

# Africa

## ACTIVITY SUMMARY



Africa is of great and growing interest to the Duke community. To Duke's great benefit, students and faculty members are increasingly engaged in scholarship, teaching, outreach and innovations with partners on the African continent.

— Michael Merson, Duke University

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### QUICK FACTS:

102	African graduate and professional students currently enrolled at Duke	56	African undergraduate students currently enrolled at Duke
20	Current partnerships with African universities and organizations	326	Alumni living in 32 African countries
68	Scholars currently at Duke with expertise related to Africa	203	Current faculty research projects in or related to Africa
10	International study and civic engagement programs for Duke students in Africa	40	Duke faculty members with teaching experience in Africa

## DUKE IN THE WORLD

Duke is home to anthropologists, literary critics, medical doctors, historians, biologists and hundreds of other scholars whose studies and research related to Africa range from public policy and epidemiology to race and gender studies.

## EDUCATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

Duke's partners in Africa come from universities, hospitals, nonprofits, ministries and other organizations across the continent. Current partnerships explore research collaborations, cooperative teaching opportunities, joint conferences and publications, service learning programs and academic exchange opportunities. As technology evolves, the Duke community is connecting with its African peers in new ways; in 2014, Duke launched its first open online course created in collaboration with Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College in Tanzania to teach students around the world about tropical parasitology.

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The **Duke-Makerere Biomedical Engineering (BME) Partnership** allows students at Duke and at Makerere University in Uganda to plan collaborative, transcontinental design projects. As part of a joint BME course, design teams work to identify healthcare needs and create technological solutions to meet those needs. Graduate students at both universities also interact on Duke's campus as part of a joint Duke-Makerere Master's Program.



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Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and South Africa are priority partnership locations for the **Duke Global Health Institute (DGHI)**. Both undergraduate and graduate students in global health pursue research

projects with DGHI partners throughout Africa, including Tanzania's **Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre and Medical University College**, Uganda's **Mulago Hospital**, and South Africa's **University of Cape Town**. In these locations, students study topics related to traumatic brain injury, HIV risk behaviors, cancers, mental health and the environment.

School of Nursing students also travel to Tanzania to partner with **Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center and Teamwork City of Hope**, among other organizations, to provide community health assessments and disease prevention interventions. Students learn about the cultural healthcare practices in Tanzania and increase their cultural competence and Swahili language skills.

**DukeEngage**, which provides funding for undergraduates to pursue an immersive summer of service in partnership with a U.S. or international community, has eight programs across the African continent. One of these programs developed out of a partnership with **Stanford University** to provide a short-term study away program near Cape Town, South Africa for college athletes interested in civic engagement.

The **African Great Lakes Initiative (GLI)**, based in Uganda, is a community of Christian leaders that has grown from a Duke-led initiative of the Divinity School's Center for Reconciliation into an independent organization. The GLI works to alleviate tensions across East Africa, where political, ethnic and religious conflict has a history of inciting violence. Duke Divinity students pursue internships with churches and community ministries in this region with similar goals: to provide support for education, racial reconciliation and health.



DukeEngage students work with **Women in Secondary Education and Research (WISER)** to support the social empowerment of girls through improved health and education.

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

In addition to the above partnerships, many of which send students to countries across the continent to work with and learn from African partners, Duke sponsors a number of programs for students to experience the cultures and customs of Africa.

**Global Education for Undergraduates** operates a program in Ghana and administers student participation in two non-Duke administered programs in South Africa, which offer courses related to the sciences and global health.

**DukeImmerse**, a semester-long program offering small seminar courses on particular themes, conducts a series of classes on civil rights, comparing the Civil Rights Movement in the American South with South Africa's anti-apartheid struggles. Students spend a total of 8 days visiting Johannesburg and Cape Town, where they meet with anti-apartheid activists and visit District Six, the multi-racial community from which residents were forcibly removed in the 1960s and 1970s.



The **Fuqua School of Business** has long been engaged with Sub-Saharan Africa through its alumni network and its exchange programs. Students in the Global Academic Travel Experience, the Fuqua Client Consulting Practicum and the Global Consulting Practicum in Social Entrepreneurship travel to South Africa to work with social enterprises.

Africa is one of the world's regions that students can study in the **International Comparative Studies** major, often supplementing their coursework in everything from humanitarianism to conflict analysis to African dance with study abroad opportunities in the region and coursework on local dialects.

In fall of 2017, **DukeEngage** announced a new program based in Cape Verde off the northwest coast in Africa. The program's civic engagement focus is on improving the lives of at-risk youth in underserved communities. This program is one of several on the African continent, including programs in Togo, Tanzania, South Africa and Uganda.

## RESEARCH

Duke faculty members conduct research in or related to **45 African countries**. This research spans nine of Duke's schools and many of its institutes and centers.

Among Duke's researchers exploring topics related to the African continent are:

- **Charlie Piot**—on the current Togolese culture surrounding the U.S. Diversity Visa Lottery
- **Erika Weinthal**—on environmental resource security with a focus on climate change adaptation in the Ethiopian Rift Valley
- **Kathleen Sikkema**—on HIV risk and traumatic stress surrounding HIV care in South Africa



Professor Michael Haglund has established one of the first neurosurgical training programs in East Africa and has brought teams of medical professionals to **Mulago Hospital** to perform neurosurgery and build capacity. Global health graduate students have also been involved in research projects to understand the burden of surgery in Uganda.



- **Carl Erikson**—on the reintroduction of the aye-aye, one of the world’s most endangered animals, into protected areas of Madagascar
- **Ellen Davis**—on inter-religious dialogue and theological education in Sudan
- **Lawrence Helfer**—on human rights law and courts in West Africa

To find more Duke experts, visit [global.duke.edu/regions](http://global.duke.edu/regions) and search our Global Activities Map by school and country of interest.

## AFRICA AT DUKE

Africa is alive and well on Duke’s campus. The **Duke Africa Initiative** brings together faculty and students from across campus who have a shared interest in the countries and cultures of the African continent. The initiative:

- Builds connections between academic departments and disciplines
- Sponsors conferences, seminars and events on campus, including a series on the future of the African city
- Supports visiting African scholars, who conduct workshops and build connections with Duke students and faculty

The **Concilium on Southern Africa** expands upon this work to deepen relationships between Duke and Southern Africa.

Many student-led organizations, including **Africa Conversations Club, Duke Africans**



The **Duke Lemur Center** is home to the largest collection of endangered primates anywhere on earth, and the largest collection of lemurs outside of Madagascar.

Hundreds of researchers and thousands of guests visit the center each year. Duke scientists and conservationists also work with the Malagasy people locally to protect their forests and the animals who live there.

**in Medicine** and the **African Environment Initiative**, are also active on campus.

Duke is one of six U.S. universities participating in the **MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program**, which allows a select group of students from Sub-Saharan Africa and other developing regions to study at Duke. This scholarship model leverages education as a driver of social and economic progress in Africa.

Together these initiatives help students build upon knowledge gained in more than 80 Africa-related courses offered at Duke.