

Master of Arts in Sustainable Development Practice

Passport, Flight & Visa Information

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General Flight Information

This document is designed to assist you in making your travel arrangements. An essential part of your preparation for your program includes obtaining the proper travel documentation for your international stay. Please read this document carefully to determine if you need to take immediate action to prepare for travel.

You are responsible for booking your own travel to and from the program locations. In addition, it is your responsibility to read and understand the terms and conditions for your airline ticket(s), to reconfirm your flight reservations in advance of the day of travel, and to be aware of airline and TSA regulations for baggage size and contents. SIT is not responsible for additional charges you may incur due to airline schedule changes or other travel-related reasons.

Once you have finalized your travel arrangements, please upload your flight details into the confirmation portal no later than 30 days prior to departure; this will ensure that SIT staff knows when to expect you.

Please note that medical insurance provided to you through SIT Graduate Institute covers you only while you are outside the US and while you are enrolled with SIT. This coverage is not in effect while you are in the US during any component of the program. All students should carry their own travel accident and illness insurance while traveling independently before or after official SIT programming and US students should maintain coverage in the US throughout the course of their program.

General Passport Information

To participate in this program, you will need a signed passport that is valid for at least six months after the end of the practicum period.

- If necessary, apply for a new passport or renewal immediately.
- US Citizens: consult [U.S. State Department information](#) for passport processing times and application procedures.
- Non-US Citizens: contact your local passport office.

Students are responsible for their own passports. Please make a copy of the first two pages of your passport (one of which has your photo), and your visa (if applicable), and store in a separate location than your passport. Throughout the term, students should always keep a copy of their passport and visa on their person.

General Visa Information

A visa is an official endorsement from a foreign government permitting entry into and travel within a particular country or region for a specified period. A visa may be glued or stamped directly into an applicant's passport or be on a separate paper for insertion into the passport. It may be obtained before departure or upon arrival in country.

You are responsible for complying with all visa procedures and deadlines. Keep in mind that procedures and fees are subject to change at the discretion of the embassy or consulate with jurisdiction over your application. Students should double-check visa procedures.

Issuance of visas is at the sole discretion of the applicable consulate or embassy; SIT assumes no responsibility for the issuance or denial of any visa.

Additional Documents Required for Travel

You may be required to proof of **yellow fever** vaccination for Malawi if transiting through countries where yellow fever is at risk. Please check the CDC website for a list of those countries.

Ecuador Arrival & Departure Information

ECUADOR ARRIVAL	ECUADOR DEPARTURE
August 24, 2026	December 10, 2026
New Mariscal Sucre Int'l Airport, Quito (UIO)	New Mariscal Sucre Int'l Airport, Quito (UIO)
SIT staff will meet you in the lobby outside the baggage retrieval area	SIT staff will assist with your return to the airport

Notes: Students will stay in a modest hotel during the first four days of orientation. This accommodation and group meals will be provided during that time as part of your tuition. After orientation accommodation and food will be the student's responsibility. Arrival prior to the start of the program is **NOT** recommended.

AIRLINE INFORMATION

The following airlines provide consistent reliable service to New Mariscal Sucre International Airport: **Delta Airlines, United Airlines**

NOTE: If you are unable to find suitable travel arrangements which will allow you to arrive at the specified date and time, please contact your admissions counselor as soon as possible—BEFORE you make any reservations.

ECUADOR VISA INFORMATION

Students with US passports:

For this program, students with US passports will need a cultural exchange visa and further information about visa application processes will be sent by e-mail from your admissions counselor in May/June. **DO NOT** apply for any visas until you receive this information.

Students with non-US passports:

Students without a US passport may be subject to additional or different requirements for obtaining a visa or meeting other conditions of entry into Ecuador. We strongly recommend that you contact the embassy of Ecuador very early in the process to confirm visa and/or entry requirements applicable to your country of citizenship and determine next steps while allowing plenty of time to apply.

South Africa Arrival & Departure Information

SOUTH AFRICA ARRIVAL	SOUTH AFRICA DEPARTURE
February 6, 2027	March 20, 2027
Cape Town International Airport (CPT)	Cape Town International Airport (CPT)
SIT staff will meet you in the arrivals section	SIT staff will assist with your return to the airport

AIRLINE INFORMATION

The following airlines provide consistent reliable service to Cape Town International Airport: **American Airlines, Delta Airlines, Emirates, KLM, Qatar Airlines, Lufthansa, Turkish Airlines, Ethiopian Airlines, Virgin Atlantic and Emirates.**

SOUTH AFRICA VISA INFORMATION

For this program, all US passport holders can enter South Africa on a free tourist visa. Passport holders of other countries need to consult their local South African embassy about entry requirements.

Malawi Arrival & Departure Information

MALAWI ARRIVAL	MALAWI DEPARTURE
March 20, 2027	May 1, 2027
Kamuzu International Airport (LLW)	Kamuzu International Airport (LLW)
SIT staff will meet you in the arrivals section on the ground floor	SIT staff will assist with your return to the airport

AIRLINE INFORMATION

The following airlines provide consistent reliable service to Kamuzu International Airport: **Kenya Airways, South African Airways, and Ethiopian Airlines.**

MALAWI VISA INFORMATION

Students with US passports:

For this program, students with US passports will get a 30-day tourist visa upon arrival at no cost. To pay for the visa extension please bring new (not ripped or damaged) USD bills (made only after 2006) in cash. If you choose Malawi as your practicum location, program staff will assist you in extending your visa. Your visa will be extended in-country and the cost for the extension is **US \$100**.

Students with non-US passports:

Students without a US passport may be subject to additional or different requirements for obtaining a visa or meeting other conditions of entry into Malawi. We strongly recommend that you contact the embassy of Malawi very early in the process to confirm visa and/or entry requirements applicable to your country of citizenship and determine next steps while allowing plenty of time to apply.