

American University of Nigeria-  
Interdisciplinary Genocide Studies Center

# Genocide and Reconstruction

2017 Summer Program: 29 May-26 June  
Kigali, Rwanda



Program: 29 May-26 June

The program is open to all students and provides six American University of Nigeria (AUN) credits. Students will have a very exciting opportunity of undertaking a three-four week intensive summer program as they will immerse in Rwandan culture and history, with the goal of developing a greater understanding of the genocide, various structures of violence as well as Rwandan reconstruction using a cross-disciplinary approach. The immersion experience will culminate in personal research.

In past years, the program, started in 2004, has enabled teachers and students from Rwanda, Burundi, Congo, Kenya, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, South Africa, Afghanistan, Palestine, Israel, Belarus, Singapore, Brazil, China, Mexico, the UK, France, Belgium, Spain, Australia, Canada, the USA, etc. to develop narratives that engage questions of social justice, conflict resolution, and peace building.



## Program Structure

Participants will be exposed to the situation of survivors living with perpetrators. They will visit genocide sites and prisons. They will go through the Rwandan historiography. The program includes the background of the genocide, the played by the media in the 1994 genocide, the responsibility of the international community, the role of the Church role, the genocide denial phenomenon, concepts of memory and reconciliation, structures and mechanisms of justice systems (regular courts, *gacaca* courts, International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda), and some specific topics related to post-genocide reconstruction.

At the end of our study, we discuss various ways of testifying and preventing genocide (artistic representation, human rights reports, independent research, recommendations, etc.). Participants are invited to an open exchange of ideas about conflict resolution, the recovery of historical memory, peaceful coexistence, post-conflict societies, Economic development, etc.

The program seeks to develop a greater understanding of genocide and reconstruction through a three-part approach, including an introduction to the history and events of the genocide, interpretative analysis and examination of post-genocide reconstruction, and individual participation involving a personal or group research project.

## Eligibility

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The program is open to all students, faculty, scholars, artists, and other professionals with a sincere desire to better understand the Rwandan genocide. It is an intensive experiential tour of Rwanda aimed at students, scholars, and artists who are working on projects related to the genocide. The operating language of the program is English, and when necessary, translation of guest speakers is provided to all participants.





## Itinerary and Schedule

The session takes place during a four-week period from 29 May-26 June. The program includes visits of the sites, workshops, lectures by international and Rwandan scholars, and meetings with survivors, perpetrators, and officials. Much of the program takes place in Kigali, the capital city, but participants also travel to Butare and Gisenyi to meet with experts and to see more of Rwanda.

A visit to Akagera Park is included.

### First Part—Introduction to Genocide Studies

- Testimony from survivors
- Meeting with perpetrators
- Visits to memorial sites
- Meetings with artists and writers
- Lectures from genocide scholars and historians

### Second Part—Post-genocide Policy and Reconstruction

- Workshops on post-genocide reconstruction (Media, Religions, Politics, Gender, doing business,
- Meetings with policy makers
- Visits to government institutions and NGOs

### Third Part—Immersion and Research

- Home-stay with Rwandan family (optional)
- Internship with a Rwandan institution
- Community Service
- Completion of an individual project

## Faculty

Students are accompanied by AUN faculty members and staff. Instructors and guests come from various places (African, European, and American universities) and disciplines.

## Cost

The price of the program includes meals, transportation, lodging, local arrangements, and other program logistics. Please contact Dr Jean-Pierre Karegeye at [Jp.karegeye@aun.edu](mailto:Jp.karegeye@aun.edu) for more details.

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*“Today I saw people. Humans. Noses, eyes, ears, smiles, smirks, frowns, laughter, conversation, excitement. Genocide happens to individual people. It is perpetrated by individual people. We are also people. This can happen anywhere.”*

**(Emily Kassie, USA, Summer Program 12)**

*“Today Rwanda is healing, and I witnessed life moving on. I witnessed killers and survivors walking down the streets together painting and directing a new country”*

**(Noam Shuster, Israel, Summer Program 2009)**

*“I measure, or try to at least, how difficult that must be fore the students we met today. Despite the horror that they ’ve been hiding, the nightmare that haunts their dreams, I was – like everyone I guess – admiring of the beauty which emanates from their faces.”*

**(Eddy Vicky, USA, 2012)**

## Partners

In past years, IGSC Program has been organized in partnership with several Institutions and Universities including:

- Kigali Institute of Education, Rwanda
- Université Libre de Kigali, Rwanda
- Institut Supérieur du Lac, DR of Congo
- American University of Nigeria
- University of Quebec at Rimouski, Canada
- Groupov, Belgium
- Association Internationale des Crimes contre le Génocide, France
- California Institute of the Arts, USA
- Brandeis University, USA
- Brown University, USA
- Villanova University, USA
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA
- Nebraska Wesleyan University. USA
- Missouri State University, USA
- University of Newcastle, Australia
- Curtin University, Australia
- Educator’s Institute for Human Rights (EIHR), USA

*“In June 2010, I traveled to Kigali, Rwanda with a group of academics, artists, students, and genocide scholars from the U.S., Afghanistan, Mexico, Singapore, Belarus, Uganda, and Rwanda. The summer program hails such well known alumna as Lynn Nottage, who on the same trip began writing her recent Pulitzer Prize-winning play Ruined, which explores the latent effects of sexual violence in the Congo.”*

**(Amanda Monte, USA, Summer Program 2010)**

*“It was refreshing to hear that Muslims in Rwanda offered pockets of sanity during the genocide and saved several Tutsi lives, but the presentation still sounded a little glamorized. Or maybe is the cynical me who is so used to the stories of horror that I ’ve become blind to the stories of good. ”*

**(Wandia Njoya, Kenya, Summer Program 2011)**





AUN Students, Summer 2016



## **Contacts**

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# Alumni Souvenir



IKIGO KIGAMIJE  
UBUSHAKASHATSI  
KURI  
JENOSIDE



Ancient King's Palace. 2013 Summer Program.



Meeting with President Kagame (Students and Scholars from USA, Uganda, Burundi, and Rwanda in 2007)

