

**Sustainable Tourism Course  
Trinidad and Tobago Travel Course**

**INSTRUCTOR**

**Dr. Shirley Thompson**

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Office hours: 10:00 -6:00 Tuesday to Friday

**A. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

While the overall purpose of the seminar is to provide an opportunity for students to learn about Trinidad and Tobago's natural resources and environment, specific objectives of the Field Seminar include:

- To explore sustainable tourism in the context of Trinidad and Tobago.
- To consider community development in the post-colonial and sustainability era
- To introduce the concept that people are an important element in the resource and environmental management process;
- to promote initiative and creative thinking;
- to enhance skills in working as part of a team;
- to have fun!!!
- to build group and personal bonds.

## **B. FIELD SEMINAR**

Participants should bring clothing appropriate for the extreme heat typical in Trinidad and Tobago at this time of year. Shorts and sunscreen, rain gear (umbrella), and swim suits are advised. Additional items include good hiking boots or shoes, **mosquito repellent**, a bedroll, sleeping bag, towels etc. and t. Personal medications, such as aspirin, Imodium, and Gravol should be considered in the event that colds or stomach flues and headaches spread through the participants in the Field Seminar. Daily vitamin supplements such as Vitamin C are thought by some to make a difference. A personal cup and utensils are useful additions. For the listening enjoyment of yourself and your neighbours, all music on the bus must be enjoyed through your own personal Walkman equipped with headphones. ***At all times interpersonal relations will be guided by common sense and respect for the needs of others.***

## **C. COURSE CREDIT**

Evaluation will be based on readings, seminar participation, a written journal, and a term paper. Additional details are provided on the term assignment handout that will be provided at the orientation.

Trinidad's continental origin and proximity to South America, combined with its multiplicity of habitats, have resulted in an unusually diverse mixture of island and mainland flora and fauna that naturalists and nature lovers have long enjoyed. Trinidad's species lists are impressive: 108 mammals, 430 birds, 55 reptiles, 25 amphibians, 620 butterflies and 2300 flowering plants, all on an area of 4,828 sq km (1864 miles). No other area in the West Indies, and very few areas in Tropical America can match this species diversity. Tobago's rain forest was selected as the Number one eco-tourist destination in 2003.

Tourism Contacts: Mrs. Satie Jamraj-Marimuthu  
Senior Research Officer  
Ministry of Tourism  
51-55 Frederick Street,  
Port of Spain  
Trinidad and Tobago, WI.  
Tel: 1-868-624-1403 ext. 248  
Fax: 1-868-624-5822  
E-mail: [jamrajs@tourism.gov.tt](mailto:jamrajs@tourism.gov.tt)

***Trinidad and Tobago Field Seminar***

Samedi Ramastan  
624-1403 x 249 or 219

Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Tourism  
Attention: Ms. Christine Sookram  
51-55 Fredrick Street  
Port-of-Spain  
Trinidad and Tobago  
W.I.

### Itinerary

Day 1/ Arrive from Canada  
Guided Tour of Asa Wright centre

Evening Speaker – Asa Wright Centre  
Stay one night – Asa Wright Centre – provides all meals  
Rates include accommodation, all meals, tea served at 4:00 p.m., rum punch at sunset.  
Guests are accommodated in lodge at wildlife sanctuary at 1200 feet in twin-bedded rooms, each with a private balcony and bathroom with hot/cold shower. In main estate house or nearby cottages surrounded by tropical vegetation to see manakin leks, Toucans, Bellbirds, Trogons, Motmots, Hummingbirds, Tanagers, Honeycreepers, woodpeckers, antshirkes and many more species from the verandah of the main house..

Day 2. Caroni Swamp tour (4:00 p.m.) –  
Pass through a maze of waterways in a mangrove swamp considered to be the best in the Western Hem afternoon/Evening – pond to see Scarlet Ibises tours  
Nanan's Caroni Swamp Bird Sanctuary Tour Operators ([nantour@tstt.net.tt](mailto:nantour@tstt.net.tt)) Phone/fax: 868-645-1305 - All boats are equipped with life vests and in business for 60 years.  
Or Asa Wright Centre does tours

Day 3 Chagaramas (van required) (will Asa Wright Centre pack a lunch?)  
Chaguaramas National Park is the closest the Caribbean gets to South America: a diverse and mountainous peninsula home to the red howler monkey, capuchin monkey, wild hogs, silky anteater, caiman, giant iguanas and the elusive ocelot.  
Tours start at the Chaguaramas Hotel and Convention Centre – 2 hours: bus rides and short walks. Beverages and small snacks provided == 10 to 30 people.

CTE-1101 - CRESTT lands exploration – bus drive up Cano Ventura Road to the CRESTT land trail. The hike is short along the banks of a stream surrounded by Cano Ventura Road to Morne Catherine's peak (539 metres), the highest in the park. Spectacular views of Morne Catherine and Tucker Valley, the Omega Ridge, the Gulf of Paria and the North Coast. Also excellent birding opportunities in breathtaking

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surrounding of secondary montane rainforest: bay-headed and turquoise tanagers, squirrel cuckoo, blue dacnis, etc.

Afternoon – CTE 2101 –  
Chacachacare Lighthouse  
3 hours: boat ride and walk.  
Intensity : moderate – Group size 10-20 persons  
Beverages and snacks provided

Landing by boat at Perruquier Bay, the walk to the lighthouse takes you to the highest point on the island, 818 metres, Built in 1896, the lighthouse, which is still working, affords wonderful views, especially of Venezuela.  
P.o. box 3162, Carenage, Trinidad and Tobago, W.I.  
Tel: 868-634-4312/4364/4349 Fax: 634-4311  
Contact: Mervin Alleyne, Tour Guide and Chaguaramas Development Authority manager  
Other possible contact: Dr. Dawn Phillip  
Natural Sciences Dept.  
University of West Indies  
645-3232/9  
Chemistry Dept. ext. 2091

Fondes Amandes Community Re-Forestation Project community based initiative focused largely on environmental issues, but also on social issues interconnected with environmental degradation. The underlying objective of the project is the development of the community and the upliftment of its residents through environmentally enhancing activity.

St. Ann's Port of Spain  
Akilah Jaramogi, Project Manager  
623-9163 (tel)  
[akilahj@excite.com](mailto:akilahj@excite.com)

Day 4 : Ferry to Tobago  
Visit Fort George by night

Arrive at Bucco Trust.

Day 5: Visit Little Tobago from Speyside – take glass bottom boat over.  
- talk to fisherman.

Speyside Tours – Frank Woodworth 10:a.m. and 2:00 p.m.  
\$20 US /person  
2.5 to 3 hours  
Reef tours/ Little Tobago – 660-5438  
766-0093

Dinner on own.

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Day 6: Bucco community. Economic Development Plan – meet with community.

Day 7 and 8/ Kariwak//Hilton/ and Bonne Accord lagoon and subdivision to see wildlife

- Speaker from Kariwak
  - Speaker from Hilton about swamp walkway
- Beaches in this area. (Swallows, Pigeon Point, and Store Bay)  
Visit fishing places – go out with fisherman

Day 9 and 10- Forest Management Reserve and travel through countryside.—Stay at Ecofootprints

The Main Ridge Forest Reserve- - oldest of its kind in western hemisphere, declared in an Act of Parliament on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1776.

Maintained by Forestry Section of the Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Marine Affairs.

Assistant Conservator of Forests 639-4468

Technical Officer Agriculture, Forestry and Marine Affairs Division, Botanic Station, Tobago (639-2234).

Day 11 Sustainable livelihoods /Visit farmer's market in Scarborough –Go visit cattle/goat and help keep them.

Day to choose activities

- sailing (organized with Marcus)
- diving ( Turtle dive)
- beach (you)

Lunch at the hotel near Pigeon Point for Flying Fish.

Lunch at Kariwak

Lunch at Treehouse.

Dinner at Bucco

Cultural events: Steel pan at Golden Star, Bucco Sunday School

Day 12: Ferry back to Port of Spain. Tour of Port of Spain (savannah) or other and leave for Canada.