



Carleton

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT  
PROGRAMS

# ECOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

in Tanzania | Fall 2026



# ECOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY IN TANZANIA

FALL 2026

CARLETON GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS

## FOCUS

Ecology, anthropology, research methods, team-based research projects with local experts, and an introduction to Swahili language and Tanzanian cultures

## OVERVIEW

The main base of the program is in Usa River near Arusha, Tanzania, at the base of Mt. Meru, a 15,000-ft extinct volcano. The MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation (MS TCDC) in Usa River is internationally recognized, including by the US State Department, for its excellence in Swahili language training. Students initially live in cottages on the MS TCDC campus, and then in homestays near the Centre. Classes are held on the TCDC campus. Students spend approximately two weeks on multi-day safaris to national parks and protected natural areas in northern Tanzania, and two weeks in the field conducting research for their independent study project.

## ESSENTIALS

- The program operates every fall from late August to mid-December
- Applications open in November and are accepted until March 15
- Accepted students need to commit to participation by the end of April

## ACADEMICS

**Director:** Anna Estes, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies  
Coursework is accredited and transcribed by Carleton College. Students enroll in 5 courses for a total of the Carleton-equivalent of 16 semester credits.

- SOAN 326: Cultural Anthropology of East Africa
- ENTS 355: Ecology and Conservation of Savanna Ecosystems in Northern Tanzania
- AFST 101-07: Elementary Swahili
- ENTS 255: Field Methods in Ecology and Anthropology
- ENTS 392: Independent Field Research

## PROGRAM FEATURES

- Live in three settings: student cottages on the MS TCDC campus, local host families in Usa River, and camp sites while on safari
- Become acquainted with local university students who serve as Swahili language partners
- Visit some of Tanzania's world-renowned national parks and protected areas
- Learn from communities practicing different livelihoods, including agro-pastoralists, semi-nomadic pastoralists and hunter-gatherers
- Participate in field research as a part of on-going research projects under the guidance of local experts

## SITE LOCATIONS

- Arusha
- Usa River
- Multi-day safaris in the Maasai Steppe and greater Serengeti ecosystems in northern Tanzania



507-222-4435

[go.carleton.edu/engage](https://go.carleton.edu/engage)