1. **Who can take part in this program?** This program is open to all students, faculty and staff at the University of North Alabama. Students from other universities can also participate and earn a UNA Geography credit. The program is also open to community members, who do not necessarily have to take it for credit.

2. **Can someone take more than 3-credit hours?** Yes. The program is designed for 6-credit hours.

3. **Is this program designed for graduate or undergraduate course credit?** It is designed for both. Undergraduates can take as many as 6 hours and so are graduate students.

4. **How will participants be evaluated?** You will be assessed based on 6 things: field notes; a final written report based on pre-assigned conceptual and analytical questions; concept photo essay (details to be provided to participants); pre and post-test; reflective essay and participation.

5. **How long is the program?** The program will take 15-17 days excluding international travel time.

6. **Where will participants be staying?** All program participants will stay in hotels, hostels and/or tented camps.

7. **Can someone bring a sibling, parent or a friend?** Yes. They will however, have to participate in the program activities.

8. **Will laundry services be provided?** Yes, we will make sure the places we stay in have laundry facilities. However, we will not alter program activities and schedule to accommodate laundry needs. Part of this this program is to expose you to a typical African cultural setting –you may sometimes have to do your own laundry manually (by hand)!

9. **What is the official language of Tanzania?** English – so communication will not be a problem. However, the national language is Swahili. You do not need to learn or know Swahili to participate in this program. However, those with some knowledge of Swahili will have an added advantage.

10. **Can someone learn Swahili prior to the trip?** Yes. Swahili is actually offered here at UNA in the Department of Foreign Languages and is highly recommended. Please contact the Department of Foreign Languages for details by calling: 256-765-4390 or just email the academic assistant for the department at: jlkelly@una.edu.

11. **What is the cost of this program?** The cost of the program for a UNA student is $3650.00 (Summer 2016). This does not include undergraduate or graduate tuition which can be found here: [https://www.una.edu/tuition/tuition-and-fees.html](https://www.una.edu/tuition/tuition-and-fees.html). It will however, cost the community members more. Please contact Dr. Koti for details. Please also, refer to the cost section on the course website.
for the different things covered (or not covered) by this fee. Please note that your financial aid can cover this.

12. **What is the Tanzanian currency?** The Tanzanian Shilling (KSh)
13. **What is the exchange rate with the US$?** The exchange rate varies from time to time. Here is a currency converter resource that can help you: [http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/](http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/). Start with $1, then try converting $1000 (US), you will realize you are pretty wealthy over there!
14. **What is the main religion in Tanzania?** Christianity, but there are significant numbers of Muslims and traditional African religious groups. The coastal part of Tanzania is predominantly Muslim.
15. **If a participant has specific religious needs, say likes to go to Church or Mosque or Temple on a specific day of the week, will that be considered.** Yes, arrangements will be made to safeguard such needs while not interfering with the program schedule.
16. **Do Americans need visas to travel to Tanzania?** Yes.
17. **Then how will the participants get the visas.** Dr. Koti will facilitate visa applications for all the program participants. After paying the initial deposit, and filling the required paperwork, all passports will be sent to Washington DC for a visa (stamp) to enter Tanzania. A Tanzanian visa cost $100.00. This is not extra cost – it is covered by the amount you pay for the trip. More information about visas to Tanzania can be found at the website of Tanzanian Embassy in Washington DC: [http://www.tanzaniaembassy-us.org/](http://www.tanzaniaembassy-us.org/)
18. **What about if I do not have a (valid) US passport?** To obtain a US passport, you will need to download the application forms from the US Department of State website at: [http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html). Fill out the forms and PLEASE DO NOT sign them. You will sign them in the presence of the person processing them. If you live in Florence, you will need to go to the Circuit Court’s Office on 4th Floor of courthouse with the following documents: a) Duly completed application form; b) a certified copy of your birth certificate; c) 2 passport-size photos (can be taken at CVS Pharmacy, Walmart, K-Mart, Walgreen, etc); d) valid driver’s license or another form of picture ID and; e) $135.00 check or cash (NO CREDIT CARD).
19. **How long does it take to obtain a new US passport?** It takes about 6-8 weeks. However, if you pay an extra $75.00, you can have it expedited within two weeks – this amount includes $60.00 expediting fee and $15.00 overnight shipping and handling.
20. **Is there a phone number someone can call for help with processing or applying for a passport here in Florence?** Yes, you can call the Circuit Court’s Office at 256-760-5726.
21. **Are there any medical precautions that participants need to take prior to travel?** Yes. You will need inoculation, a preventive measure against (tropical) diseases such as malaria. Malaria is a common tropical disease caused by mosquito bites. Yellow fever vaccination is required for ALL visitors from yellow fever endemic countries. Fortunately, the United States is not considered a yellow fever
endemic country. This means that yellow fever is not recommended for travelers from the US. Malaria is a common tropical disease caused by mosquito bites. Dr. Koti will provide you with the information you need regarding the inoculation. More information about health precautions before travel to East Africa (Tanzania) can be found at the Center for Disease Control (CDC) website: http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/tanzania.htm and the website of the Embassy of Tanzania in Washington DC at: http://www.tanzaniaembassy-us.org/tzevisa.html

22. Will the participants be covered by insurance in case of anything? While we will have an emergency kit for minor illnesses, the University requires students to purchase travel insurance through “i-next” – a travel insurance company. More information about “i-next” can be found at: http://www.inext.com/. Plus, $40.00 of the total paid towards this program will cover any visits to the doctor for minor cases while in Tanzania. However, this sum does not cover major ailments and long-term hospitalization.

23. Can someone bring a laptop? Yes, but I strongly recommend that you do not bring expensive items which are not easily replaceable – should anything happen.

24. Can someone stay in Tanzania for an extended period of time beyond that of the program? Yes. However, the extra days will not be covered by the program kitty. You will need to foot the bills incurred during the extended stay.

25. Will the participants get an opportunity to go on safari? Yes. The Arusha area where we will be based houses Mt. Meru Game Reserve, Lake Manyara National Park, Lake Eyasi, Ngorongoro Conservational Area, Lake Natron, Mt. Kilimanjaro – all of which are famous tourist destinations. The major focus for the program, however, will be the academic component not safari.

26. What is the weather like in Tanzania around May? It’s usually wet and relatively colder than usual. Occasionally temperatures will run in the low 70s during the day and low 60s during the night.

27. Do we need to bring any weather-specific attire? Yes. You do not need a winter jacket though. However, you will need a jacket or sweater for the mornings and evening – otherwise your normal clothing will work for other times. An umbrella is always a good investment for a field-oriented activity.

28. What clothes are appropriate to bring along? We are planning on traveling light. Several jeans, slacks, shirts, and t-shirts will do. And lots of underwears! Bring comfortable shoes such as sneakers and hiking boots. You can bring your beach or lounge attire but try not to wear them in places that will make you or someone looking at you uncomfortable.

29. Will participants have an efficient way to communicate back home when they arrive in Tanzania? Yes. Tanzania has a very well established and reasonably priced cellphone system. The program will invest in 2 cellphones which students can be reached at and also through which they can call back to the United States. I will however, say, that if there is someone you must talk to constantly, you may need to purchase your own cell phone in Tanzania for the price of approx.
$35.00. Additionally, the internet connectivity is fast and cheap for basic communication. The program will also run a blog and facebook page where friends and family can follow program activities.

30. Where can I find daily news about Tanzania? The following are the leading online newspapers/media with extensive coverage of Tanzanian news:

Daily News: http://www.dailynews.co.tz/

Arusha Times: http://www.arushatimes.co.tz/

The Citizen: http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/

East Africa News Post: http://www.eastafricanewspost.com/

BBC Africa: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/afrika/default.stm

If you come across information which you feel can be useful to other program participants, please share it with all of us by way of email. You can just use the “reply to all” function on the emails I have sent to the group.

More information about this program can be found on the UNA Africa Study Abroad Program website at: http://www.una.edu/faculty/ftkoti/unakenya.htm