

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Law 602:

Legal Globalization and Comparative Law: Botswana & South Africa

Fall 2015

Professors Behan & Schultz

Total: 3 Credits

Join us for the adventure of a lifetime!

In this course, you will learn the fascinating histories of South Africa and Botswana and their important role in the modern global political and economic system, meet their dynamic people, and experience their unforgettable natural beauty and wildlife.

Most of the news that the average American hears from Africa is terribly imbalanced, overlooking its great success stories and emerging bright future. The continent is home to an increasing number of democratic and economic success stories, a huge rising middle class, rapidly increasing amounts of foreign investment, and stands poised to become an economic powerhouse.



Johannesburg, South Africa,
Skyline

South Africa and Botswana are two countries that embody the good news from Africa. They have overcome great historical challenges, largely through the rule of law. They are thus perfect topics of study for law students.

 Botswana is one of the world's great development success stories. When it became independent from Britain in the late 1960s, it was a pastoral society with a largely cattle-based economy and just one-half mile of paved road. Today, it is a modern, educated, rapidly growing, middle-income country. It managed this transition through an unbroken record of peace and stability, fair and free democratic elections, extremely low corruption, and remarkably wise stewardship of natural resources (particularly diamond wealth and wildlife). However, it has also faced tremendous challenges, including one of the world's highest HIV infection rates. Botswana offers numerous lessons for confronting and managing modern problems.



Three Chiefs Monument,
Gaborone, Botswana

The Program

Focus

South Africa & Botswana

- Law and Development
- Comparative Law
- Human Rights
- History and Culture

Course

- Fall 2015
- 3 Pass-Fail Credits

Travel

- Depart January 1st 2016
- Return January 15 or 16th, 2016

Highlights of the Trip

- Experience a new culture
- Meet leading lawyers from other countries
- Visit important modern historical sites
- Four night safari in world-renowned Kruger National Park with bush walk, game drives, and vast amounts of African Wildlife

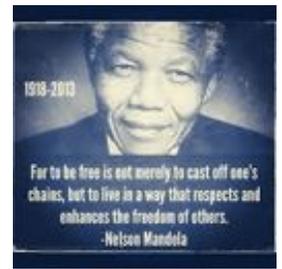
Cost

\$4400 (pending finalization)
Includes:

- All transportation, including airfare to South Africa, Botswana, and Kruger NP
- All lodging
- About half of your meals
- All group outings
- 4 night safari in Kruger National Park with guided game drives and bush walk



Twenty years ago, South Africa experienced a non-violent revolution as it emerged from the racial oppression of the Apartheid system to become a vibrant, multi-racial democracy. Its constitution is heralded as a model for modern constitutions. Its remarkable Truth and Reconciliation process facilitated a peaceful transition, allowing it to pardon and move past the seemingly unforgivable and unforgettable. Since then, South Africa has emerged as a leading nation and economy. It still faces great challenges, but today's Rainbow Nation enjoys peace and economic success that only a few imagined and dreamed of thirty years ago.



You'll spend the fall semester learning about the history, culture, legal systems, economic development, and natural resource management of these remarkable countries. As part of this course, you will learn about the legal systems, read about their histories, and watch relevant films. Each student will be responsible for presenting on a relevant topic.

During Winter Break 2016, the class will travel to Botswana and South Africa (Departure: Friday, January 1st ; Arrive back in U.S.: Thursday January 14 or Friday January 15th 2016). Half of the the trip will be spent in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, with the remainder of to the time divided between time in Johannesburg, the capital of South Africa a safari in South Africa's Kruger National Park, and a possible trip to Cape Town.



Scenes from South Africa L to R: Johannesburg skyline; Museum of Apartheid; Soccer fans; Mandela House in Soweto

Although the schedule of activities will not be finalized until shortly before our departure, we expect that the study trip will include: meetings with human rights lawyers and judges in South Africa and Botswana, visits to the Museum of Apartheid in Johannesburg, the High Court in Botswana, and the offices of Debswana (Botswana's major diamond mining operations), discussions with business lawyers and officials in Botswana, a visit to Mokolodi game reserve near Gaborone, and a lecture by a park ranger regarding the problem of poaching.



Scenes from Botswana L to R: Gaborone skyline; University of Botswana; National Assembly Building; Unity Dow, former Botswana High Court Justice and world famous human rights activist; Riverwalk, downtown Gaborone



Scenes from Kruger National Park, South Africa

The safari in Kruger National Park will include guided morning and evening game drives, a 2-hour morning bush walk guided by rangers, and educational activities to investigate natural resource management issues. We will stay in air-conditioned national park cottages with full baths and kitchenettes in the park's Skukuza Rest Camp. Skukuza has a restaurant, grocery store, car rental agency, and other amenities. In addition to our planned activities, you will have the option to rent a car at Skukuza to do self-drives within the park.

All students will make class presentations and post to the course blog. You will also be expected to participate in a group presentation to the first year class the following spring about your experiences in this course.

Each student will be graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis. Class will meet on Tuesdays. Attendance at all class sessions prior to travel is expected unless excused, and students who do not otherwise meet the expectations of the class may be excluded from travel at the discretion of the professors.

Course Fee: \$4400 (maximum, pending finalization)

The course fee includes all air travel, hotel accommodations (students will stay in multiple-occupancy hotel rooms with other SIU Law students), transportation (including transportation to and from all airports within South Africa and Botswana), at least half your meals, and all group tours. This fee does not include the cost of books and course materials, some meals, all personal expenses, the cost of obtaining a passport and visa, and other expenses associated with preparing for the travel component of the course. The fee also does not cover any incidental costs associated with the trip, including but not limited to the cost of souvenirs. Students are

responsible for all expenses that are not covered by the course fee. Some costs associated with this course, including the course fee and some of the additional expenses not covered by the fee, may be paid using financial aid awards, depending on your individual circumstances. Please see Assistant Dean Judi Ray for further details.

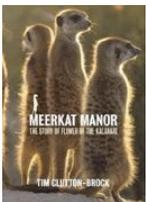
FAQs



Where are these places? Why are we going there? We will be going to South Africa and Botswana. As the name suggests, South Africa is the southernmost country in Africa. Botswana is its neighbor immediately to the north. We will be flying into Johannesburg, which is in the northwest part of South Africa. Johannesburg is a thriving commercial center, with one of the busiest airports in the world.



Johannesburg started as a mining boomtown about 120 years ago and since then has grown into one of the world's great cities. It is the site of much important modern history, good and bad, with the Apartheid era embodying the worst in human nature and the end of that era embodying the best, with acts of great bravery and tremendous grace. We hope to introduce you to people who played a heroic role in that history. Today, Johannesburg continues to embody extremes, with some of the wealthiest and poorest neighborhoods you may ever see.



From Johannesburg, we will catch a short, one hour flight to Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, which lies about 30 kilometers over the border from South Africa. Gaborone sits on the eastern edge of Botswana's Kalahari desert, setting for so many of those nature shows you watched growing up, including *Meerkat Manor*. It's also the setting for the popular *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* novels and TV series, written by Alexander McCall, the former chair of the law department at University of Botswana.

Gaborone is a young and dynamic place. For many years, it was the world's fastest growing city. People are warm, friendly, proud of their country, and hopeful and ambitious for its future.



Gaborone at night



University of Botswana

We have a cooperation agreement with the University of Botswana (UB) and friends there in the law department as well as the local bar. UB aims to be one of the world's great research universities. You'll envy many of the beautiful new buildings on UB's ever-changing campus. We look forward to introducing our friends in Gaborone, learning from them, and meeting the leading lawyers, judges, and officials in Botswana.

Kruger National Park is one of Africa's greatest and largest wildlife reserves. It covers an area in the northwest part of South Africa about the size of the state of New Jersey, and wildlife has been protected within its borders for well over 100 years. Visitors are afforded the rare opportunity to see nature in its pristine state and rare animals in their natural habitat. You almost certainly will see more wildlife here than you have seen anywhere else in your life.



Is it safe? Isn't there a civil war in the Congo and aren't there extremists in northern Nigeria and Mali? Africa's a continent, not a country. South Africa and Botswana are peaceful democracies with a relatively high standard of living and modern amenities. Dangerous situations in other, distant parts of Africa aren't any reason to avoid Johannesburg or Gaborone, any more than you would avoid Paris because of the current conflict in the Ukraine.

Botswana in particular is renowned as a safe, stable and peaceful country. That's one of the reasons we are going there. In fact, its scores on various international indices of corruption and freedom are comparable to or better than the scores of many European countries and the US.

With that said, common sense and caution are always warranted for travelers, particularly in countries where many people have far less than you do. Always follow local advice about where to go, and, for this trip, we expect you to stick with the group most of the time.



What about going on safari? Will I get eaten by lions or trampled by hippos? Only if you try – or are incredibly foolish. Of course, in urban areas you won't see wildlife. Many urban Africans have never seen a lion or cheetah, and certainly not in their neighborhood. However, Kruger National Park is

teeming with wildlife. That's part of the thrill. You *will* see lots of elephants, giraffes, antelope, crocodiles, ostriches, monkeys, birds, and hippos in their natural habitat. You likely will also see at least some of the big cats and rhinos, and, perhaps, the rare African wild dog. We'll be staying in air-conditioned cottages in a rest camp surrounded by high, electrified fences (we're in the cages; the animals roam free). Stay in your vehicle, and you are safe. For some reason, animals don't bother people in vehicles. Step out of the vehicle, however, and you could be lunch. Please don't step out of the vehicle. When we go on a bush walk, our rangers will carry elephant guns to guard us. It's good to tip your guides.



Okay, fine. But do I need to get lots of shots? Is it safe to drink the water and eat the food?

No special immunizations are required. It's recommended, however, that before you travel to *any* developing country, you check the status of your standard immunizations and get any boosters you might need. You can schedule an appointment with student health for a review, and they will know what you need. Unlike most countries in the region, South Africa and Botswana have malaria under control. However, since mosquitos are not known as great respecters of national borders, it is wise to take a malaria preventative, which you can also get at student health. (Kruger National Park sits on the border with Mozambique, where malaria is endemic).

You definitely can drink the water and eat the food. In fact, the food is often excellent, with a sophisticated cuisine that fuses African and Indian influences. Fans of meat and potatoes will also thrive, however, since consumers and chefs are particularly fond of the excellent beef and game meat. Kudu or warthog steaks are particularly tasty. South African wine is also world class.



Warthog steak

What's the weather like? Will it be a hot, steamy jungle?

Nope. Not a jungle at all. We'll be there in January, which is the height of summer there. It likely will be hot with cool nights. Gaborone has a high, desert climate, while Johannesburg sits on the Highveld – a high plateau, which keeps temperatures moderate. Kruger National Park will likely be relatively hot, and the savannah will be lush from summer rain.



Summertime in Kruger, when animals have and raise their babies

Why does it cost so much? It's a long trip, both in terms of distance and time in the country. Nearly half the price covers airfare to Johannesburg, and then on to Gaborone, as well as transportation from Johannesburg to Kruger National Park. The cost is comparable to our other Legal Globalization courses, particularly given the duration and included meals and activities. However, we urge you to carefully consider whether this is right for you, your finances, and your future plans. We want you to learn a lot and have some unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime experiences, but we don't want you to have any regrets.



Does financial aid cover the cost? It very well may. That's how most students cover the cost of participating in our Legal Globalization courses. Talk to Assistant Dean Judi Ray for details.

Sounds great! How do I get in on this? To secure a spot, we need you to submit an application before you register. That means we need to hear from you by **April 24th at 5PM** so that we can timely approve your registration. The application process is not really a competitive situation, but rather a sign of commitment and a chance to check that you have your "ducks in a row." We need to know sooner rather than later, so that we can book your travel early, while it's still available and affordable. We will need a non-refundable deposit of **\$100 by April 30th** to secure your spot. An additional payment will be due the first week of classes in August.