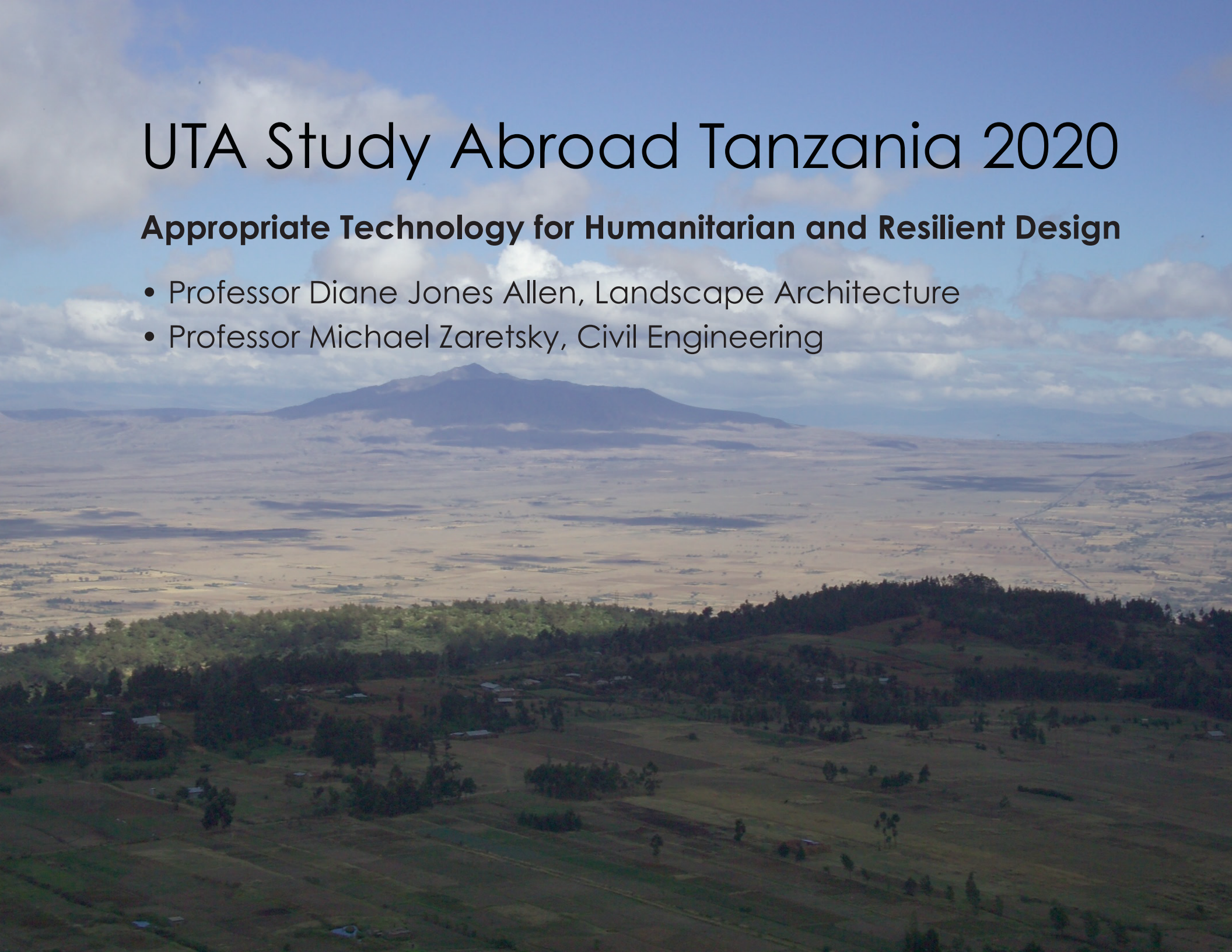


# UTA Study Abroad Tanzania 2020

## **Appropriate Technology for Humanitarian and Resilient Design**

- Professor Diane Jones Allen, Landscape Architecture
- Professor Michael Zaretsky, Civil Engineering







# VILLAGE LIFE

## Outreach Project





# VLOP

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



Founded in 2004, Village Life Outreach Project, Inc. is an official 501 (c)3 non-profit organization based out of Cincinnati, Ohio whose mission is to:

**Unite communities to promote Life, Health and Education.**

Most of Village Life's work focuses on three remote and impoverished villages in the Rorya district of Tanzania, East Africa: Roche, Burere and Nyambogo, all located near Lake Victoria.

## VILLAGE LIFE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Partnership
- Sustainability
- Collaboration
- Long Term Commitment to Communities

***"Village leaders identify their own needs," Dr. Chris Lewis, VLOP Founder, explains. "Then we strategize with them on how to solve those problems together. This buy-in solidifies the idea that they are going to do their part. It's a 'hand up rather than a hand out'."***



HEALTH: VLOP Founder, Dr. Chris Lewis, examining a child at a mobile field clinic



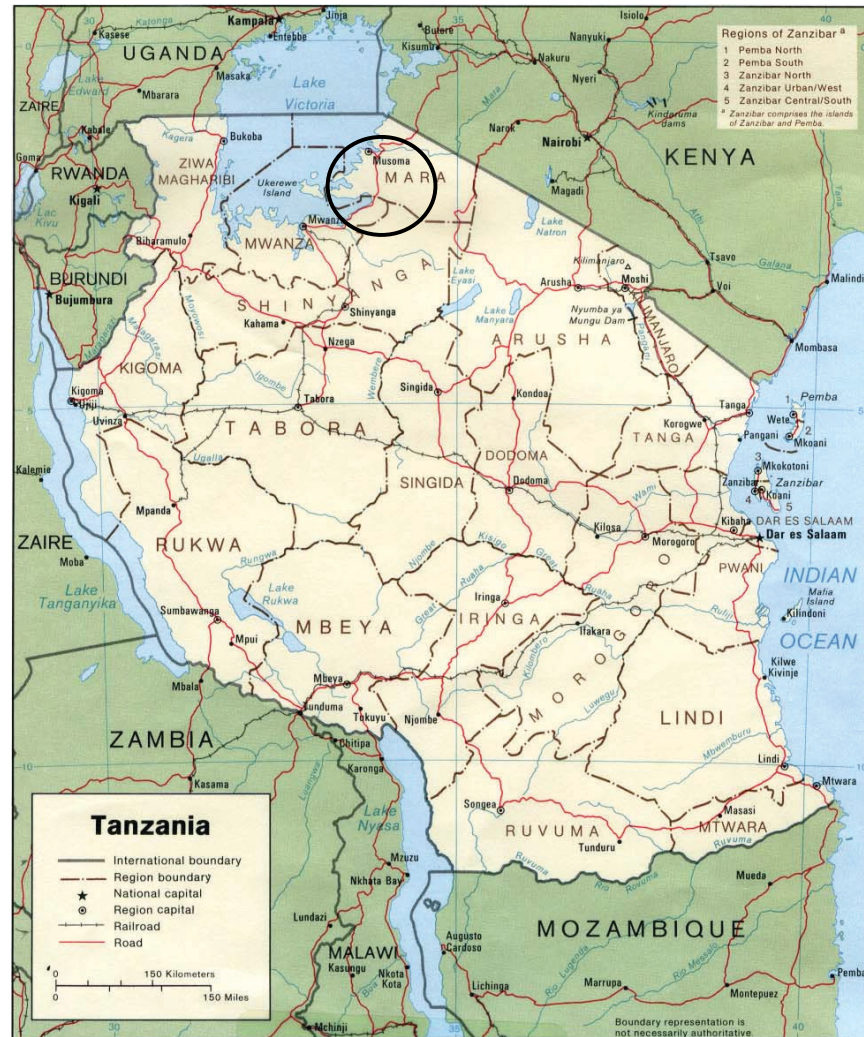
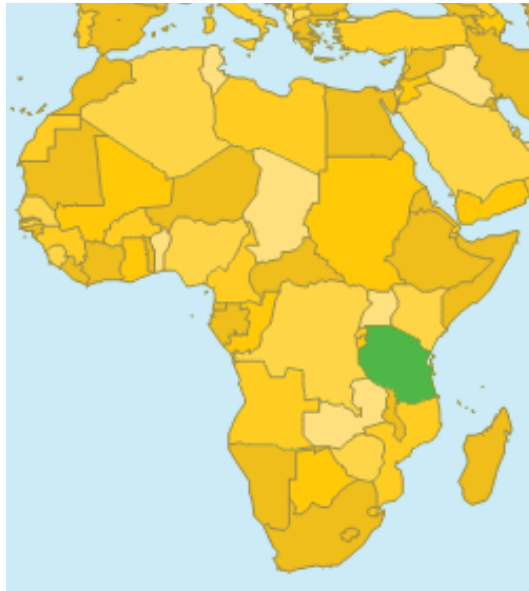
EDUCATION: Roche students enjoying Uji porridge provided by VLOP's Nutrition Project



LIFE: Village Water Committee members learning how to build water filters

# Rorya District of Tanzania, East Africa

working with communities in rural Tanzania





# VLOP communities

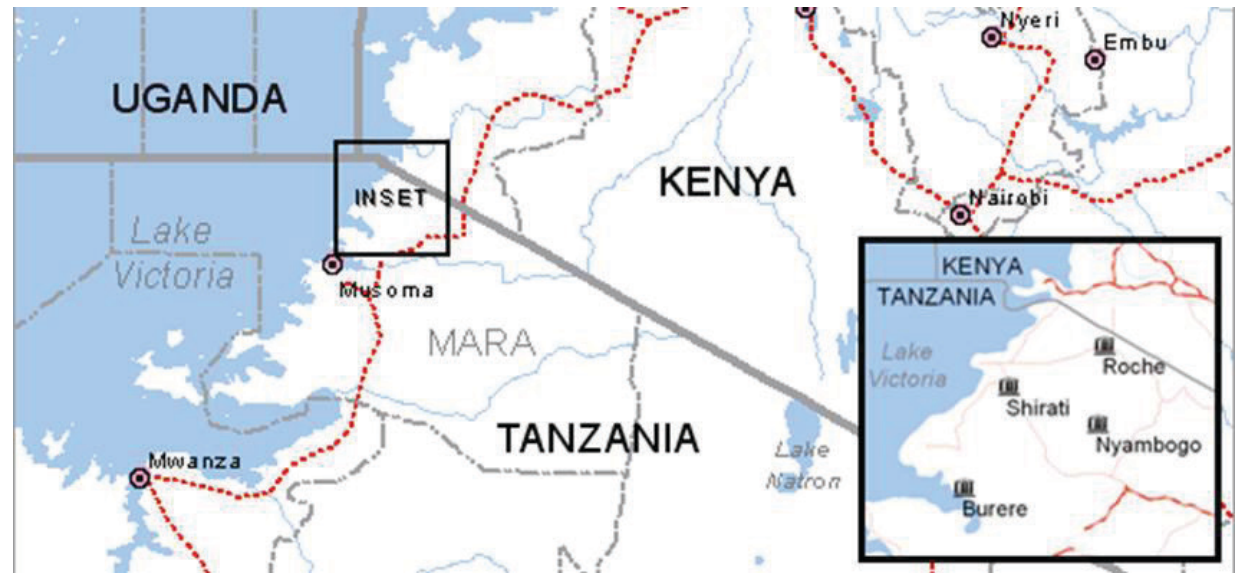
Our partners in Tanzania, the Shirati Health, Education and Development (SHED) Foundation are based in **Shirati**, which is where we are based while in Tanzania.

We do outreach in 3 villages:

**Burere**

**Nyambogo**

**Roche**





# UTA Study Abroad Tanzania 2019

May - June 2020

Professors Allen & Zaretsky

STUDY ABROAD TANZANIA







*Angeles Margarida-Landscape Architecture Master Student*

*"I want to go on this trip because I want to learn about the culture & the people of Kenya & Tanzania & hope that this journey will influence my upcoming thesis for the Landscape Architecture Masters Program."*

*"Having gone to Kenya & Tanzania with UTA has forever changed me as a person & designer. I was able to experience new things every day, like food, people, music, nature, laughter & friendships. It's hard to put into words how much I loved this trip, but all I can say is I can't wait to go back."*





*Jodwin Surio - Landscape Architecture Master Student*

*"I want to go on this trip to act as a facilitator for the community and bring out their greatness through good design."*

*"I thought we were there to design a landscape to meet their needs but after spending time with the community, I learned that they also had wants. I've come to realize that everyone deserves good design, regardless of who they are."*





*Valerie Ramirez - Architecture Engineering UnderGrad Student*

*"I want to go on this trip because as a second year undergrad student in the Architectural engineering program, I want to learn new things on how architecture and engineering affects a different culture other than the one I know in the DFW area."*

*"This trip went beyond my expectations because I was able to do a lot within the various fields of knowledge- working with the EWB on water pumps, assessing building structures with the architecture students, and communicating with the village committees on water resources. It gained me a new perspective on my degree as a future architectural engineer."*





*Tajiri Fernandez - Architecture Master Student*

*"I want to go on this trip because it is an opportunity to learn and experience ways to use my design education to make an impact in East Africa. Having grown up in Kenya, I have often wondered how I can give back to the culture that raised me. I believe that this trip will provide me with the chance to do just that as well as some insight into how I could do so in the future."*

*"I got so much out of this trip, it's hard to quantify. Just the overall experience and relationships I gained made it all worthwhile. I got to engage with my roots in a new way that I have not before and although I did not have a life changing epiphany about what I want to do in life, I have been exposed to numerous possibilities I had never known! This trip has not only informed my professional trajectory but also the way I intend to live my life day to day."*



# Study Abroad Tanzania courses

## Appropriate Technology for Humanitarian and Resilient Design

- LARC 5685: Design for Resiliency
- AREN 4300: Humanitarian Design & Appropriate Technology
- meeting May through mid-June
- Tentative travel to East Africa (Kenya and Tanzania)  
May 30 - June 13



# Study Abroad Tanzania schedule

## Course Schedule

- 6 - week course
- 2 weeks in East Africa
- Meet 2-3x per week May 12 - May 29
- Travel May 30 - June 13
- Final classes June 15-19
- Gallery exhibit mid-late June



# Study Abroad Tanzania

## Proposed Travel Schedule 2020

- **May 30** depart DFW
- **May 31** arrive Nairobi, Kenya
- **June 1** drive to Shirati, Tanzania
- **June 2-9** on-site projects in TZ villages
- **June 10-11** safari, return to Nairobi
- **June 11-12** Nairobi
- **June 13** return to DFW



# Study Abroad Tanzania course 1

## **Landscape Architecture 5685: Studio VI: Design for Resiliency**

- 6-credit course for Landscape Architecture students
- This course will emphasize design principals that are aligned with issues of environmental justice and sustainable approaches to rebuilding place. This course will present theory and technique for understanding the landscape, ecology, history, and people of a place/community that is essential to the design process, especially when one lacks a strong connection. This course will present a process for in-depth inventory and analysis which also includes minding the indigenous.

selected READINGS from:

- David De La Pena, et al, 2017; *Design for Democracy: Techniques for Collective Creativity*, Washington, DC: Island Press
- *Public Interest Design Education Guidebook* edited by Lisa Abendroth and Bryan Bell



# Study Abroad Tanzania course 1

## **Landscape Architecture 5685: Studio VI: Design for Resiliency**

### Student Learning Outcomes:

- To learn an inventory and analysis process especially geared for unfamiliar places.
- To learn how to determine and develop community shared ecological and preservation values.
- To learn how strengthen the coalitions based on environmentally sound development values.
- To learn how to advance environmentally sound principles by undertaking trans-active community engagement.

### Projects:

- Research on environment, landscape and culture of Tanzania
- Landscape studio project based on Roche Health Center site
- Community Engagement project with Roche village
- Design/ build Roche Health clinic garden
- Final presentation and gallery exhibit

# Study Abroad Tanzania course 2

## **AREN 4300/5300: Humanitarian Design & Appropriate Technology**

- 3-credit course for Architectural Engineering, CAPPa and CoE students
- additional 3 credit independent study available
- This course will introduce students to principles of humanitarianism, international aid and development, and post-colonial theory as well as culturally-specific considerations that impact design, construction and technology within a given community.

selected READINGS from:

- Moyo, Dambisa Moyo and Niall Ferguson; *Dead Aid: Why Aid Is Not Working and How There Is a Better Way for Africa*
- Easterly, William; *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good*, Penguin, 2007.
- Rapoport, Amos; "Development Culture Change and Supportive Design"
- and many others



# Study Abroad Tanzania course 2

## **AREN 4300/5300: Humanitarian Design & Appropriate Technology**

### Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students completing this course will be introduced to principles of humanitarianism, international aid post-colonial theory
- Students completing this course will be introduced to the role of design and engineering in humanitarianism and international aid
- Students completing this course will be introduced to concepts of appropriate technology.
- Students completing this course will be introduced to the relationship between culture, environment and technology.

### Projects:

- Research on indigenous construction techniques and materials
- Research and evaluation of modern construction techniques in rural Tanzania
- design of maternal health ward for Roche Health Center
- Final presentation and gallery exhibit

# VLOP Projects

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

OUR STORY

OUR TEAM

OUR WORK

GET INVOLVED



# JAMBO!

/jahm•boh/ swahili for "hello"

---

Village Life Outreach Project is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Cincinnati, Ohio whose mission is to unite communities to promote Life, Health and Education.

We work in partnership with three remote villages in the Rorya district of Tanzania, East Africa to design and implement projects to fight poverty and improve lives while bringing important lessons of love, humanity, and community to our own friends and neighbors.



# VLOP Committees

## LIFE COMMITTEE

The Life Committee leads efforts to improve water quality and quantity in our partner villages. Primarily made up of U.S. engineers, engineering students, and villagers eager to tackle the most pressing issue in their communities, the committee has grown to include educators and public health students.

Members of this committee have interest/background in:



ENGINEERING



ARCHITECTURE



BUILDING



BUSINESS



GEOGRAPHY

## MAJOR GOALS

- Establish solutions to water quality and quantity issues and sanitation challenges
- Conduct critical research for determining the most appropriate technologies to provide clean, drinkable water as well as a future sanitation system.
- Support the establishment of small businesses to stimulate local economic growth

[SEE PROJECTS](#)



# VLOP Committees

## HEALTH COMMITTEE

Comprised of Tanzanians working alongside students, faculty, and professionals from the fields of medicine, nursing, pharmacy, allied health, and public health, the Health Committee provides the foundation for Village Life's efforts to improve acute and preventive healthcare.

Members of this committee have interest/background in:



MEDICINE



NURSING



PHARMACY



DENTISTRY



NUTRITION

## MAJOR GOALS

- Develop educational and prevention programs on malaria, schistosomiasis, and the importance of preparing and drinking clean water
- Acquire access to free and/or minimally expensive medications for common health problems
- Improve access to care for all, especially maternal and child medicine

[SEE PROJECTS](#)

# VLOP Committees

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Education Committee is straightforward and imperative: improve educational outcomes, spread knowledge, and increase global awareness. Participants in Cincinnati and Tanzania are committed to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to learn.

Members of this committee have interest/background in:



EDUCATION



NUTRITION



SERVICE LEARNING



COMMUNITY  
SERVICE

## MAJOR GOALS

- Improve access to educational resources (textbooks, paper, writing utensils, etc.)
- Promote professional development of village teachers
- Expand our Nutrition Project, which feeds 2,000 number of kids each schoolday.
- Collaborate with many Cincinnati area schools to facilitate cross-cultural competency through art exchange projects and other projects focused on finding common ground for students in Cincinnati and Tanzania.



# VLOP Committees

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

Villagers identified the need for a healthcare facility to provide permanent healthcare to villagers and attract highly qualified healthcare professionals to the area.

<http://rochehealthcenter.weebly.com/>

Members of this committee have interest/background in:



**BUILDING**



**ARCHITECTURE**



**DESIGN**



**MEDICINE  
NURSING**



**PHARMACY**

## MAJOR GOALS

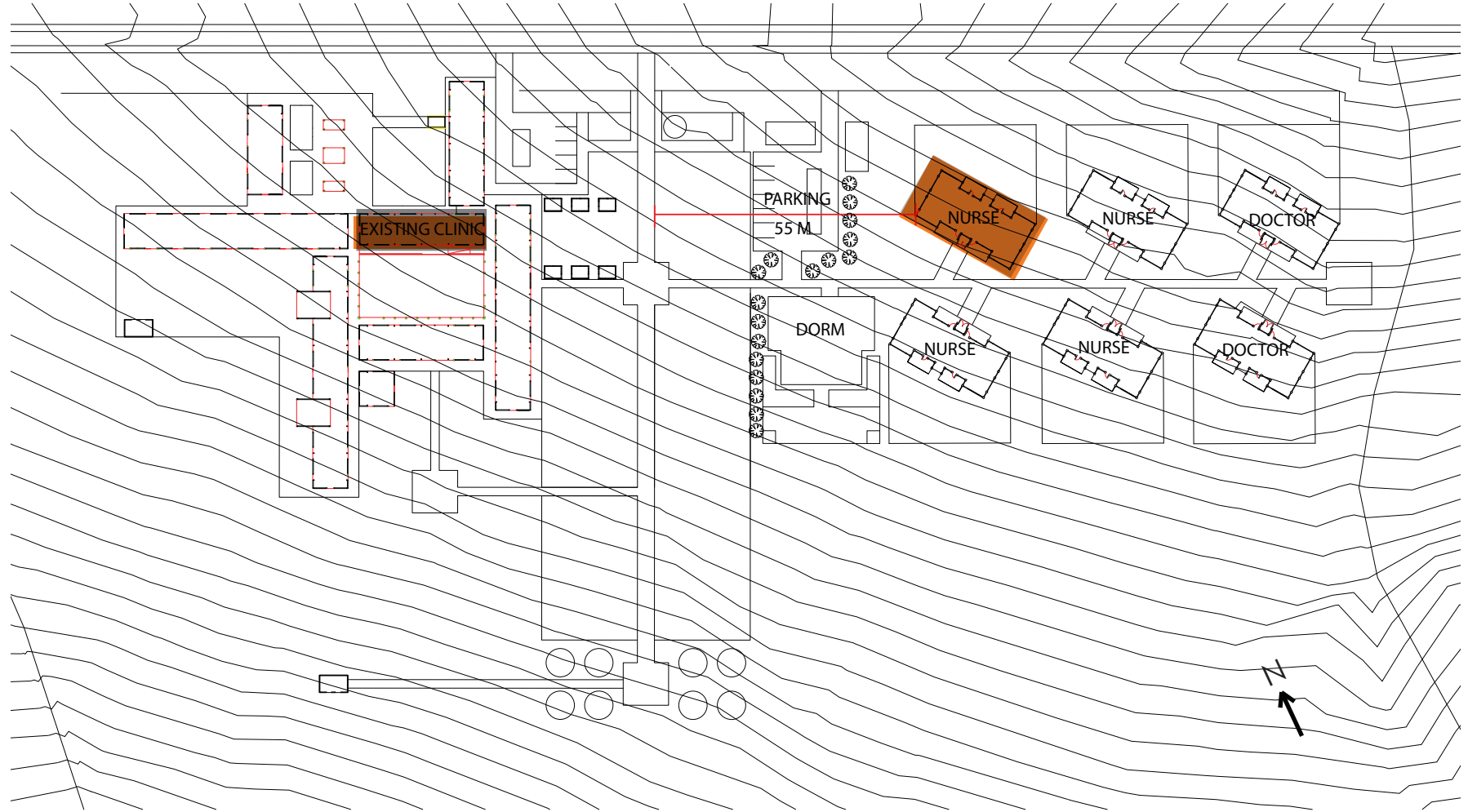
- Roche Health Center provides more than 20,000 villagers with their first ever access to permanent healthcare
- The center is able to provide labor and delivery services
- Working in collaboration with SHED and the Tanzanian government, thousands of local children have been vaccinated, protecting them against illnesses that kill millions of children across sub-Saharan Africa
- In 2014, we received an extremely generous grant of \$1,050,000 from UC Health to expand our efforts at Roche and have used this donation to boost clinic operation and services
- Sustainably-built staff housing allows Village Life to attract highly qualified Tanzanian healthcare professionals to our facility
- The research at Roche Health Center produced a safer, more durable form of construction for the Roche community.

# Roche Health Center site

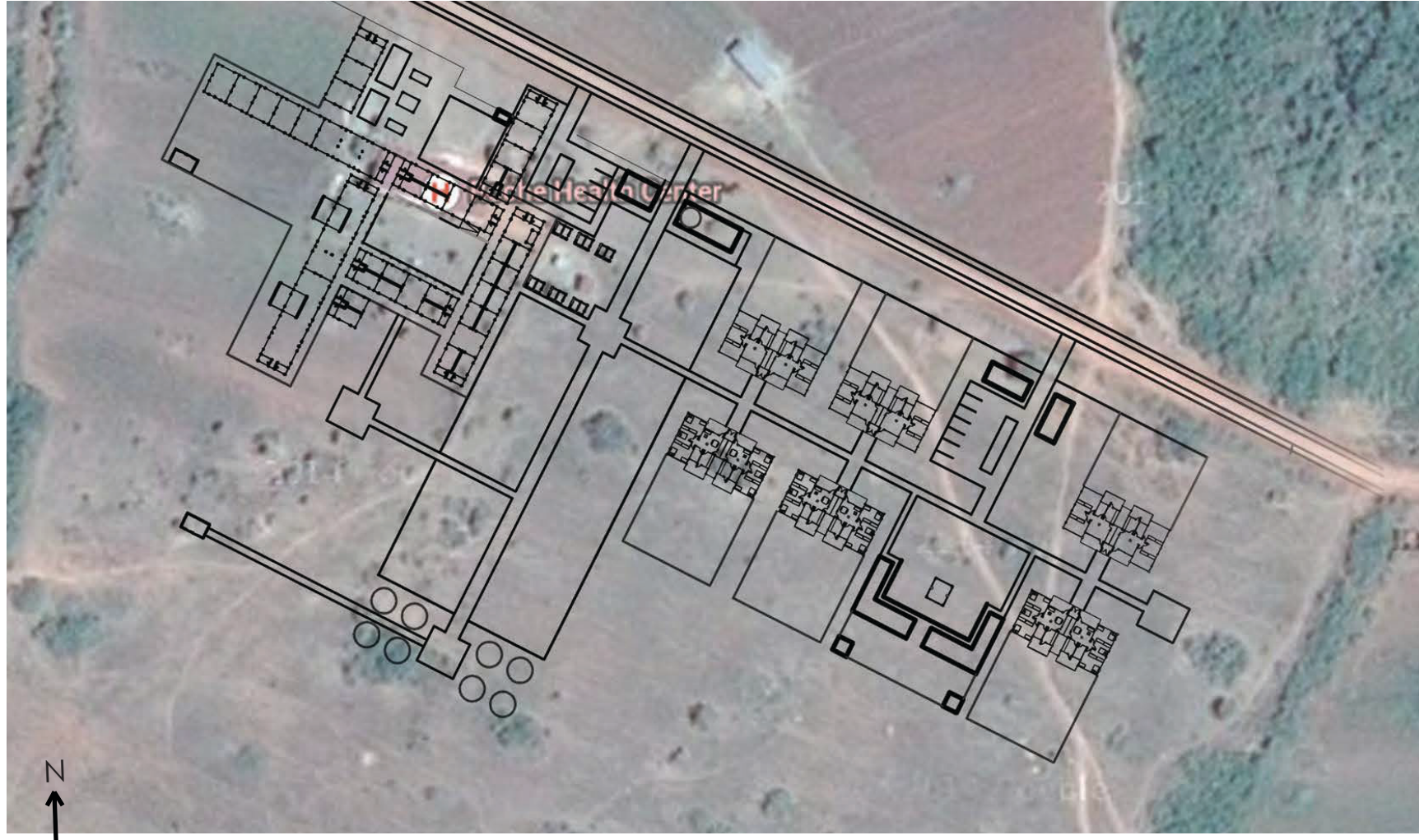




# Roche Health Center site



# Roche Health Center site





# Roche Health Center

[www.rochehealthcenter.blogspot.com](http://www.rochehealthcenter.blogspot.com)



# staff housing



spring 2016



## Roche Health Center

Write a description for your map.

Roche Health Center

Google Earth

© 2018 Google  
Image © 2019 CNES / Airbus





# landscape project 2019





# landscape project 2019





# landscape project 2019





# building assessment 2019





# building assessment 2019





# Massai Mara Safari



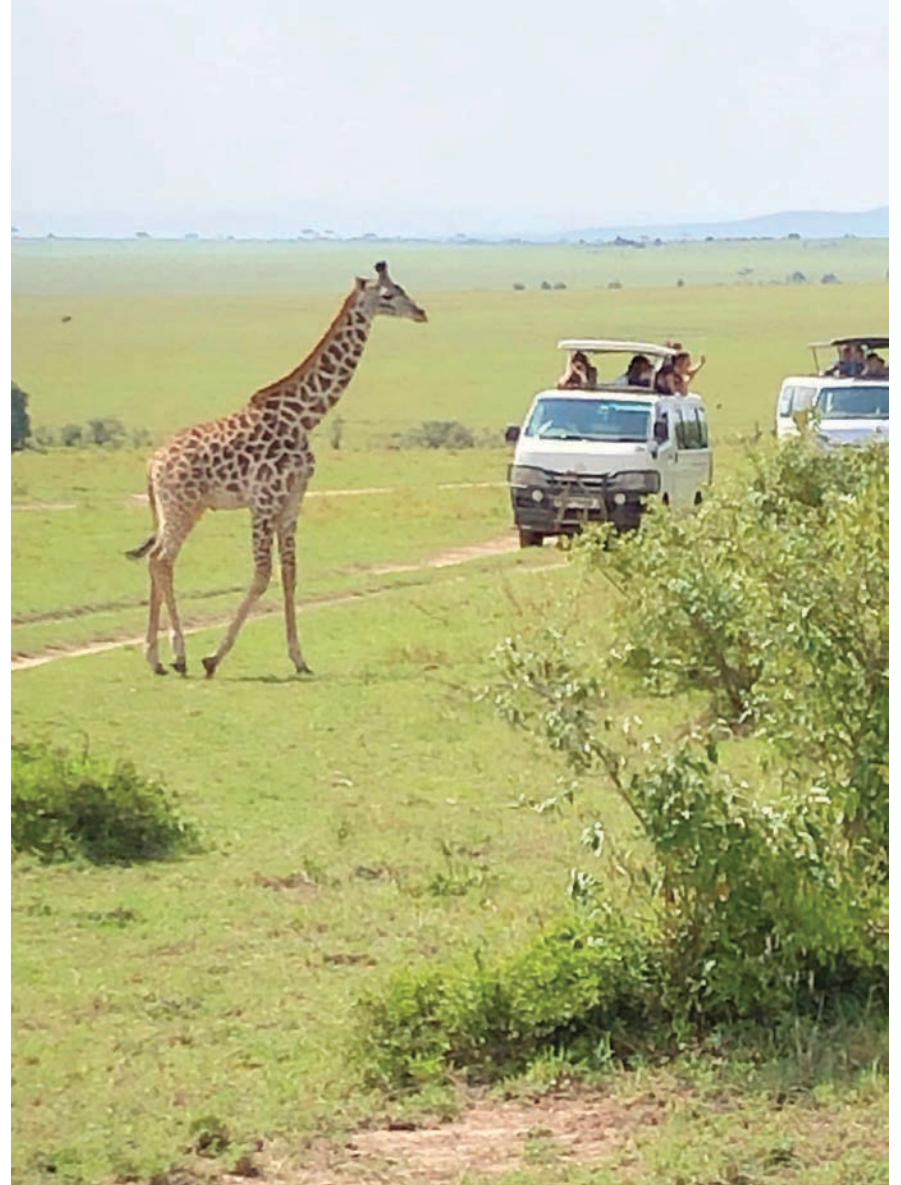


# Massai Mara Safari





# Massai Mara Safari





# Massai Mara Safari





# Massai Mara Safari



# Massai Mara Safari






# gallery exhibit at UTA UC





# ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS



Three UTA students from architecture and architectural engineering assisted EWB of University of Cincinnati with their tasks of examining water distribution systems in the 3 villages and sub villages. They assessed the supplies needed to increase access to clean water in the sub villages and addressed issues set by the water committee with current water tanks and pumps. With the help of the community, students also laid more water pipes from the borehole to provide clean water to communities in need.


## UNESCO INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM



All of the UTA students worked on a UNESCO project that Dean Adrian Parr of CAPPA is leading. The project is addressing several aspects of water and sanitation projects in rural Africa. Prior to the trip, all seven UTA students discussed the research with Dean Parr. While on the ground in Tanzania, all students worked on data collection.



## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE TEAM



The three landscape architecture students worked with Dr. Jones Allen, collaborating with the village of Roche, Tanzania to develop a landscape design for the Roche Health Center. They began by holding a transactive engagement in which the community was invited to artistically express their hopes for a garden. These ideas, as well as precedent studies about landscape elements, nutrition, and local materials, all guided the design process for the community healing garden. After 3 days, the students presented the design proposal to the community.





## VILLAGE LIFE

Village Life Outreach Project (VLOP) is a non-profit based in Cincinnati, OH. VLOP's mission is to promote life, health, and education. Their work focuses on empowering partnerships in 3 remote and impoverished villages in Tanzania. The UTA team is thankful to VLOP for hosting and collaborating with us on this trip! Asante sana!

WANT TO STUDY ABROAD IN AFRICA?  
PLEASE CONTACT US:

Dr. Diane Jones Allen / [diane.allen@uta.edu](mailto:diane.allen@uta.edu)  
Professor Michael Zaretsky / [michael.zaretsky@uta.edu](mailto:michael.zaretsky@uta.edu)

# UT ARLINGTON EAST AFRICA STUDY ABROAD

3 VILLAGES. 2 PROFESSORS. 7 STUDENTS.  
11 DAYS. A ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE.

## JOIN US NEXT YEAR!



Diane Jones Allen, FASLA

Director and Professor in Landscape Architecture

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Michael Zaretsky, AIA

Director of Architectural Engineering and Associate Professor in Civil Engineering

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