Hawai'i

BISC 3800 / ENVS 3990

Lava to Life: Microbes & Symbiosis in Action

Details

12 days travel, $3,850 plus tuition
3 or 4 Credit Hours
Instructed by: Dr. Erik Hom
Travel dates: January 3-14, 2027
Priority Application Deadline: September 30, 2026

Students will:

- Discover tea forest ecology and collect samples at Big Island Tea.
- Stay within Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park at Kilauea Military Camp (KMC).
- Collaborate with students from University of Hawai'i Hilo and the Hawai'i Preparatory Academy in isolating microbes and DNA, and sequencing DNA.

Who should go?

Ideal for students studying Environmental Science, Biology, Pharmacy, Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Ocean Sciences.

Prior to Departure

On-Campus: TBD December 2026. Meet with your Ole Miss instructor and fellow classmates at Insight Park (Hom Lab) for an in-person orientation and introduction of field sampling techniques and other skills pertinent to the course.

During Travel

Travel Dates are January 3-14, 2027. Study USA coordinates and books group round-trip flights from Memphis, as well as any necessary ground transportation during the travel dates. Shared accommodations are also included and arranged by Study USA. Your instructor will share exact meeting times and locations before travel and will be available to you leading up to the course through Blackboard.

Prerequisites

No prerequisites to enroll in ENVS 3990.

For BISC 3800, a student must have completed BISC 1600, 1610, 1620, and 1630 for credit.

Costs

$3,850 plus tuition. The program fee includes airfare to and from destination, local transportation during course, lodging/accommodation during travel, select group meals, daily activities listed in itinerary, field site admission, and entrance fees to parks & attractions. Not included is tuition, most meals at travel site, and personal spending money.

Once accepted to a program, the student accepts financial responsibility for Study USA program fees and tuition and must adhere to the application and withdrawal policy.

Itinerary subject to change. Students should wait to make travel arrangements until after confirming dates and times with instructors

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Visit **outreach.olemiss.edu/study_usa** for application information