



## ZANZIBAR, TANZANIA > STUDY ABROAD



### Zanzibar: Swahili Language and Culture in East Africa

#### REQUIRED COURSES

All classes take place at SUZA.

Students enroll in one, 4-credit course:  
CAS PO 204 Zanzibar: Religion, Identity, and Politics in East Africa

Students also take one, 4-credit Swahili language course. The course level depends on the students' previous experience with Swahili. Other levels may be available. Swahili courses taught by local faculty.

CAS LE 111 Swahili I  
CAS LE 211 Swahili III  
CAS LE 311 Swahili V

As the crossroads of African, Persian, Arab, Indian, and European cultures for nearly two millennia, the islands of Zanzibar provide a unique setting in which to explore issues of religion, ethnicity, race, gender, class, and politics in East Africa. This six-week program explores the history of Zanzibar as a center of international trade, slavery, and colonial expansion, the legacies of social division and political centralization left by colonial rule, and the ways in which Zanzibar's experience differs from and interacts with the histories of Tanzania, Mozambique, Kenya, and other neighboring states. Zanzibar is also an ideal setting for intensive study of Swahili, the most widely spoken African language.

Students take one course on the political and cultural history of Zanzibar and East Africa as well as one Swahili language course. Excursions complement the curriculum and may include Dar es Salaam, Pemba Island, one of Tanzania's national parks, and cultural and conservation sights on the island of Zanzibar and in mainland Tanzania, such as spice plantations and unique coastlines. All courses are taught by either BU faculty or faculty from the Institute of Kiswahili and Foreign Languages at the State University of Zanzibar (SUZA). Upon successful completion of the program, students earn eight Boston University credits.

#### HOST INSTITUTION

Located in the UNESCO-designated World Heritage Center of Stone Town, SUZA is the premier public institution of higher learning in Zanzibar. As part of SUZA, the Institute of Kiswahili and Foreign Languages has a long tradition of teaching Swahili as a foreign language. The program includes a Student Language Partner Program in which foreign students are matched with Swahili-speaking students for conversation exchanges.

#### FACULTY

**Dr. Peter Quella** is the Assistant Director of the Boston University African Studies Center. Peter has served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Lesotho before earning his PhD at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in African languages and literature. Peter was very active in Wisconsin's African Studies Program, serving as Assistant Managing Editor of their publications program, coordinating an African Literature Association conference, and coordinating workshops and activities for K-12 outreach. Peter has also lived and worked in South Africa.

#### HOUSING

Boston University arranges accommodations with local host families for students to facilitate their language acquisition and to integrate them into everyday life in Zanzibar. All students are provided with accommodations in households throughout the capital district of Stone Town.

#### ADMISSIONS

- No previous Swahili language study required
- Refer to our policy on eligibility/admissions at: [www.bu.edu/abroad/admissions](http://www.bu.edu/abroad/admissions)

#### PROGRAM DATES

Summer Term: late May-early July

#### APPLICATION DEADLINE

Summer Term: March 1

#### SUMMER 2014 PROGRAM COST

\$8,800. Cost includes housing, board, local transportation, field trips, overseas medical insurance, and emergency travel assistance coverage. Financial aid is available.