Students will:

- Gain a deeper understanding of microbes, and of scientific research, to scientific advancement.
- Meet with the US Geological Survey at Hawaii Volcano Observatory, tour lava flows, and conduct sampling for both microbes and geologic specimens in this exotic environment.
- Gain hands on experience processing samples for the cultivation and analysis of microbial communities, and the lab analysis of geological samples.
- Explore the volcanoes, lava, soil, and the geological aspects underlying the microbial biodiversity and ecosystems of the island.
- On the Big Island, students will get the opportunity to visit a working tea plantation and explore the drastically different landscapes of the island.

Dates:
Students will meet on the Oxford campus prior to departure in December. The instructors will determine time and location. The program dates are Jan 3-14, 2022.

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

Location:
Hilo and Volcano, Hawaii. Students will participate in two days of classwork in Oxford, in December prior to departure. Students will depart on January 3rd and return on January 14th, spending their time in and around Volcano, HI on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Costs:
Course fee is $2,195. Included in the fee are airfare, housing, group ground transportation, some group meals, and field site admission fees. Excluded from the cost are the tuition, most meals, and personal spending money.

Who should go?
This course may interest Environmental Science, Biology, Geology, Geological Engineering, Pharmacy, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Geoscience, Ocean Sciences, and General Engineering students. Students must have completed BISC 160, 161, 162, 163 for BISC credit, or have instructor approval. No prerequisites for ENVS 399. GEOL 225 required for GE 430 or GEOL 610.

Travel:
Flight and ground transportation costs are included in the Study USA course fee. Students are responsible for ground transportation costs during personal time; i.e. taxi, bus, or Uber.