International Study Centres 2020: South Africa

Shape your future
Why do the South Africa ISC?

Study at a university located directly under Table Mountain

Gain a better understanding of Cape Town’s history of slavery and apartheid

Stay in the heart of one of the most beautiful cities in the world

Visit the south-eastern most tip of the continent
The programme

CONTEMPORARY SOUTH AFRICA: HISTORY, CULTURE AND POLITICS

- Understand the rich history of Cape Town from the slave trade to apartheid
- Explore the country’s development through literature, music, television and sport
- Gain a greater knowledge of contemporary politics
- Visit and talk to people transforming the community
- Visit important locations such as District Six, the Slave Lodge and Robben Island (where you will see Nelson Mandela’s cell)
Excursions

The lectures are complemented with visits to sites around the city and region. For example:

- Robben Island
- Table Mountain
- District 6 Museum
- The Slave Lodge
- Bread Mill Market
- The Waterfront
- Cape of Good Hope

[Note: some visits are subject to ticket availability as it is not always possible to book far in advance.]
Student feedback

“Returning from Cape Town, I truly feel enlightened and that my knowledge and global awareness has been enriched. I was surprised about how many misconceptions I had about South Africa and I am grateful that I now have an understanding of the truth.”

Abigail, History

“I’ve learnt more in two weeks than I have in some modules at Uni.”

Isabelle, History

“Cape Town is a stunning, vibrant and diverse city that played a very important role in the scarred history of South Africa which made meeting people whose families have grown up in the city and been affected by its history truly captivating.”

Daire, Environment

“I can’t think of a better way to get an overview of a place and its history/culture in such a short space of time. Incredible experience!”

Lily, Language and Linguistic Science

“Standing at the southernmost tip of the African continent was amazing – a real “wow moment”!”

Isobel, English
This trip allowed me to discover a beautiful country. Both its good and bad parts, which in fact is the best way to know it, since you get to appreciate as a whole. It allowed me to open my mind and get over the challenges of the trip.”

Marionna, Archeology

The feeling of experiencing Africa in a way I had never imagined, exploring the natural spectacle that Cape Town offers and facing the entire spectrum of human emotion through the people of South Africa and their stories, was something that cannot be put into words and the trip was certainly something once in a lifetime.”

Emma, History

For me, the best bit was that not only were the lectures really interesting and informative, but that they linked up perfectly with the places we visited. For example, what we learnt about the history of apartheid in the classroom was brought to life when we visited Robben Island and saw where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned; this made the course really engaging and stimulating.”

Ella, History
Accommodation

You will be staying at the Little Scotia Guest House (image, right), based in Rondebosch. It is only a short walk up to UCT’s lower campus and the University’s amazing theatre.

You will share a room with at least one other student.

There are many food shops and restaurants within walking distance of the Guest House.

Visa requirements

- As the course is under 90 days, visas are not required for South Africa if you are from one of 48 countries listed on the following website: http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services/exempt-countries

- If you are not from a country listed, and are offered a place on the course, it will be your responsibility to get a visa.

- The cost of a visa is not included in the programme cost.
What will it cost?

- Participation in the 2020 ISC programme cost £2,250 per student.
- A non-refundable acceptance fee of £250 is necessary to secure your place on an ISC.
- A payment plan of two further instalments is then implemented to allow you to spread the programme participation cost.
- You must pay in full before the departure date. Failure to pay will result in you being withdrawn from the programme.

What is included in the cost:

- International flights to/from the UK
- Tuition fees
- Transfer to and from airport in host country
- Travel insurance
- Entry tickets for main programme visits
- Accommodation
- Breakfast

What is not included in the cost:

- Visa (if required)
- Extra money for meals
- Spending money
Bursaries

- Each year there are a limited number of bursaries you can apply for towards the cost of the Study Centre.
- These are highly competitive and will be distributed on a needs basis. They are evaluated by a bursary case submitted as part of your application.
- Previous award amounts have been between £500 and £2,000.
- You can also apply for a York Futures Scholarship.

Admission criteria

- International Study Centres are open to all York students, including final year, masters, postgraduates and distance learners.
- You do not need any prior knowledge of the topic and it doesn’t need to be linked to your degree. It is a chance to learn something from a different perspective, something completely different, and/or about a country that interests you.
- Students must be of good academic standing.
- A reference is requested from your department as part of the application process.
Application and deadlines

- The application via Mobility Online is available at york.ac.uk/globalyou via the How to Apply tab.

- Applications for 2020 open on Friday 29 November 2019 and close on Wednesday 12 February 2020 at 1pm.

- The application is a number of personal statement type questions. We recommend that you write your answers to these questions in a Word document before you copy them into the application.

- You also need to upload a 90 second video supporting your written application via the same link.

- A reference will be required from your Supervisor, or another departmental member of academic staff as part of your application. It is very important that they know who you are, where you want to go to and why and that you have their agreement to name them as your referee on your application.
Pre-departure

- There are two pre-departure workshops scheduled in the spring and summer terms, where you will be told all the information you require for the trip. They are **mandatory** and will be held on Wednesday 4 March and 14 May (all in the afternoon).

- Topics will include (amongst others) visas, free insurance provided by the University, flight details, group risk assessments.

- You will also have chance to meet the rest of the group going on the trip and the York team leader who will also accompany the group.
For more information

- Contact summer-abroad@york.ac.uk
- Speak to our peer advisors Piotr and Sophie who have both been on an ISC global-peer-advisors@york.ac.uk
- Visit one of the following events to speak to us in person:
  - Global Opportunities Fair, Thursday 24 October, 3-6pm, Physics Exhibition Centre
  - Summer Abroad information session, Wednesday 13 November, 1.15-2.15pm, Derwent College D/L/047
  - Summer Opportunities Fair, Wednesday 22 January 2020, 1-4pm, James Hall
- Follow the Centre for Global Programmes on GoGlobalUoY  
