Fall Class with Winter Break Travel through Penn Global

Penn in South Africa
Seeing/Hearing/Encountering Africa

Professor Carol Muller (camuller@upenn.edu)
Fulfills two Requirements
Cross Cultural Analysis; Arts and Letters in SAS
The Canvas site for the class will have all readings, audio and video files for students, with urls provided for ebooks.

Purpose
The purpose of this class is to provide a window into contemporary Africa through the study and travel to one of its most powerful nation states: South Africa. There are three primary modes of engagement: in class reading, viewing, listening, and discussion in seminar style; hands on and lived experience on site; and representing responses to the learning in traditional and digital modes of representation and analysis on site and back home. Students meet weekly during the Fall Semester where they gain a broad overview of South African history, politics, arts and culture, and a more focused introduction to a series of issues confronting post-apartheid South Africa: these include issues of heritage and the usable past, sustainability, environmental impact, climate change, energy challenges and fracking, defining from the global South slave and racial histories, music and cultural practices borrowed that are now considered local and particular.

Prerequisites
None, but students are advised to take Music of Africa (Music 51) or another class in African studies or African languages—especially Zulu or Afrikaans or Setswana.

Provisional Calendar Fall and Winter Break

Students meet for a weekly seminar with Professor Muller, to read, write, view, and listen to South African materials—secondary literature, video, blogs, relevant websites and audio files. This will provide both general and specific materials that will prepare students to visit a variety of sites, destinations, and events/performances in South Africa. Everyone must have arrived in Johannesburg by December 28, to leave again for Penn on January 11, 2019.
Provisional Schedule (Fall Classes)

Weekly meetings Fall 2018
The work for each meeting will be scheduled in the order in which travel happens, travel plans are still to be worked out. This gives the basic idea of what will be covered. Students will read at least two substantial journal articles from the list below and possibly additional materials, listen to music/watch video clips each week in preparation for seminar style discussion.

Week One: Introduction to Africa (Continent/Regions), and South African Political History
Week Two: Truth and Reconciliation/Amandla! Revolution in Four-Part Harmony
Week Three: Soweto/Johannesburg/Regina Mundi
Week Four: BoKaap, Cape Carnival/Cape Slave History
Week Five: Kirstenbosch/Table Mountain
Week Six: District Six Museum and Robben Island
Week Seven: Kalahari Bushmen Paintings/Cape Jazz
Week Eight: Solms Delta Wine Estate with a Difference
Week Nine: Karoo and Fracking, Energy for All?
Week Ten: KwaZulu Natal—Marketing the Zulu: Isicathamiya, Gumboot Dance
Week Eleven: Mahatma Gandhi and Non-Violence
Week Twelve: Hector Peterson Museum, Apartheid Museum
Week Thirteen: Human Origins: Cradle of Humankind
Week Fourteen: Hopes and Dreams for Travel: Students project forward to their travel from what they have learnt so far.

Submit all preliminary writings and reflections from each seminar by December 18, 2018

Provisional List of Readings for Music 56: Penn in South Africa


7. Corsane, Gerard. 2006. Using Ecomuseum indicators to evaluate the Robben Island Museum and World Heritage Site. Landscape Research 31/4, 399-418 [http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01426390601004400](http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01426390601004400)


10. Ferreira, Sanette. Balancing People and Park: Towards a Symbiotic Relationship between Cape Town and Table Mountain National Park. *Current Issues in Tourism* [http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/](http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/)


20. Oliver, Willem and Erna Oliver. 2016. Regina Mundi: Serving the Liberation Movement in South Africa. HTS Teologiese Studies 72/1 a 3409.


Related Websites for Places and Events
We begin the class in Johannesburg with a bus trip into the township of Soweto, a central site of the anti-apartheid struggle—there is the Hector Peterson Museum, https://www.gauteng.net/attractions/hector_pieterson_memorial_and_museum/ the Regina Mundi Catholic Church (http://reginamundichurch.co.za/) and a variety of other places that are now a part of South African political and national heritage. Then we board a bus to Cape Town, focusing on four areas of exploration: Cape Town’s New Year’s Minstrel carnival, https://www.ellgeebe.com/en/community/events/kaapse-klopse-cape-minstrels-carnival-180623 and the “Cape Coloured” racial and slave heritage sites https://www.svenues.com/attractionswc/slave-walk.php and http://www.districtsix.co.za/; the unique fynbos flora and fauna in Kirstenbosch Gardens (http://www.sanbi.org/gardens/kirstenbosch) and up world heritage site Table Mountain (http://www.tablemountain.net/); Robben Island (http://www.robben-island.org.za/) where Nelson Mandela and others were imprisoned for their resistance to apartheid; and the Solms-Delta Wine estate https://www.solms-delta.co.za/ where there workers are joint owners, and their history and heritage is visible and audible to visitors—including archeological sites of the Khoisan in the area.

Leaving Cape Town, we drive through the semi-desert Karoo, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karoo where FRACKING has become a highly contested but government approved practice, we visit a game park, and we open up the complex history of the Cape frontier, before moving onto Durban in KwaZulu Natal. There we dig into the history of the Zulu kingdom, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zulu_Kingdom of the pacifist presence of Mahatma Gandhi http://gandhi.southafrica.net/ , and engage in all night choir competitions https://folklife.si.edu/resources/Festival1997/songsof.htm and religious practices on the Durban beachfront—Hindu, indigenous Christianity, Muslim and Jewish.

We board the bus back to Johannesburg visit the apartheid Museum https://www.apartheidmuseum.org/ and the Cradle of Humankind http://www.thecradleofhumankind.net/ We drive through two Chinese communities https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_South_Africans and think about the history and contemporary of Chinese presence and impact in Johannesburg and elsewhere. We make a brief trip to the Union Buildings https://www.gauteng.net/attractions/union_buildings in Pretoria where Nelson Mandela was inaugurated before boarding the plane back to the USA.

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Course Requirements

At Penn
Attendance at every class and destination/event in South Africa
Weekly Reading/Viewing/Listening for class discussion

**In South Africa**
Short reflections written up each day (no more than a page), after brief summaries in the morning and hour-long discussions over dinner each evening. Final reflection/essay on major issues addressed by country visit, drawing in materials read.

**Return to Penn**
Submit Final Portfolio
Turnings (photos, poetry, academic writing, description etc) (12 from semester and 12 from travel posted to class blog)
8-10 page scholarly paper drawing out three or four major themes and working them out as the speak to South Africa, and drawing at least one major them in comparative perspective with similar issue in USA.
Presentation of materials at day long gathering in early February 2019.

**Grade Breakdown**
Pre Departure Writing and Class Attendance 50% (40% and 10%)
Travel Writing, Blogging and Attendance (20% 20% and 10%)

**Provisional Schedule: Travel to South Africa**
Each day in South Africa will begin and end with framing and discussion of sites/events

Leave to travel to South Africa from Philadelphia December 27, 2018.
Dec 28 arrive in Johannesburg, Soweto tour
Dec 29 leave in bus for Cape Town. Drive along garden route, visit Khoisan rock painting, indigenous forest, flora and fauna, stay in game park overnight.
Arrive in Cape Town December 31, visit Minstrel groups.
January 1, Minstrel Carnival through streets of Cape Town
January 2, Slave sites, Bo-Kaap
January 3, Robben Island
January 4, Table Mountain climb, and visit Kirstenbosh, and Cape Point
January 5, visit Solms Delta and University of Stellenbosch then depart for Karoo trip through Afrikaaner farm country, fracking for national energy resource
January 6 travel
January 7 arrive in Durban, visit Shembe site, Ghandi settlement
January 8 travel to Johannesburg
January 9, day at Cradle of Humankind
January 10, Day at Apartheid Museum and Museum Afrika
FINAL DINNER TOGETHER
Leave for USA January 11, return home January 12, 2019.

**One Day Seminar** for all students to present creative/writing/media materials out of the learning experience in South Africa, scheduled for early February, 2019.