for training and youth leadership development.
- Helping underprivileged entrepreneurial organizations with business planning, marketing and fundraising.
- Developing video documentaries and print marketing materials for charity organizations that need to communicate their work.
- Journalism students can also help with writing, for example proposals and updating website content.
- Information technology students and volunteers can help with information management, database management and IT solutions for charity organizations.
- Veterinary medicine students can gain experience with animal care within the safari game park setting.



- Health sciences students and volunteers can gain experience working with hospitals, home-based care initiatives, AIDS outreach programs and research facilities in areas affected by HIV/AIDS.
- Arts, culture and anthropology students and volunteers can work in museums, musical/theatrical performance centers, fine art galleries and anthropological research sites.

Thematic areas that we cover:

Community
Health
Environmental
Sustainability
Non-Profit
Training
Poverty
Eradication
Organizational
Development
Women
Empowerment
Aids Orphanage
Volunteer
Entrepreneurship
Development
Leadership,
Teamwork
Development
Architecture and
Urban Design
Building
Education and
Research
Development



Help with communication options to stay in touch with family back at home.

Ubuntu will develop co-proposals with faculty and university departments for service-learning projects in Southern Africa.

Ubuntu will support students or faculty who want to stay in the area for an extended period of time (up to three months).

Ubuntu will help with the visa requirements and immigration issues related to your travel e.g. issuing invitation letters for visas.

Ubuntu will arrange volunteer and community service project sites for working professionals and students seeking non-credit experience.

Ubuntu will provide student volunteers (from local universities) to partner with visiting university students for cross-cultural exchanges.

Organizational Capacity; Staff

1. Prince Cedza Dlamini (CEO and Founder)
2. Rose Venter (Inbound Programme Co-ordinator)
3. Beished Shabangu (Outbound Programme Co-ordinator)
4. Liona Mooloo (Administrative Assistant)
5. Poppie Masombuko (Logistics - Travel and Accommodation)
6. Alan Viljoen (Logistics - Travel and Accommodation)
7. Nqobile Kubheka (Intern)
8. Mpho Modisaesi (Communications Director)
9. Titus Moetsabi (Consultant/Service-Learning Assessment)



What we do:

- Identify appropriate service-learning sites, volunteering opportunities and community development projects
- Develop itineraries, tailored by you, for the duration of your visit and contact the organizations that will suit your needs
- We provide orientation before you arrive, when you arrive and after you leave (on how you can stay connected to the projects)
- Help arrange accommodation, transport (local), meals (where required), health insurance and security for the entire duration of your program visit.
- We provide a 24-hour on-call doctor for the duration of your program for cases of health emergency.
- Ubuntu will provide a qualified person to conduct student assessment for credit courses and service-learning.
- We conduct extensive orientation on local culture and expectations of your visit, with basic lessons on the local language e.g. how to say “hello” and show respect.
- We follow up with organizations after you have left to make sure your work and contribution is sustainable long after you are gone
- Find leisure activities you can enjoy (safari, Cape Town waterfront, Apartheid Museum, cultural site visits).
- Ubuntu will work with local universities to contact relevant faculty or departments for credit-bearing coursework.

Language
Development
Legal and Human
Rights
Development
Youth
Development
Agricultural
Economics
Engineering
Information
Systems and
Technology
Anthropology and
Earth Sciences
Communications
and Journalism
Sports
Development
Veterinary
Medicine
Health Sciences, Arts and Culture, Hospitality and
Tourism



Models of Participation

There are various ways in which students, faculty, volunteers, or those interested in internships can participate.

1. Service-Learning

Students are engaged in activities that serve the larger community and allow them to put their classroom learning into practice. Robert Bringle describes it accurately when he states, “Unlike many other community service programs (e.g. work-study, volunteering, community outreach), service-learning represents academic work in which the community service activities are used as a ‘text’ that is interpreted, analyzed, and related to the content of a course in a way that permits a formal evaluation of academic learning. Thus, in service-learning, academic credit is not given for engaging in community service; rather, academic credit is based on the academic learning that occurs as a result of the community service.” (Education as Change; Volume 11 December 2007, Robert Bringle, Julia Hatcher; Civic Engagement and Service-Learning – Implications for Higher Education in America and South Africa).

Defining service-learning is important as there is generally some confusion and, in some cases, a lack of understanding of what service-learning (note the dash between service and learning) really is.

Opportunities for Students

- Ubuntu will research, identify a site and facilitate your entire service-learning experience in Southern Africa.
- Ubuntu will provide a qualified person to handle all student assessment for credit.



We work with universities such as the University of the Witwatersrand (known as Wits), the University of Johannesburg, the University of Cape Town and UNISA (the University of South Africa), to name a few. Students or faculty can contact us directly if they wish to get support from us.

Role of Ubuntu Institute:

- To focus 100% on designing and researching your service program and making it successful.
- To become a local partner in the implementing service program as we have the local know-how, network, experience and capacity to make it easier for you.
- We are committed to the same goals as you are – making a difference in our communities and helping to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.
- We believe it will take the global community, working together, in the spirit of Ubuntu, to achieve the goals that sometimes seem impossible to achieve. We believe “Exposure” is a powerful educational tool for individuals, one that is distinctly different from a classroom learning experience. Exposure to new environments forces an individual out of his or her comfort zone and promotes growth on a personal level, as well as in terms of career aspirations.
- Sustain activities

2. Community Development and Service

Community service opportunities are abundant for students in Southern Africa. Many NGOs and community development organizations need help. Unfortunately, community service projects are not for credit bearing purposes (unless prior engagement has been made). Community service opportunities differ from service-learning projects in that they offer opportunities to individuals to donate their time freely with no expectation of return (in money or credit for a course). Ubuntu has numerous opportunities for community service participation in Southern Africa that are geared towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

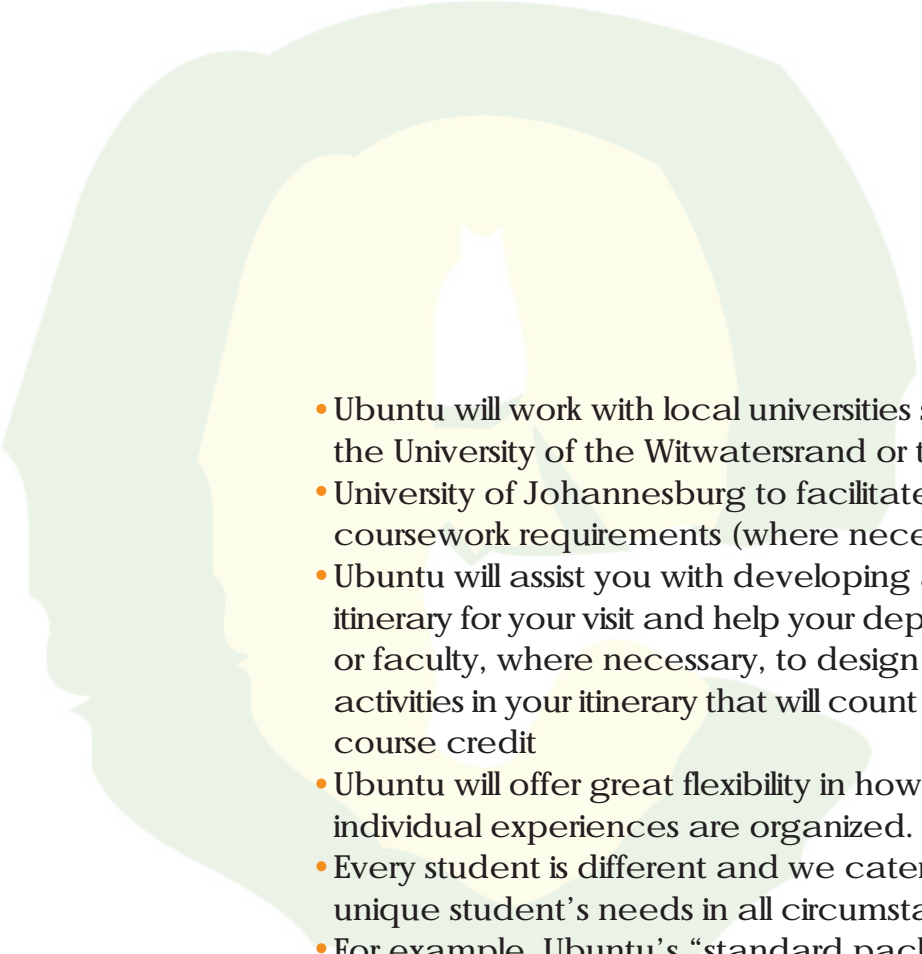
Volunteering and Internships

Volunteering experiences are mostly for working professionals who need a “break” from their normal, day to day work life and want to “make a difference” with their time. The Ubuntu Institute has excellent volunteering opportunities in various fields and flexible time periods in Southern Africa.

Study Abroad

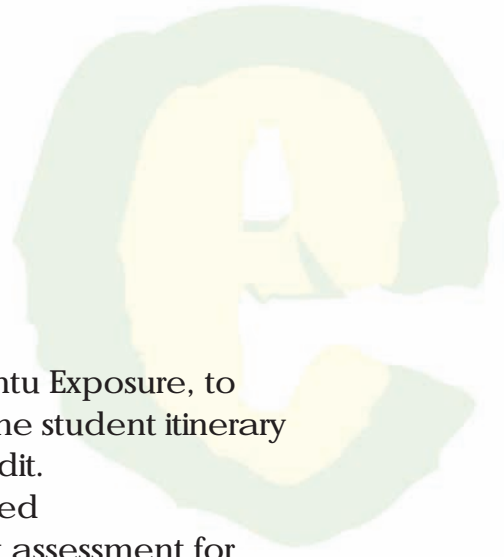
The Ubuntu Institute does not offer traditional programs for study abroad (as we are not a university), but we do work closely with universities to provide relevant project sites for students interested in service-learning or community development and who are studying abroad.



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- Ubuntu will work with local universities such as the University of the Witwatersrand or the University of Johannesburg to facilitate coursework requirements (where necessary)
 - Ubuntu will assist you with developing an itinerary for your visit and help your department or faculty, where necessary, to design specific activities in your itinerary that will count towards course credit
 - Ubuntu will offer great flexibility in how individual experiences are organized.
 - Every student is different and we cater to the unique student's needs in all circumstances.
 - For example, Ubuntu's "standard package" consists of a two-week experience associated with one or more organizations we work with, but we can also tailor the experiences for any length of time, in various areas (sites) and levels (government, non-profit or grassroots).

Opportunities for Faculty



- To develop co-proposals with Ubuntu Exposure for funding service-learning and international community service trips to Southern Africa
- To further their research and increase their publication outputs through research opportunities in Southern Africa
- To make their curriculum and course offerings more competitive by offering international service-learning trips to South Africa for short periods in the semester



- To work with a partner, Ubuntu Exposure, to design specific activities in the student itinerary that can count towards credit.
- Ubuntu will provide a qualified person to handle all student assessment for credit (assessment instruments will be developed by the university/faculty) and
- Ubuntu's representative will provide feedback on students' performance at the end of the program
- Ubuntu will offer flexibility in the service-learning experience for students.

Opportunities for the University

- Why should a university support service-learning opportunities in South Africa?
- To implement the university's "globalization policy".
- To make the university and its programs competitive.
- To have "university ambassadors" abroad, in communities that otherwise could not be reached through sophisticated information technology, such as rural areas.
- After a recent scouting trip to South Africa and Swaziland, a Purdue University faculty member wrote: "A tremendous benefit for Purdue students involved in a South Africa or Swaziland experience through Ubuntu would be the globalization of their experiences and their learning. It is possible that many of the same activities listed above could be carried out with NGOs located within the United States, and even within our own local community, since need exists here at home as well."



However, the opportunity to be fully immersed in a culture that is distinctly different from our own would help to expand our students' views of the importance and applicability of their various fields of study. While South Africa and Swaziland do have English as one of the major languages - which would simplify travel - there are also local languages spoken and distinct cultural differences that would mean students' experiences would be enriched beyond what they could experience in the U.S. alone. In addition, the challenges faced by NGOs in these countries are different than those one would find in the U.S. However, because it is true that great need also exists domestically, and of similar types, it is recommended that any students engaging in SL (service-learning) or SRCS (Student-Resourced Community Service) through these new Ubuntu Institute organized activities be required to research and discuss applications of their findings here at home as part of a final report on their activities."

Dr Gabriela C. Weaver, Associate Professor of Chemistry and of Curriculum and Instruction and Director, Center for Authentic Science Practice in Education, Purdue University, Indiana, Department of Chemistry

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