

# Indigenous Cultures, Natural Resources, and Sustainability in Kenya

Study Abroad Course, Summer 2026

Approximate dates: June 7-27, 2025

## **The Kenya experience is divided into two components (non-SFE) and three (CNR SFE students):**

- 1) Spring Seminar, 1 credit (NRES 479)

Mondays, 4-5:50pm, starting the Monday after spring break (8 weeks)

This orientation provides background information to help prepare students for the Kenya experience. It also provides an opportunity for students to get to know each other and to prepare logistically for the trip. **This seminar is required for all students traveling to Kenya.**

- 2) Kenya Study Abroad course (Indigenous Cultures, Natural Resources and Sustainability in Kenya), 3 credits: NRES 475/675

Dates: 3 weeks, starting the beginning of June (after CWES) (approx. June 7-27, 2026)

**Take a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Kenya!** This hands-on field course will immerse you in Kenyan culture, staying in and interacting with communities and organizations focused on Permaculture and sustainability. Some of the projects we have worked on in the past include *building and installing* rainwater tanks, fuel-efficient stoves, cob structures, wood-fired ovens, & more; *designing and installing* aquaponics systems, woodlots, tree nurseries, compost systems, gardens, & more; *Learning* about Kenyan culture including language, food, and traditions.

- 3) CNR Summer Field Experience (CNR SFE) only, Central Wisconsin Environmental Station, 2 credits: NRES 475/675

Dates: 2 weeks immediately following the spring semester

CNR students participating in Kenya to satisfy their SFE requirement will attend a 2-week summer field course at the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station in Amherst Junction, WI. This field course will provide students with essential field techniques in forestry, soils, water, wildlife, and plant identification.

## **Participants:**

### **Leaders:**

- 1) Dr. Holly Petrillo, Professor of Forestry, UWSP
- 2) John Sheffy, Agroforestry consultant

### Students:

The Kenya study abroad course is open to students of any major. Both undergraduates and graduate students may participate. A limited number of students are able to complete the Kenya course and spring seminar as part of their Summer Field Experience.

### Estimated Program Costs:

Program costs listed in this document are an estimate, and are based on past years. The final cost may vary due to multiple factors, such as the number of students participating, program changes, fuel prices, and currency exchange rate fluctuations. Program costs will not be finalized until May 2026.

#### **Summer 2026 Estimated Program Costs (based on 2025 costs)**

	WI Resident Undergraduate	MN Resident Undergraduate	Midwest Student Exchange	Non-Resident Undergraduate
Kenya study abroad fee*	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

#### **For CNE SFE students only:**

CWES 2-week food & lodging	\$695	\$685	\$685	\$685
CWES 2 credit tuition	\$615 (plus approx. \$203 in seg fees)	\$724 (plus approx. \$203 in seg fees)	\$922 (plus approx. \$203 in seg fees)	\$1,367 (plus approx. \$203 in seg fees)
CNR Course Fees	\$185	\$185	\$185	\$185
<b>CWES total costs</b>	\$1,698	\$1,807	\$2,005	\$2,450
<b>CWES + Kenya</b>	\$6,698	\$6,807	\$7,005	\$7,450

\*Kenya study abroad fee includes 3 credits of tuition, airfare, and all expenses while in Kenya: ground transportation, food, lodging (camping)

### Financial Aid:

Students may apply for financial aid to study abroad. The UWSP Office of International Education is available to help students with the financial aid process. Scholarships are also available on the UWSP Office of International Education website. CNR students are also available for CNR scholarships through the general CNR scholarship application.

### **Application Process:**

1. Fill out the pre-application at this link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rUuclBTfckGH3wYPhPAaESf9hANftvxNqMICR5b4j-FUREE4RzM5RkFBUTNMRU9ENVVZWThaUEISRS4u>

### **Pre-application deadline: Oct 24, 2025 at noon**

2. Once accepted (you will be notified by email the first full week in November) through the pre-application, you will be required to fill out to complete a full application through the Office of International Education by December 1. See 'deadlines' below for more information.

### **Selection process & criteria:**

1. GPA of at least 2.0 overall.
2. Space is limited for CNR SFE students. Students will be ranked based on their projected graduation date and GPA, to allow students that are graduating sooner and in good academic standing the opportunity to participate.
3. Total number of students participating in the program is limited to 15, this includes CNR SFE students. Non-SFE students will be ranked based on their projected graduation date and GPA, to allow students that are graduating sooner and in good academic standing the opportunity to participate.
3. Pass a campus and criminal background check after you are tentatively accepted.
4. All students need to attend and pass the Kenya spring seminar and CWES to participate in the study abroad portion of the program.

### **Deadlines:**

Oct 24, noon Kenya pre-application due at this link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rUuclBTfckGH3wYPhPAaESf9hANftvxNqMICR5b4j-FUREE4RzM5RkFBUTNMRU9ENVVZWThaUEISRS4u>

Nov 3-7, 2025 Notification of tentative acceptance via email and electronic permission to register for NRES 479 (spring seminar)

Dec 1, 2025 **Passports need to be applied for, no exceptions.**

Apply for a passport through the US Department of State at <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english.html>. DO NOT DELAY! Once you obtain your passport, bring a copy of the photo identification page to the UWSP Office of

International Education. If you already have a passport, it must be valid six months AFTER your return date (January 2027). If you need assistance, visit the UWSP Office of International Education.

Registration Period     Register for NRES 479, 1 credit, Kenya spring seminar on your scheduled spring 2026 registration time- Dr. Petrillo will grant you permission to register

December 1, 2025     Formal application DUE to the UWSP Office of International Education

Dec 20, 2025     The \$100 application fee and \$500 non-refundable (but transferable) initial deposit are due through the Financial Services office. All fees must be paid prior to departure.

**For more information:**

General information about the Kenya study abroad program, or about counting Kenya for your CNR SFE requirement:

Dr. Holly Petrillo, UWSP Professor of Forestry, TNR 363, [hpetrill@uwsp.edu](mailto:hpetrill@uwsp.edu)

Financial aid and scholarship information:

UWSP Office of International Education, DUC 203, 715.346.2717

For questions about CWES:

CNR Student Success Center, TNR 190, [cnrssc@uwsp.edu](mailto:cnrssc@uwsp.edu)