Primate Behavior, Wildlife Ecology & Conservation Field School in Kenya

Locations: Tana River National Primate Reserve and Kakamega Forest National Reserve, KENYA
August 1-28, 2007; Rutgers University Study Abroad Program
Course Title: Primate Behavior, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Field School in Kenya

Course Description

Africa’s spectacular assemblage of wildlife is unmatched elsewhere in the contemporary world. Africa has been called the “living Pleistocene” because most of the large mammal species of that epoch have survived to this day\(^1\). Kenya, in particular, boasts an extraordinary variety of wild species due, in part, to its diversity of habitats. The vegetation varies from the dense tropical forests to arid classic savannas, and more, and the wildlife varies with those ecosystems. While Kenya leads other African countries in wildlife and habitat protection, the future of its wildlife is still uncertain. More work needs to be done towards understanding the behavioral biology of Kenya’s wild species. As Cowlinshaw and Dunbar\(^2\) have strenuously argued, conservation cannot be achieved without first understanding the biology of the systems we are trying to conserve.

This field school will give participants the opportunity to experience diverse habitats of Kenya, and to study Kenya’s biodiversity by using primate field studies as the entry point. Primates are naturally interesting to observe, given their size and shared characteristics with humans; for similar reasons, primates make powerful flagship species for conservation programs\(^3\). This field school will maximize students’ exposure to the diversity of primate behavior by exploring two very different ecosystems in Kenya: the Tana River National Primate Reserve, a dry riverine habitat near the coast in eastern Kenya, and Kakamega Forest National Reserve, a true tropical rainforest in western Kenya. Primates are plentiful at both of these sites, affording students a unique opportunity to examine ecological and behavioral adaptations of several primate species to very different biotic and abiotic factors.

Tana River National Primate Reserve, gazetted in 1976, consists of patches of riverine forests along the meandering course of the lower Tana River, with dry woodland and savanna habitats encompassing the forest patches. It is the only reserve in the world dedicated solely to conservation of primates. There are eight non-human primate species in the reserve: Tana River red colobus, crested mangabeys, sykes monkeys, yellow baboons, vervet monkeys, and three prosimians: the lesser, greater and Garnet’s galagos. Both the red colobus and crested mangabey are endemic to the area and are ranked among the world's top 25 most endangered primate species. The forests contain high diversity of other species of rare animals and plants, and are designated as a global biodiversity hotspot. The climate in this region is generally hot and dry. Average rainfall ranges between 400 and 500 mm per year; average monthly temperatures range from 20 to 40 degrees Centigrade.

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In contrast, Kakamega Forest, in Kenya’s Western Province, is situated along the northeastern edge of Africa’s Lake Victoria Basin and is the largest surviving stand of rainforest in Kenya. This region is characterized by heavy precipitation, approximately 2000 mm per year, and is cooler than the Tana River region. Faunally and florally, Kakamega is dominated by central African lowland species, but due to its elevation (predominantly between 1500 m and 1600 m) and proximity to the formerly contiguous Nandi Forests it also contains highland elements and is thus unique. The park supports over 350 species of trees and five observable primate species. The majestic black and white colobus monkeys are abundant and often associate with blue monkeys. The forest is also home to endangered DeBrazza monkeys as well as red-tail monkeys and olive baboons. The Kakamega Forest is world famous for rare birds, including the endangered Turner's eremomela, Charpins flycatcher and the voice mimicking African grey parrot. To note, the park also supports over 400 species of butterflies (about 45% of all recorded butterflies in Kenya)! Forest bucks, duikers and dik diks are also found in this enormously biodiverse rainforest.

The curriculum will comprise lectures, readings, and discussions on site-specific research papers as well as foundational concepts in primatology, ecology and conservation biology. The core of the field school will be training and practice of field methods concentrating on primate behavior and ecology. Participants will learn how to census primates, study social behavior and habitat use, practice animal identification, time budget analysis via scan and focal animal sampling, and how to measure habitat use.

Students are required to purchase and bring three required texts, Karen Strier’s Primate Behavioral Ecology, Richard Estes’s The Behavior Guide to Africa’s Mammals, and Paul Martin and Patrick Bateson’s Measuring Behavior. Published articles, lecture notes, and other material will be provided in a course folder. Field worksheets and folders will be provided. Overall course assessment will be as follows: field exercises, reports and presentations (30%), test at mid-course (30%) and final exam (40%).

Typical Day at Tana River and Kakamega Forest. Animals are most active in early morning and late afternoon, so field work is scheduled to maximize viewing of active animals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 a.m. – 7 a.m.</td>
<td>breakfast, prepare for field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 a.m. – 10 a.m.</td>
<td>field work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m. – 12 p.m.</td>
<td>tea, lecture, discussions and/or data organization, analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 p.m. – 2 p.m.</td>
<td>lunch and assigned reading work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 p.m. – 5 p.m.</strong></td>
<td><strong>field work</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 p.m. – 7 p.m.</td>
<td>wash, dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 p.m. – 9 p.m.</td>
<td>finish day’s assignments, relax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 p.m. – 6 a.m.</td>
<td>camp quiet, sleep</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## B. Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>LECTURES</th>
<th>FIELD/ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>READINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-Aug</td>
<td>Tana River</td>
<td>Primates</td>
<td>Primate Identification</td>
<td>Strier 2007: Chapters 5, 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-Aug</td>
<td>Tana River</td>
<td>Diet Quality, Distribution of Food for Primates</td>
<td>Observation Exercises: Feeding</td>
<td>Martin and Bateson 1993: Chapters2, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-Aug</td>
<td>Tana River</td>
<td>Ecology of Relationships</td>
<td>Observation Exercises: Feeding</td>
<td>Martin and Bateson 1993: Chapters 6, 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-Aug</td>
<td>Tana River</td>
<td>Methods: Observing Behavior</td>
<td>Observation Exercises: Sociality</td>
<td>Martin and Bateson 1993: Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-Aug</td>
<td>Tana River</td>
<td>Methods: Observing Behavior</td>
<td>Observation Exercises: Sociality</td>
<td>Strier 2007: Chapter 7,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-Aug</td>
<td>Tana River</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Student-Designed Exercise</td>
<td>TEST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-Aug</td>
<td>Travel/ Kakamega</td>
<td>Rain Forest Structure</td>
<td>Habitat Identification</td>
<td>Strier 2007: Chapter 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Additional Information</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>17-Aug</td>
<td>Kakamega</td>
<td>Temporal &amp; Spatial Distribution of Food for Primates</td>
<td>Habitat Identification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-Aug</td>
<td>Kakamega</td>
<td>Primate Communities</td>
<td>Habitat Identification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-Aug</td>
<td>Kakamega</td>
<td>Predator-Prey Interactions</td>
<td>Observation Exercises: Feeding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-Aug</td>
<td>Kakamega</td>
<td>Primate-Plant Interactions</td>
<td>Observation Exercises: Feeding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-Aug</td>
<td>Kakamega</td>
<td>Conservation of Communities</td>
<td>Observation Exercises: Sociality</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-Aug</td>
<td>Kakamega</td>
<td>Trade in Primates, Bushmeat Trade</td>
<td>Census Exercise</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Strier 2007: Chapter 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-Aug</td>
<td>Kakamega</td>
<td>Threats to Wildlife, Conservation Policies</td>
<td>Census Exercise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-Aug</td>
<td>Kakamega</td>
<td>Setting Area Priorities, Protected Area Systems</td>
<td>Student-Designed Exercise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-Aug</td>
<td>Kakamega</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Student-Designed Exercise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-Aug</td>
<td>Travel/ Nairobi</td>
<td>Trophy Hunting</td>
<td>Travel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27-Aug</td>
<td>Nairobi</td>
<td>Current Research at Kenya Wildlife Service</td>
<td>Visit to KWS wildlife orphanage</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28-Aug</td>
<td>Nairobi</td>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>final exam</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Items you should bring:

(1) Inflatable or foam sleeping pad & sheet
(2) Light-weight sleeping bag or blanket
(3) Small pillow
(4) Tent
(5) The required textbooks. **Purchase the textbooks before leaving.** Additional course material will be provided in Kenya at photocopying cost of about $15.
(6) Several small notebooks
(7) Small clipboard (6”x 9” is best)
(8) Mechanical pencils and ballpoint pens (cheap ones are fine)
(9) Binoculars
(10) Compass (any cheap one will do)
(11) Day pack for field work
(12) Flashlight with extra batteries (“LED headlamps” are considered essential by many camping companies; a backup of any kind of flashlight is useful if the main one gets lost; remember extra batteries!)
(13) A water bottle
(14) Personal first-aid kit: e.g. strong sunscreen, insect repellent, anti-itch lotion, aloe (for sunburn), antibiotics for stomach problems, antibiotic cream (Neosporin), band-aides, aspirin/ibuprofen, antihistamine, vitamin supplements, anti-diarrheal, yeast infection treatment, etc.
(15) Personal hygiene kit: tampons/pads, toothbrush, toothpaste, towel, shampoo, conditioner, soap, comb, nail clippers/file, tweezers, Q-tips, eye drops, hand-wipes, anti-bacterial hand lotion etc.
(16) Anti-malarial medication: Malarone, Doxycycline or Lariam are prescribed in the US by doctors as anti-malaria pills. We have found that some students are susceptible to side effects from Doxycycline (sun sensitivity, acid reflex) and Lariam (vivid dreams, paranoia). We **strongly** recommend that if possible, students take Malarone, which has very few side effects. Consult your physician.
(17) Eco-friendly clothes-washing liquid
(18) Camera –with extra battery and twice as much film as you expect to use. **NOTE:** If you are bringing a digital camera, make sure you have a lot of batteries and a large memory card.
(19) Light-weight long pants, light-weight long-sleeved shirts, shorts, t-shirts
(20) Sneakers or light-weight hiking shoes
(21) Brimmed hat (required)
(22) Rain gear (at least a good raincoat or rain poncho)
(23) Swimsuit
(24) Sturdy sandals (water repellent)

Optional Items to Bring:

(1) Walkman/Discman/iPod (also bring batteries for these).
(2) Playing cards, travel games, paperback books
(3) Candy, gum, Power Bar-type snacks, packets of powdered drink mix
(4) Calculator
(5) Sunglasses
(6) Bird guide for East Africa (recommended: Stevenson and Fanshawe (2006) or Zimmerman et al. (1999), shown below).

Tips on Living in National Parks and Travel in Kenya

Rules of Kenyan National Parks are there for protection of visitors as well as the animals and the environment. Students must abide by all park rules. We will seek to minimize human impact on the plants and animals in the National Parks. Several important rules:

- Wear clothing that blends in with the habitat.
- Behave quietly around wildlife.
- Respect the habitat by sticking to trails.
- Abide by ALL rules regarding trash disposal.
- Do not feed animals.
- Do not leave camping areas without staff supervision.
- Do not play loud music in camp.
- Illegal drug use is strictly prohibited in the Field School.

When traveling in towns, women should wear clothing that covers their upper arms and knees. Inside of hotels, shorts are fine. English and Kiswahili are the official languages of Kenya. The units of currency in Kenya are the shilling and the cent (1 Ksh/= [Kenya shilling] = 100 cents). The current exchange rate (January 2007) is 70Ksh/=1$U.S. Do not carry large quantities of cash. We recommend that you bring most money in travelers’ checks. The amount you bring will depend upon how many days you’ll be staying in Kenya before and after the program, how much traveling you will be doing during that time, and how many souvenirs you plan on buying. Most students bring a few hundred dollars with them. You will also need US $20 in cash to cover the airport departure tax, although it’s usually already included in your airline ticket (look
for the symbol XT, meaning exit tax, or ask your travel agent). To be safe, it is always best to bring extra money in travelers’ checks and not spend it than to run out while overseas.

We will make accommodation reservations for all students beginning the day of their arrival so please let us know when you will arrive in Nairobi by giving us your flight information. You should take into consideration that you’ll be responsible for paying for accommodations before and/or after the field school if your flight arrives before the first day and/or departs after the last day of your session. (Plan on about $30/night). The Field School will cover lodging beginning the night of August 1. So you will pay for the night of July 31\textsuperscript{st} or any other night you stay in Nairobi before July 31\textsuperscript{st}. The Field School will cover lodging in Nairobi on the night of August 28th. Field School staff on the ground can make a hotel reservation for you for the nights of July 27\textsuperscript{th} and August 29\textsuperscript{th} if you are arriving earlier or staying later.

## Communications

### Mail:
The Field School mail address is: c/o Primatology Field School, c/o National Museum of Kenya, P.O. Box 40658, Nairobi, KENYA. Letters and postcards usually take about 7-10 days to go across the Atlantic, but can take much longer. Tell your family/friends not to send valuable packages (or anything else that would have to clear customs); they end up at the Nairobi Post Office, and it takes a lot of time and money to claim them.

### Phone:
You can make outgoing calls from Kenya, using a local calling card or from telephone bureaus. The cost of international phone calls from Kenya is high. The best option if you need to talk to your parents or friends is to have them call you, or quickly call them and have them call you back. For emergencies Field School staff phone numbers as follows:

- Dr. Leah Domb (Co-Director) (609)620-6917, -1218
- Dr. Mbaruk A. Suleman (Co-Director)
- Prof. Jack Harris 011-254-722-812-048 (cell)

### Fax:

### E-mail:
Field School Staff Members’ emails are as follows:

- Dr. Leah Domb ldomb@lawrenceville.org
- Dr. Mbaruk A. Suleman
- Prof. Jack Harris jwkharris@hotmail.com
Checklist:

[] Check your passport: make sure it is up-to-date (good for six months AFTER returning from Kenya – through February 2008). Obtain one if you don’t have one yet. Make multiple photocopies of the first page and keep them separated in different pieces of luggage, just in case.

[] Purchase airline ticket.

[] Obtain all the immunizations and malaria prevention medication that you need as described in the acceptance letter and in consultation with your doctor.

[] Fill out the flight information form and return it to the Rutgers Study Abroad office. Also e-mail your flight itinerary (arrival in and departure from Mombasa) to Dr. Leah Domb with flight date, time (am/pm), airline, and flight number.

[] Fill out and return the Visa and Emergency Information Form.

[] Sign and return the Informed Consent/Waiver.

// Insurance: See pages at end of handbook.

[] Obtain Traveler’s Checks.

[] Purchase items that you will take with you to Kenya (see lists above).

[] Complete the Program Workbook and return to Rutgers University Study Abroad Office.
INFORMED CONSENT/WAIVER

Concerning my planned participation in the Rutgers Swahili Culture, History, Language and Coastal Peoples of Kenya Field School in Kenya, I recognize that there may be differences between the standards of hygiene and health care in Kenya from those normally expected in the United States. Specifically, the following concerns have been brought to my attention by the Rutgers Study Abroad Office:

All travel abroad entails risks and exposure to living conditions and other situations different from those encountered in the United States. In particular, conditions in Kenya may be different from those I am accustomed to in the United States in many key areas involving health and safety.

Caution should be exercised in Kenya regarding food and water consumption as it is likely that hygienic and sanitary standards may be below those found in the United States.

I have been informed that the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and the Rutgers Health Service as of April 10, 1995, travelers to East Africa should (1) take Mefloquine (or equivalent) for malaria prevention, (2) follow precautions to prevent insect bites, (3) pay attention to the quality of their drinking water and food, (4) have a dose of Immune Globulin (IG) or equivalent for Hepatitis A, and (5) consider booster doses of tetanus (Td) and polio (eIPV) vaccines. (6) Consider getting precautionary vaccines for Yellow Fever, Typhoid, Cholera, and Meningococcal. (7) Finally, the normal “childhood” vaccines should be up-to-date: Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR Vaccine); Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTP Vaccine) and Polio Vaccine. Participants are strongly advised to contact their own physician about any individual health concerns.

There are no medical facilities at some sites and the nearest facilities are several hours away via Flying Doctors. Therefore, medical problems, particularly those of an emergency nature, may be more difficult and costly to handle than those same situations would be in the United States. Each participant is urged to familiarize himself or herself with applicable insurance limitation under such circumstances. The program includes Flying Doctor’s Insurance (which will cover emergency flights out of field to Nairobi, Mombasa or Malindi), but Rutgers cannot assume any financial responsibility for any medical care or transportation required beyond this should a medical emergency arise in Kenya.

In full awareness of the above difference between conditions in Kenya and those in the United States, I am voluntarily participating in the Swahili Culture, History, Language and Coastal Peoples of Kenya Field School in Kenya. In consideration of the acceptance of my participation in this program, I waive, release and discharge any and all claims for death, personal injury or property damage against Rutgers, the State University, its officers, agents and employees which I may have, or which may hereafter accrue to me as a result of my participation in this program. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless Rutgers, the State University, its officers, agents and employees for any claim or loss for death, bodily injury or property damage arising in any manner out of my presence or activities in the course of my participation in this program.

It is further understood and agreed that this waiver, release, indemnity and assumption of risk is to be binding on my heirs and assigns.

_____________________ ____________________________
Witness to Signature  Signature

_____________________ ____________________________
Date    Date
Instructional Material

Required Texts


Additional Optional Text


Optional Primate Papers


Optional Papers on Other Species

LION

SPOTTED HYENA

CHEETAH

PLAINS ZEBRA

MAP OF KENYA WITH PRIMATOLOGY FIELD
Field School students and faculty meet in Kenya’s capital, Nairobi, and spend our last night in Nairobi as well.
FROM KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE WEBSITE:

TANA RIVER NATIONAL PRIMATE RESERVE

**Background Information**

The Tana River National Primate Reserve was gazetted in 1976 to protect the Lower Tana riverine forests and two highly endangered primates, the mangabey and the Tana River red colobus. The reserve consists mainly of patches of riperian forests extending for 16km along the meandering course of the lower Tana River, 350 km east of Nairobi and 240 km north of Mombasa. At the time of establishment, the reserve occupied approximately 171 km of forest, dry woodland and savanna habitat on the East and West of the Lower Tana River. 16 patches of forests ranging from 10 to 625 ha. in size fall within the reserve.

**Climate:**
The climate is generally hot and dry. Average rainfall ranges between 400 and 500 mm per annum. Precipitation is concentrated in one main season, May - June. Average monthly temperatures range from 20 to 40 degrees Centigrade.

**MAJOR ATTRACTIONS**

Endemic red colobus, crested mangabey, riverine vegetation.

KAKAMEGA FOREST NATIONAL RESERVE

**Background Information**

Kakamega Forest covers an area of about 240 km² and was established to protect the only mid-altitude tropical rainforest in Kenya, a remnant and eastern limit of rainforests of Zaire and West Africa affinities are unique in Kenya and the forest contains many species found nowhere else in the country.

The forest lies in the Lake Victoria catchment, about 50km north of Kisumu and just West of the Nandi Escarpment that forms the edge of the central highlands. It was first gazetted as a trust forest in 1933 and two small Nature reserves, Yala and Isecheno were established within the forest in 1967.
In 1985, nearly 4400 ha of the northern portion of the forest together with the adjacent Kisere Forest were gazetted as Kakamega Forest National Reserve. The forest is an important water catchment area with the Isiukhu and Yala Rivers flowing through it. The terrain is undulating with often steep sided river valleys.

The Kenya Wildlife Service welcomes you to Kakamega Forest National Reserve. In our efforts to maintain and preserve wildlife diversity, the importance of preserving a fragile ecosystem like forests cannot be overstated. With their unique flora and fauna, forests are important resource reserve for genetic banks, the medicine industry, nutrient recycling and CO\textsuperscript{2} sequestation. The loss of such systems would therefore be a great loss to humanity. With this in mind we have put concerted efforts towards preservation of this unique ecosystem. It is our hope that apart from its aesthetic value, its life supporting values will be understood and highly appreciated now and in the future.

Therefore, as you walk along the trails, as you observe the unique and beautiful vegetation, as you walk along the riverside, remember you can and are contributing to the conservation of this important ecosystem. We hope that you will visit again and again for fun, leisure and educative purposes.

**Climate**

Annual rainfall is over 2000 mm. Most of this rain falls between April and November with a short dry season from December to March. Rain falls mostly in the afternoon or early evening and is often accompanied by heavy thunderstorms. Average temperatures remain similar throughout - between 15\degree C and 28\degree C.

**Features**

Kakamega Forest National Reserve is a walk through park. With its unique flora and fauna that are highly adapted to the forest ecosystem while you time away, tour guided or self guided nature walks, night walks, bird, butterfly and primate watching, camping and picnicking will keep you glued to this beautiful haven. The national reserve comprises of both Kisere and Buyangu Reserves for a total of 44.399 km\textsuperscript{2}. The Reserve is under strict protection management.

Being the only remnant in Kenya of the unique Guineo-Congolian forest ecosystem, the park offers unique wildlife and scenic beauty. The falls along the River Isiukhu and the riverine atmosphere along the Isiukhu river trail make you feel relaxed on the trail. Buyangu viewpoint gives a quick bird eye-view of the forest canopy. At the picnic site you can sit back and relax under the grass-thatched rest house while watching water birds at the waterpoint… binoculars are a must carry here.
Location
Kakamega Forest National Reserve is located in Western Kenya: 15 km from Kakamega town along the Kakamega-Eldoret Highway. Access is through the Buyangu gate, which is 600m off the main road. With public transport, visitors can alight at Kambiri junction. Local community cyclists popularly known as “boda boda” offer transport from the junction to the park. If visiting in personal transport, be on the look out for a signpost after 15 km from Kakamega town on the highway.

What to carry
Remember this is a tropical rainforest and visitors should be prepared for any sort of weather condition… but for visitors from Europe, it's not cold in any comparison. Remember also to carry guide books (mammal, bird and butterfly) - some available at the gate house, - insect repellent to keep away insects but not to hate them, a pair of binoculars and for the memories a zoom camera.

Wildlife
For bird and butterfly watchers, this is the place of choice for you. Being such a food rich reserve habitat, the park supports over 300 bird species, over 350 species of trees, 27 species of snakes… our snakes are friendly given the wet nature of the forest throughout the year... no history of snake bites since the park started 20 years ago. The forest is also home to over 400 species of butterflies (about 45% of all recorded butterflies in Kenya), reptiles, mollusks and 7 primate species.

With that sort of biodiversity you surely cannot be bored once in the forest. The endangered Turner's eremomela, Charpins flycatcher and the voice mimicking African grey parrot are also found here. The forest is also home to the endangered DeBrazza monkey found at the isolated Kisere Forest Reserve, which is part of the larger Kakamega Forest National Reserve. The majestic black and white colobus monkey alongside flying squirrels, blue monkey and potto (the world's slowest mammal on earth), are among the attractions. Forest bucks, duikers and dik diks are found in this equatorial rain forest.

Vegetation
As a result of the conservation efforts, the forest holds mostly indigenous vegetation. Here you will find the precious Elgon teak, much prized for its hard wood, the stranglers (Ficus thoningii) which grow from other trees and eventually strangle the hosts to death, and mkombero, a popular affrodiasc. Large age-old trees are in plenty and found particularly in Kisere forest as a result of early efforts in conservation.

Guides
This is a region with a rich culture and history. It is advisable to take the community tour guides based at KWS offices that have a wealth of information passed on through generations to share. The nature trails are also labeled for easy self-guiding.
LEWA RHINO SANCTUARY: A two-night visit during the Field School.

Rhinoceros conservation is the core of the conservation program, especially the black rhinos...

Grevy's Zebra
A critical species for global conservation, which is abundant on Lewa. Its numbers have greatly declined in unprotected areas, and it is now globally threatened...

The Sitatunga
spectacular aquatic antelope - are extremely rare in Kenya, and in order to safeguard their future, some animals were translocated from the only site where they were known to occur to the swamp at Lewa...

Lewa Predators
These include cheetah, lions, leopard, hyena, and rare visits by wild dogs...

Capture and Translocations
Lewa is rich in wildlife with densities as high as anywhere in Africa. As a result Lewa often participates in the translocation of animals to neighboring conservation areas and National Parks...

Rescue and Treatment
Lewa is very often called upon to help and support the various dealings with the emergencies of wildlife because if its expertise and experience...
THE FIELD SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Professor Jack Harris is a professor of Anthropology at Rutgers University. He has over thirty years experience conducting field research in Kenya. As one of the foremost paleo-anthropologist in the world (and as the director of the Koobi Fora Field School) Dr. Harris brings a unique perspective to the field school. Dr. Harris is the author of numerous monographs and articles in the field of human origins and has been featured on several television documentaries.

Dr. Leah Domb is Science Master at The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey. She holds a Ph.D. in biological anthropology from Harvard University, where her academic studies focused on the behavioral biology of wild primates. She carried out the research component of her Ph.D. thesis on olive baboons at Gombe Stream National Park in Tanzania, and the results of her research were published in the leading scientific journal Nature. She conducted additional studies on rhesus macaques, chimpanzees and bonobos, and she has been a scientific advisor on location for wildlife documentary film crews working with lowland gorillas, baboons, lions, cheetahs and wildebeests. She has won teaching awards at Harvard University and The Lawrenceville School, and currently takes a group of students each spring to Serengeti National Park in Tanzania to investigate wildlife behavior, ecology and conservation.

Dr. Mbaruk A. Suleman is the Principal Research Scientist of the division of Ecology Conservation and Diseases at the Institute of Primate Research, National Museums of Kenya. Dr. Suleman currently conducts research in the Samburu District, Tana River Preserve and other areas in Kenya. He has done field work studying vervets, African green monkeys, Sykes monkeys, baboons, mangabeys, colobus monkeys and the nearly extinct De Brazza’s monkeys. His work involves the protection and charting of endangered primates and other keystone mammal species in Kenya. The role of community conservation and human-wildlife interactions are important areas of consideration for Dr. Suleman’s work. In addition to his doctoral work at Uppsala University, Dr. Suleman has a Bachelors’ degree in Veterinary Medicine.