

What is the course focus?

This program focuses on understanding how microcredit (microfinancing) is emerging as a vehicle for helping overcome the many barriers to economic development in Africa by stimulating entrepreneurial activity. Further, students in the program will be provided a hands-on opportunity to develop societal leadership skills by tackling complex social issues from an entrepreneurial perspective. The ability of firms to create both positive social and financial value – often called the double bottom line – has become an important component of business planning.



The program explores “why” and “how” microfinance operations have grown to provide financial services to poor and low-income people on a sustainable basis. The advice and best practices of successful practitioners and institutions around the world are brought together. Students will be introduced to microfinance as an important effort in the war against poverty. This will also serve as an excellent forum for students to learn about current challenges and debates in the world of developmental entrepreneurship.



Baylor's Social Entrepreneurship in Africa

What is it?

The Social Entrepreneurship in Africa program is a summer study abroad program that consists of two major components pursued sequentially.

The first component requires 16 hours of preparatory classroom instruction at Baylor which will occur in a 2-day seminar held in mid-April. This component of the class will be comprised of faculty and student-led discussions concerning assigned articles and readings, as well as presentations by guest speakers who are directly involved in economic development in Africa.

The second component, a 15-day trip to Africa, will commence after Spring semester final exams conclude in May. During this section of the program, students and sponsors will travel to Africa to experience firsthand the approach and effects of developmental entrepreneurship.

Where do we go?

Students visit the cities of Kigali and Musanze in Rwanda.



What do we do?

Students have the opportunity to examine and use entrepreneurial skills to formulate innovative responses to economic and social problems in Africa.

Participants will develop an understanding of the challenges and barriers to success encountered by individuals and firms that are undercapitalized; lack market leverage; do not have in-depth knowledge of business support functions such as accounting, law, finance, marketing or advertising; do not have powerful friends in high places; and lack economies of scale and scope.



What courses does it fulfill?

- ENT 4353 - Social Entrepreneurship and Economic Development
- ENT 4380 - Social Entrepreneurship: Microfinance and Economic Development in Africa

These courses count as electives for the ENT major and minor, MGT major, INB major, and also for Arts and Sciences majors.

Who do I contact?

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What else should I know?

More information about the Social Entrepreneurship in Africa study abroad program can be found at:

www.baylor.edu/business/entrep_africa/

and through BearsAbroad at:

bearsabroad.baylor.edu