

Global Scholars Program:

Sustainable Development and Climate Change Adaptation in Rwanda

A partnership between the University of Rwanda's Center of Excellence in Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management (CoEB) and Columbia University in the U.S.

University of Rwanda Contributors Needed

The faculty director from Columbia University, Lisa Dale, is seeking two UR assistants to contribute to the upcoming Global Scholars Program (see details below). Both positions begin December 1st, 2019 and will be paid a stipend for 7-8 months. Communication and transportation expenses will also be covered. The time commitment is estimated at 15-20 hours / week from Dec.-June; 40+ hours/week during class (June 22-July 17, 2020).

1. Academic Lecturer Assistant

a. Roles:

- i. Lead all aspects of the spring course at UR using in-person and electronic methods to bring together the student body to complete assignments and communicate with their American peers
- ii. Work closely with Dr. Lisa Dale to plan and organize the summer course
- iii. Lead sections of the summer course, oversee student activities, and function as part of the teaching team
- iv. Serve as lead liaison with UR administration, building a for-credit module for participating students

b. Qualifications:

- i. Lecturer in related field at UR with a Masters (PhD preferred)
- ii. Expertise in sustainable development and/or climate change policy
- iii. Fluent in English; proficient in French and/or Kinyarwanda
- iv. Strong interactive teaching skills, including facilitating group discussion, overseeing undergraduate work, and providing guidance to students
- v. Ability to work as part of a dynamic team with independent initiative and cooperative spirit

2. Post-Graduate Student Assistant

a. Roles:

- i. Work closely with the teaching team to help organize and deliver the program
- ii. Serve as lead point person for logistical support for all elements of the program, including lodging, meals, and transportation
- iii. Participate in the spring electronic course, and work closely with students for the entirety of the summer course. Live with students in a rented house in Kigali and serve as the main point of contact for student concerns.

b. Qualifications:

- i. Current Masters or PhD student at UR in relevant field
- ii. Familiarity with sustainable development and/or climate change policy
- iii. Fluent in English; desired proficiency in French and/or Kinyarwanda
- iv. Energetic and curious, with sincere desire to learn and build capacity
- v. Highly organized, responsive, and detail oriented, with a strong ability to identify potential problems and create solutions

To apply: Submit a CV and a cover letter to: SusDevRwanda@gmail.com

Application deadline: November 1, 2019

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Global Scholars Program Overview

Columbia University's Global Scholars Program (GSP) was established in 2012 to educate and empower students to be active and informed citizens of our global community. Offering undergraduate students a unique, hands-on international research experience, the GSP awards funding to faculty programs on a competitive basis. Lisa Dale's proposal, *Sustainable Development and Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Africa* was selected in 2019 and will launch in January, 2020. The program will consist of intensive study of sustainable development and climate change adaptation dynamics in Sub-Saharan Africa broadly and Rwanda more specifically.

Program Components

1. A spring course (Jan-May, 2020) at Columbia University (CU), *Sustainable Development and Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Africa*, will provide an intensive study for undergraduates in the Sustainable Development program and beyond. Students will come out of the class understanding the dynamic connections between sustainable development and effective climate adaptation policy in Sub-Saharan Africa. In parallel, selected Rwandan students will meet regularly and complete some elements of the assigned readings. Whenever possible, the two groups will connect through electronic tools, including group discussion on the assigned reading and the establishment of a "buddy" system connecting US and Rwandan undergraduates.
2. A summer course (June 22 – July 17, 2020) will be held at the University of Rwanda (UR) campus in Kigali, comprised of both the CU and UR students who participated in the spring course. Opportunities for mutual learning will be emphasized, with Columbia students sharing material from the spring course and Rwandan students providing local perspectives. Combining classroom study with project-based learning, students will work in small groups to collect data in the field with local research partners. Frequent guest speakers and student presentations will enrich the course.

Preliminary Timeline

Nov. 1, 2019	Student applications due (both CU / UR, using separate application channels)
Dec. 1, 2019	Enrollment decisions announced (both CU / UR)
Spring, 2020	Spring course (CU / UR separately but interactively) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CU spring semester: January - May• UR 2nd trimester: March - June
June 22-July 17, 2020	Summer course, based in Kigali (CU / UR combined)