

## SUMMER PROGRAM IN SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT-SENEGAL



[www.erevi.org](http://www.erevi.org)

The UCLA African Studies Center and the Institute of the Environment are offering a new eight-week research and training program in sustainable community development beginning in summer 2010 in Senegal, West Africa. The program will build on existing projects developed by the Earth Rights Eco-Village Institute (EREVI) based in Dakar, with affiliates around the world. Students will commit to a rigorous program combining academic coursework and language training with fieldwork in selected Senegalese eco-villages. Open to students working in IDS, African Studies, Environmental Science, Global Studies, Public Policy, Public Health, or others in the social and human sciences committed to a greener and more equitable future.

The program offers 12 course credit options, including two core courses in Environmental Studies and African Studies (five credits each) and two language courses (one required, the second optional) in Wolof and French (2 credits each).

- *Seminar in Sustainable Community Development*: The course involves theoretical and practical instruction in the classroom, covering social science research methods, themes in cultural ecology, critical approaches to development discourse, participatory rapid assessment, principles of eco-village design, as well as an introduction to Senegalese history and cultures. Weeks 1-4.
- *Action Research in Sustainable Community Development*: The course shifts from the classroom to the field, where students have an opportunity to implement a tangible project with Senegalese student partners, local experts, and villagers in targeted eco-villages on the coast or up-country. Topics covered include sustainable technologies in alternative energy, cultural production and resource management, reforestation, permaculture, microcredit, community health, ecotourism, and more. Particular emphasis is placed on integrating indigenous knowledge practices with eco-design. Weeks 5-8
- Wolof and/or French Language Study. Weeks 1-4.

Since the program is new, curricular specifics are still being developed, and are therefore subject to modification.

For further information contact UCLA Summer Abroad Program for Senegal