ALS 2984 Sustainable Agriculture In The Developing World: Past, Present And Future

SERVICE LEARNING IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD: A FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

WINTER SESSION -2014

December 27, 2014 – January 11, 2015

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Explore and learn while fulfilling VT’s motto, Ut Prosim: That I May Serve! The core of this unique experience is a two-week trip to Senegal that includes hands-on participation in research and outreach efforts in sustainable agriculture, education about the country and its people, and a chance to build lifelong friendships while engaging in professional and personal development opportunities. The framework for this high-impact experience is a special study course offered Winter Session, followed by an optional one-credit independent study spring semester. Preparation for the trip occurs during fall semester.

COURSE CREDIT

Three credits in Winter Session 2015 (ALS 2984) plus one credit (optional) in Spring 2015. These credits count toward the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences International Minor and Area 7 of the CLE. Check with your advisor to see how they may apply towards your major

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

- Depart from Washington, DC Dec 27
- Dec 29: visit USAID-ERA, travel to Thiès
- Dec 30 – Jan 2: St. Louis region. Université Gaston Berger, service projects.
- Jan 3: Travel to Toubacouta region. Stay in Kaolack. Visit Toubacouta and artisan market
- Jan 4 – 6: Toubacouta service/learning projects
- Jan 7-8: Saly region projects
- Jan 9: Travel back to Dakar. Visit U.S. Embassy
- Jan 10: Leave Dakar, possibly sightseeing in Paris during flight layover
- Jan 11: Arrive in Washington DC.

EXCURSIONS

Dakar: we will explore Senegal’s capital, a large city on the ocean with open-air markets, excellent shopping, and headquarters for Virginia Tech’s presence in Senegal. We will also visit Goree Island.
**St. Louis:** we’ve spend time with students and faculty from Université Gaston Berger, an institution similar to our Land Grant universities. While in the St. Louis region we will visit one farm, work on projects with UGB students, and also visit the bird sanctuary.

**Kaolack:** We will stay in this city on our way from St. Louis to Toubacouta. As we travel, we’ll visit the Great Mosque of Touba, and the artisanal market.

**Toubacouta:** this village is partnering with Virginia Tech on several development projects and will be our service-learning site

**Saly:** On our way back to Dakar from Toubacouta we will stay in Saly, a seaside city. Our service projects will bring us into farming cooperatives during the day, and we’ll spend the evenings enjoying the views of the ocean. We may also visit Bandia Nature Preserve if time permits.

**COSTS**

Program fee (ground travel, lodging, meals, excursions): $1,999*

*subject to change depending on currency exchange rates and other factors; does not include air fare or other pre-departure expenses such as passport, visa, and immunizations.

Winter Session tuition (3 credits): $1,031 (in state), $2,651 (out of state)

**RESOURCES AND FINANCIAL AID**

Scholarship and Financial Aid Office ([www.finaid.vt.edu](http://www.finaid.vt.edu))

Education Abroad Office ([www.educationabroad.vt.edu](http://www.educationabroad.vt.edu))

**HOW TO APPLY**

Visit for application materials.

First year students in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences have priority for the program until September 13, when it will open to all students. A completed application, letter of reference, and $500 deposit are required to be considered for inclusion in this program. Application materials are available from [http://www.cals.vt.edu/international/studyabroadprograms.html](http://www.cals.vt.edu/international/studyabroadprograms.html) Return completed application and $500 deposit (check made out to Treasurer of Virginia Tech) to the CALS Associate Dean’s Office, 1060 Litton Reaves Hall. Upon acceptance, the Bursar’s Office will bill students for the remaining program fees.