



African Impact is proud to announce a new set of

Tropical Biological Research Courses in South Africa

Courses are held in and around South Africa's first UNESCO World Heritage site: The iSimangaliso Wetland Park (formerly called the Greater St. Lucia Wetland Park) and are aimed at high school leavers and undergraduates with a keen interest in tropical biology and nature conservation. They are a month long, and include lectures, workshops, excursions, game drives/walks and a two week independent research project on a topic of your choice. Participants will learn about the biology and ecology of the estuary, coastal forest and savannah area, about its management, about nature conservation and local community involvement, about the challenges of doing research in the African continent, and about how to set up and conduct research. The focus however lies on attaining practical skills and getting hands-on experience with doing research. Hence, for two weeks, you will conduct your own research on a topic of your choice, being it on hippos, reptiles, crickets, plants or whatever you come up with and that is feasible. You will be guided through the complete process of asking the right research questions, deciding on the methodology, writing a research proposal, data gathering and analysis, and presenting your results in a scientific research paper and oral presentation. On successful completion of the course, you will be awarded a certificate which gives a breakdown of the training you received and an assessment of your achievements. It is suggested that universities credit their students for their education here with 6 ECTS (European participants) or 3 Credits (American participants), the equivalent of 160 hours of tuition.

This course is an excellent way to be introduced to the exciting world of doing research in Africa and see for yourself whether a career in tropical research or nature conservation is something for you. Moreover, it will boost your CV with practical field experience and help to create a network of likeminded conservationists/researchers, all while being in a stunning area having a great time with your fellow participants.

Course dates and prices: 17 March 2009 - 16 April; \$ 1292 / £ 807.5 / € 969
 9 July 2009 - 8 August 2009; \$ 1520 / £ 950 / € 1140
 13 August 2009 - 12 September 2009; \$ 1520 / £ 950 / € 1140
 14 October 2009 – 13 November 2009; \$ 1520 / £ 950 / € 1140

Course fees include all tuition, supervision, use of available research material, excursions, game drives, accommodation, food, laundry service and transport during the course including nearest airport pickup and return.

For more information, the full course itinerary and a list of all topics covered in lectures and field exercises please see our website: www.africanimpact.com/volunteers/tbrc and download the pdf brochure, or contact us on TBRC@africanencounter.org.