



Tanzania

Zanzibar Excavation

Uncover a lesser-known side of Swahili history as you excavate Zanzibar's coastal cave sites. This field school leads you beyond the island's famous stone towns to explore how forager and cave-dwelling communities lived, adapted, and interacted with the Indian Ocean world. You'll excavate subterranean sites while learning directly from Zanzibari community members who continue to use these caves to this day. Blending archaeology and ethnography, this summer program gives you the chance to connect the deep past with living heritage in a setting as fascinating as it is breathtaking.

Why you'll love this program



Real-World Research

Investigate millennia of human activity in Zanzibar's caves and their links to the wider Swahili world.



Field & Lab Skills

Train in excavation, stratigraphic recording, artifact processing, ethnographic field methods and more.



Unforgettable Location

Explore Stone Town, celebrate a local festival, or even snorkel the island's vibrant coral reef in your free time.



Make a Difference

Contribute to a community-based project that broadens the understanding of Swahili history.

Field School Details

Summer Program in Tanzania

- 4-week immersive research program
- Earn academic credit through Connecticut College
- Fieldwork, seminars & lab-based research
- Cultural enrichment activities included
- Housing in village research station + most meals provided



Discover More



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Institute for Field Research

Make an IFR Field School Your Next Adventure

Our programs take you straight into the field, where archaeological sites and dynamic ecosystems become your classroom. Don't just study abroad—participate in important research, develop real skills, and make a lasting impact. With IFR, you're not only seeing the world—you're uncovering it.

Admissions at a Glance

- One-on-one guidance available
- Competitive tuition rates
- Simple online application
- Quick decision turnaround
- Rolling enrollment deadlines
- All majors & academic backgrounds welcome



The World is Our Classroom

Immersive field training programs in the U.S. and around the globe ranging from 2-6 weeks in length.



Field Research that Matters

Unique programs in archaeology, environmental science, paleontology and more.



Career-Ready Skills

Transformative field experiences that develop life and professional skills you can learn no place else.

