



# ANTARCTICA

6 credits, cost and dates for Dec./Jan. 2010 TBA  
Offered by the College of Natural Resources, Virginia Tech

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit the coldest, windiest, driest, highest, quietest, most remote, and least understood continent on Earth. This 6-credit experiential program explores contemporary issues in Antarctica and the adjacent sub-Antarctic region, including Tierra del Fuego and the Southern Ocean. Students attend weekly lectures during the fall semester (available anywhere via webcast), prepare a research essay in their area of primary interest, and then participate in a 2-week field study in Antarctica and Tierra del Fuego during winter break. The webcast course can also be taken without the field course in Antarctica for 3 credits (4 quarter hours).

## OBJECTIVES

By the end of the program students will:

- Develop, through lectures and assigned readings, an holistic, inter-disciplinary understanding of the physical and social history and current issues in the Antarctic region, including their inter-relationships;
- Develop specialized understanding, through independent research, of the issues in one specific area of Antarctic enquiry related to their major (e.g., history of science/exploration, environmental ethics, geology and global climate change, marine bird or southern forest conservation, etc.);
- Through field-based studies, students will develop a nuanced understanding of issues in exploration, exploitation, conservation, and sustainable use of the Antarctic region.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Few people have had the chance to visit the remote and beautiful White Continent. For those of you seeking an adventure - this is your ultimate chance.
- Witness huge glaciers rolling into the sea, vast penguin colonies, whales, seals, orcas, icebergs, and more.
- Our expedition ship has a fleet of Zodiac landing crafts, which allow us to take daily excursions ashore onto the continent for spectacular scenery and close encounters with wildlife.
- Experience 24 hours of daylight - take stunning photos at midnight and spot wildlife at all hours of day and night!

For more information on this and other study abroad courses  
offered by the College of Natural Resource visit:

[http://www.cnr.vt.edu/cnr\\_webpages/study\\_abroad.htm](http://www.cnr.vt.edu/cnr_webpages/study_abroad.htm)

and for applications, please go to:

[www.educationabroad.vt.edu](http://www.educationabroad.vt.edu)