



KIIS Zanzibar, Winter 2024-2025

ENV 475 Topics: Occupational Health and Safety in Africa

Instructor: Dr. Edrisa Sanyang

Email: edrisa.sanyang@wku.edu

Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description:

This course will use occupational exposures in different work settings to introduce students to systematic methods of promoting safety and prevent injuries and other occupational related conditions associated to work environments in Africa. It will also highlight available regional (low- middle-income countries) and developed countries (USA) safety policies associated with common occupations. The course will cover applications on hazard identifications and procedures to identify risks at workplace. Hazards in workplace such as gas and vapor, noise, thermal, radiation are discussed. The instructor will utilize an integrative approach to examine current issues in global public health while introducing occupational safety and health policies.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

- Formulate basic knowledge in the identification and assessment of health and safety hazards in the workplace in poor resource setting.
- Identify a conceptual framework for the practice of occupational safety and health in Africa.
- Apply health promotion, prevention, and protection concepts to occupational health and safety in Africa.
- Describe the roles of occupational health and safety professionals in the field.

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

Concepts to be surveyed will include hazards in the workplace, hazard and safety analysis, hierarchy of controls, injury prevention, industrial hygiene, common occupational safety and health regulations, workplace health promotion, and occupational safety and health management.

5. Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: N/A

6. Required Readings and Materials:

There are no required materials for this course. All readings will be provided by the instructor.

7. Graded Assignments:

a) Application Activity (10 points)

There will one application activity for course. You will be asked to apply information from the lecture and online content to address a real occupational safety and health issue in Africa.

b) Group Discussions (15 Points; 5 points each):

There will be (3) group discussions throughout course. Students will be asked to work as a team on a contemporal occupational safety and health issue in Africa and present their thoughts to the rest of the team.

c) Ergonomics Assessment (20 Points):

For this assignment, you will observe videos (to be provided by the instructor). You will then complete an ergonomics assessment, and provide strategies for prevention of safety and health issues.

d) Occupational Disease Fact Sheet (15 points):

For this assignment, you should select an occupational health disease. With the disease in mind, you will do readings on the disease, and then develop a fact sheet with strategies for prevention.

e) Hazards Analysis (40 Points):

This will be the field work where students will visit a typical worksite and conduct job hazard analysis. The students will work in groups to conduct the JHA and present their findings to the a larger group. A more comprehensive description on what to go about the JHA will be provided.

Grading Policy

Your overall grade will be determined by the final grade in this course by using a weighted average as follows:

Assignment	Percent
Application Activities (1 Activity at 10 points)	10%
Group Discussion (3 Discussions at 5 points each)	15%
Ergonomic Assessment (1 at 20 points)	20%
Occupational Disease Fact Sheet (1 at 15 points)	15%
Hazard Analysis (1 at 40 points)	40%
Total	100%

8. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

9. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

10. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment, and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Ena Demir (270-745-6867 / ena.demir@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigator, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment, and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/titleix/titleixbrochure2020.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.