In 1990, sociopolitical forces in South Africa began formally dismantling the structure of racial segregation known as “apartheid” that had been in force since 1948. Despite its advanced economy today and boasting one of the most progressive constitutions in the world, post-apartheid South Africa still faces considerable challenges—providing social and economic equality for all races and groups, maintaining the country’s economic strength while fostering social justice, and battling the largest HIV/AIDS epidemic in the world.

Through visits to historical sites and lectures by local experts in law, business and public health, this study abroad course explores these issues first-hand. See the Constitutional Court and the Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg. Visit Soweto Township and walk down Vilakazi Street, home to both Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu. Tour Robben Island (where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 27 years) and visit the District Six Museum in Cape Town. Additional excursions include a safari. There will be opportunities for service learning, as well as ongoing reflection about the relevance and meaning of this incredible experience via a travel journal and four on-site formal class meetings. SNL students receive 3-4 of the following competences: L3, L10, L11, E1, E2, H1X, H1X, H2X, H5, FX, in addition to possible negotiated competences.

Non-SNL students receive 8 credits total, SAP 200 in the winter quarter (EL) and SAP 200 (usually an elective) in the spring quarter.