

ANT COURSE 2016 LOGISTICS AND PREPARATION

May 9, 2016

Key information
Course site: Edward O. Wilson Laboratory at Gorongosa National Park
Dates: July 28 – August 7
Meeting: Arrive in Beira, Mozambique (airport code BEW), before 6pm on July 27.
Depart: Book departing flights anytime after 1pm on Aug 7
Visa: Most countries need to obtain a tourist visa before arrival
Preparation: Review course supplies; purchase plane tickets early
Costs: Pay tuition and station fees by June 15, 2016 (\$475 student, \$975 non-student, Station Fees, Hotel) at: http://www.calacademy.org/tickets_ant_course

Important dates:

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July 27 participants arrive in Beira, Mozambique (airport code BEW)

July 28 Depart Beira at 7:30am: 4 hour bus ride to Gorongosa NP.

Aug 7 Depart Gorongosa at 7am for Beira.

Cost: Tuition for the 10-day course is \$475 for current students and \$975 for non-students (including postdocs). In addition, the Station fee for this period, covering dormitory room and board, is \$550. Transportation costs between home and Beira are to be borne by all participants.

Paying course tuition fees

Course fees should be paid **by June 15**.

You can pay online by Credit Card, via bank wire, or with CASH in \$US at the Station.

Conditions for reimbursement of Ant Course fees:

Before June 15: reimbursement of 100%

After June 15: reimbursement of 20%

For **credit card** payment of tuition, use online form at:

http://www.calacademy.org/tickets_ant_course

For Wire Transfer

(1) **Bank Name and Mailing Address:**

Wells Fargo
550 California Street
San Francisco, CA 94104

(2) **Bank Telephone:** 415-396-4955

(3) **Bank E-Mail Address:** betty.yang@wellsfargo.com

- (4) **Aba/Routing Number (U.S. Wires Only):** 121000248
(5) **Swift Or Iban Code (International Wires Only):** WFBIUS6S
(6) **Account Beneficiary/Payee:** California Academy of Sciences
(7) **Account Number:** 4122016397

Please notify Karla Trainor <KTrainor@calacademy.org> when funds are sent and the amount of wire and the name of student.

Course preparation

You should: (1) purchase necessary supplies (see below), (2) review ant terminology. A copy of the morphology section of Bolton 1994 (pages 191-201) is available on the Ant Course home page.

What Ant Course provides

- The following supplies will be available to all students for use during the course. Individuals who have supplies of their own are encouraged to bring them.
- Point punch
- Paper and glue (Franklin Hide glue) for mounting
- Pinning block
- Labels

What you must bring:

- Some of the following supplies are available from BioQuip Products (<https://www.bioquip.com/Search/default.asp>).
- 2 fine forceps [BioQuip #4524 Rubris #5]
- 2 featherweight forceps [one Bioquip #4748, and one #4750]
- 1 insect storage boxes (make your own)[BioQuip #1009 or #1001]
- 200 insect pins #3 [BioQuip # 1203B3, or 1208B3 or 1208S3]
- 1 indelible ink Pigma pen (for writing labels) [BioQuip #1154E]
- Microscope. Students are required to borrow or rent a stereoscope from their home institution. It is critical that the dissecting scope magnifies at least 40x. 10 Stereoscopes will be available for rent for \$75/each. 20 students must bring their own Stereoscope
- 50 or more vials for collecting ants
- 1 pair scissors, fine point for cutting labels
- Sturdy trowel or small shovel
- Notebook for course lectures, labs and seminars
- Field notebook for use in the field [a small, hardcover notebook works best]
- Flashlight or Headlamp: areas of the Station are very dark at night - flashlights are important; Headlamps are useful for black lighting
- Alarm clock

- Water bottle
- Collecting bag or small backpack to carry gear in field.
- Small vials for collecting ants
- Bring Cash for exchanging to local currency in case an ATM is not available
- Plastic container for keeping live colony

The following items are things that you might consider bringing:

- lap top computer (not required but encouraged)
- Digital Music and speakers will be much appreciated during late night work and end of the course party.
- Black lighting equipment
- Basic office supplies (scotch tape, stapler, paperclips).
- Ziploc plastic bags
- Containers to keep live ants
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Swiss Army knife (or something of the sort)
- Hand lens (10 x or 20x)
- Earplugs (for peaceful sleeping)

Specimens collected during the course

We want students to go home with a diverse collection of ants that is correctly identified to genus and species and properly labeled. If you plan to return with your specimens, be sure to bring a sturdy insect box. Students who do not want to retain the specimens or all of the specimens that they collect should donate them to the Natural History Museum of Mozambique in Maputo.

Staying in contact while at the Station

Remember you are staying at a rugged field station and that communications will be limited. There is cellular phone service at the Station. You may want to obtain a local Mcel, Vodacom, or Movitel provider SIM card at the airport.

Health information

We strongly recommend you seek advice from a Travel Health Clinic well in advance and ensure you obtain all necessary vaccinations.

- Students should check with their own Doctors to ensure they have received the appropriate medical vaccinations dictated by a visit to Mozambique. Malaria is present in the region.
- Students should bring general medical supplies: aspirin, Band-aids etc.

Visa Requirements:

- You will be entering Mozambique as a tourist.

- Students need to ensure they have a current Passport that is valid for at least 6 months after the scheduled return date, and any necessary entry VISA's. Specific VISA requirements will depend on your nationality.

Arriving to Beira by air

Please add your flight details to the Google spreadsheet:

<http://goo.gl/forms/JJchirtM9O>

- The course has reserved you a room for you at the Golden Peacock <http://www.brgprh.com/index.php/english/index.html>.
- The Hotel will provide pick up service at the airport (based on the arrival time provided in the Google spreadsheet).
- Breakfast is included at the hotel.

Accommodation and facilities at EO Wilson Station at Chitengo Field Station

- Separate male and female dormitories or shared safari tents. Shower and flush toilets near dorms and tents. Student accommodation approximately 2 minutes walk for the laboratory and dining rooms. Walking around the Chitengo is a wonderful opportunity to see baboons, vervet monkeys, wart hogs, and of course ants.
- Shower temperatures: warm
- Linen (pillows, sheets etc) is provided.
- Laundry facilities can be unpredictable: individuals can either wash their clothes while bathing or use the laundry service provided by the field station, which is reasonably priced.
- The Pungue River borders the field station and is about a twenty-minute walk from student accommodations. One of our field trips will be to the Pungue River.

Clothing

- Clothing in Mozambique may seem much more conservative than you are used to.
- You will be arriving at the end of “winter” so it may be cool during the morning and evening, but warm in the middle of the day.

Drinking water

- The tap water is pretty safe, but boiled or chlorinated water will be provided. Students should expect to get into a routine of filling their water bottles before heading into the field, to the laboratories, or to the sleeping quarters for the night.

Computer and telephone access

- Possible but unpredictable. Liberate yourself and be prepared to go ‘off the grid’.
- Mcel, Vodacom, and Movitel are the mobile service providers that work within Chitengo, while only Movitel works upon going into the field.

Additional expenses and banking information

- Participants will be responsible for meals while in Beira or if you choose to eat at the restaurant in Chitengo.
- ATM machines are available at the airport in Beira.
- Credit cards can be used at some stores in Beira and most restaurants.

Emergency contact information

July 27, 2016

- Golden Peacock: Talhao 16 Zona Do Estoril talhao no.16. Beira, Mozambique
- brgprh@gmail.com
- Tel: +25823315088 / 23315066. +25823315099.
- <http://www.brgprh.com/index.php/english/index.html>

July 27- Aug 7

- Jason Denlinger, Research Manager, Parque Nacional da Gorongosa, jason.denlinger@gorongosa.net
- Tel: +258 82 659 8421