Service Learning in the French-Speaking World: Senegal
Maymester 2012

Actively engage in service learning in the town of Bambey, Senegal. Be a part of a team helping Senegalese high school students to learn English, while improving your French. Explore the cities of Bambey, Dakar, St. Louis, and Joal-Fadiouth. Travel by ferry to the Goree Island, and learn more about trading opportunities in Senegal. Explore the beauty of the stunning Lac Rose, which is pink during the dry season due to the salt content. Walk through the open air markets of Dakar. Service Learning in Senegal will challenge the mind, engage the heart, and entice the senses.

Service Learning in the French-speaking World is designed to provide students who are truly interested in serving others with the opportunity to do so internationally - while gaining an invaluable linguistic and cultural experience. Students will depart in May 2012 on a two-week study abroad program which will take place in Bambey, located in the Diourbel region of Senegal. The program will also include excursions to other cities and a 4 day stay in Dakar, the capital city.

USC undergraduate students who have completed a FREN 200 level course or higher are given priority to participate in this program. Students will travel with other undergraduate students, a native speaker from Senegal (the program assistant), as well as a USC faculty member. Students will converse in French and Wolof.

*Please note: Specific itinerary items are subject to change.

Courses and Credits
Students will earn three credits for FREN351 Service Learning in the French-speaking World. Course credits can count toward the French minor or major. The class will include some pre-departure coursework, typically a series of five, 1-1.5-hour sessions to be held toward the end of the Spring semester.

Course Description
Service Learning in Senegal provides an enriching cultural and linguistic learning opportunity for undergraduate students. Taught in the Maymester, this intercultural experience engages students in teaching English to and mentoring students in Bambey, Senegal while affording opportunities to advance skills in French. Students will also assist with various service projects, which could include: tutoring, community gardening, library, minor repairs, and so forth. Students will learn about the culture of the Senegalese people as well as practice French (and learn some Wolof) through their daily interaction with native speakers.

Living Arrangements
Students will be housed with families in the community of Bambey.
Approximate Travel Dates
May 6-21, 2012  *Subject to change based on flight availability

Costs
The travel fee for this program is to be announced but projected to be around $3,000-3200* and will include: round trip airfare from the U.S. to Dakar; family stay; local transportation per itinerary; and most meals, per the itinerary.

*Subject to change based on enrollment and currency fluctuations. Contact the Dr. Lomicka (lomicka@sc.edu) for additional information on the program fee.

Travel Fee Does Not Include
USC tuition for three credits and technology fees ($1272*); some meals; personal expenses; gratuities; tax; optional excursions; Internet or phone access while in Senegal; vaccinations; or mandatory overseas medical insurance coverage. Students must register for FREN 351 Service Learning in the French-Speaking World during Maymester. *Tuition and technology fees are accurate as of 8/12/11.

Scholarships
1. Honors Students and Capstone Scholars are eligible to compete for $2,000 Passport Travel Grants which can be applied toward the cost of the Service Learning Program. Applications and additional details can be found online on the Scholarships and Financial Aid section of USC’s Study Abroad website: www.studyabroad.sc.edu. Applications for the Passport Travel Grant are due to the Study Abroad Office by Monday, November 15, 2011.

2. There are French Program Scholarships for majors and minors (http://www.cas.sc.edu/dllc/fren/scholshp.html).


Applications
To apply for the Service Learning: Senegal program, please follow the instructions that can be found on the Forms and Applications page of USC’s Study Abroad website: www.studyabroad.sc.edu; click on the link for Global Classroom Programs. A Senegal program application and down payment are due to Dr. Lomicka on January 16, 2012; program applications will be available at http://www.cas.sc.edu/dllc/Geninfo/studyabroad.html on December 1, 2011. The Study Abroad Office online applications are due no later than March 1, 2012.

For more information or to apply for the Service Learning in the French-Speaking World Program: Senegal, contact:

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--Or--
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