Why study in Botswana?

• The ACM program is centered at the University of Botswana in Gaborone, the nation’s capital, largest city, and center of its economic and political life. Gaborone prides itself on being one of the fastest-growing cities in Africa.

• Botswana has emerged as one of the most dynamic economies in Africa. Its government is known for long-range planning, progressive social policies, and significant investment in education.

• Extensive nature preserves in Botswana attract world attention, and the country is becoming a favored ecotourist destination.

• Botswana must deal with many of the social problems confronting African countries, such as rural-to-urban migration, poverty, and high rates of HIV/AIDS infection. However, the government has developed substantial programs for confronting and managing these and other issues.

• Botswana provides both a healthy antidote to the negative characterizations of Africa often found in Western media and a rich array of possible solutions to crises facing developing nations.

Field trips are an integral part of the program, and have included a visit to a village (right) and a mokoro (dugout canoe) trip in the Okavango Delta.

Cover: Embarking on a safari in the Central Kalahari Game Preserve, the largest national park in Africa. (Photo courtesy of Audrey Herring)
The continent of Africa, three times the size of the continental U.S., is diverse culturally, linguistically, and politically. Its people and nations grapple with the challenges of economic development, nation-building, and globalization.

Botswana, located in southern Africa, is in many ways illustrative of this diversity, and of successful approaches to the continent’s challenges. That makes Botswana an excellent site for studying Africa-related subjects and broader topics related to developing countries.

On the ACM Botswana: University Immersion in Southern Africa program, students take classes and participate in campus life alongside local students at the University of Botswana.

An independent study project, opportunities for service learning, and a variety of field trips complete the learning experience.

For more details, go to acm.edu/botswana

Host institution  The University of Botswana (UB) in Gaborone is one of the most modern universities in Africa, with excellent facilities. The University attracts outstanding faculty members from throughout Africa.

Dates  Spring semester (early January - mid-May)

Courses and credits  Recommended credit is 16 semester credits (4 credits for each component listed below) or the equivalent.

- Setswana  Study of the fundamentals of the national language of Botswana. Taught by local instructors.
- Elective Course  Students select a course offered by the University of Botswana. Taught by local instructors.
- Program Director’s Course  An African-themed course which varies each year. Taught by the Program Director.
- Independent Study Project  A project in the student’s area of interest. Supervised by the Program Director. See acm.edu/botswana for a list of projects by past participants.

Program Director  A faculty member from an ACM college typically serves as the Program Director, teaching a course and supervising independent study projects.

Field trips  Field trips, both local and to other parts of Botswana, are an integral part of the academic program.

Enrollment  Maximum of 25 students

Eligibility  Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are eligible.

Language requirement  No prerequisites. Except for the required Setswana course, all classes are conducted in English.

Living arrangements  Students live in UB dormitories.

Costs  For information about program costs and an expense budget, go to acm.edu/botswana. Students also should check with their Off-Campus Study or Financial Aid Office for information about their college’s pricing policies for off-campus study.

How to apply  • Access the ACM application at acm.edu/apply.
• Students should check with their Off-Campus Study Office about their college’s application procedures and deadlines.
• ACM must receive completed applications by October 15. Early application deadline: March 15.