



AUSTRALIA

FIELD GUIDE



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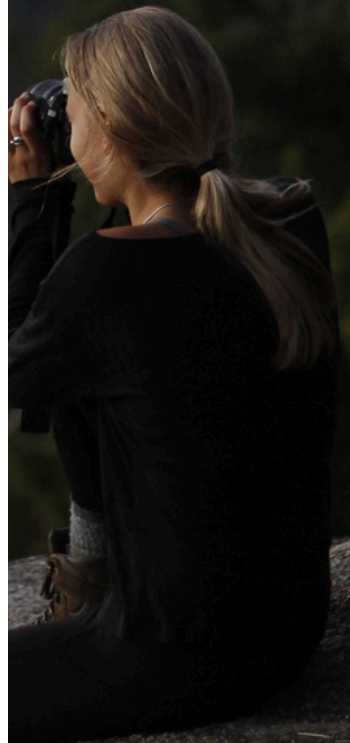
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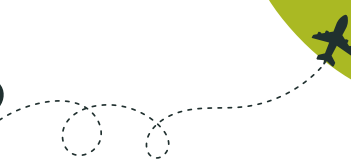
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LIFE IN THE FIELD



Academic Foci

- The center is located in the Atherton Tablelands in Northern Queensland, a designated world heritage area.
- Tropical rainforests cover less than 0.01% of Australia forming a narrow, broken belt along the northeast coast of Queensland, bordered by the Great Barrier Reef, grasslands, and eucalypt savannas.
- These rainforests have been subjected to abuses that rainforests worldwide are just now experiencing. Australia is where other tropical countries may be in 20-30 years, and their rainforest management may serve as a future worldwide model.

SEMESTER: RAINFOREST TO REEF

Rainforest ecology, development, fragmentation, and conservation. Aboriginal ecotourism. Habitat restoration. Threatened species conservation. Animal behavior.

SUMMER 1: RAINFORESTS OF AUSTRALIA

Rainforest ecology, development, fragmentation, and conservation. Habitat restoration. Impact of humans and climate change.

SUMMER 2: MARSUPIALS OF AUSTRALIA

Ecology, evolution, biogeography, taxonomy, and adaptations of major Australian wildlife including marsupials. Impact of humans and climate change. Conservation policies.

Each program combines theory learned in the classroom alongside field-based applications. Time in the classroom is structured to give students a solid understanding of environmental history, theory, and conservation techniques before deploying their knowledge or specific techniques in the field. All classes are taught in English.



Setting and Facilities

153-acre center isolated in the rainforest.

RURAL ← ● → URBAN

YUNGABURRA

20-minute drive. Cannot walk. No public transport or taxis. Off-campus trips planned by SFS only.

Population ~1,200

Nearest town. Doctor, pharmacy, library, hotel, post office, and supermarket.

ATHERTON

40-minute drive. No public transport or taxis. Off-campus trips planned by SFS only.

Population ~8,000

Similar amenities to Yungaburra.

CAIRNS

90-minute drive. No public transport or taxis. Off-campus trips planned by SFS only.

Population ~150,000

Tourist destination. International airport, auto rental, and large resort community.

HOUSING

Four student cabins, 8 students per cabin in twin beds. Personal drawers and storage cubbies. No WIFI or AC.

Restroom blocks with showers (cold water) and western-style toilets are a 10-minute walk from cabins.

MAIN BUILDING

5-10 minute walk from cabins on forested trails.

Includes classroom, library, computer room, staff offices, kitchen, and covered outdoor dining facility.

OTHER FACILITIES

Two washing machines available once a week (detergent provided). Two dryers, but clotheslines requested when weather allows.



Campus Policies



SIGN-OUT LOG & BUDDY POLICY

Because center locations are often unfamiliar to students, policies including sign-out logs and a buddy system help keep students safe



CHORES

There is an occasional cleaning service at the center, so students are largely expected to take responsibility for their space. Students will help set up/clean-up for meals and engage in center-wide clean-ups. Specific chore responsibilities will be shared during orientation.



ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS PROHIBITED

Consumption or possession of alcohol is prohibited on campus. Students who consume alcohol during non-program time need to do so in moderation and maintain respectful behavior toward others.

SFS does not allow possession or use of any medications or substances that are illegal in the U.S. or host country for the full duration of SFS programs including free time and weekends away. Check local laws before possessing, purchasing, or using e-cigarettes or vaping devices on program.



NO VISITORS

Students are obligated to stay at the center during program time. No non-SFS members are allowed on campus. Time off during program time to spend with guests is limited.



TIME OFF IS LIMITED

Students will have highly structured schedules on weekdays and Saturdays with Sundays generally free to spend at the center. Attendance is required for all activities including multi-day trips that may fall on the weekends.

Semester students will be given 3-5 weekends off and a 7-9 day mid-semester break. Summer students will be given 1-2 weekends off. Travel to certain regions or neighboring countries during time off may be prohibited based on risk levels or center policies.

Students are responsible for their own food and accommodations during non-program time. Students are not allowed to stay at the center during weekends off, mid-semester break, or the interim between Summer 1 and Summer 2 sessions. See page 13 for estimated costs.



Community Interaction

Students live at a center, rather than a homestay, local apartment, or university dorm. This means they will not navigate the local culture, cuisine, or language every day. However, meaningful research is only possible with the input of local people, so community engagement and Directed Research projects vary each term to reflect the requests of our partners. Some examples of past outreach initiatives include planting trees, working in community gardens, and outreach at schools.



Food

SFS can support most dietary needs, but the variety of food will be extremely limited based on local availability and cost. SFS cannot accommodate strict Halal or Kosher diets. Meals are simple and repeat every week, so SFS always recommends bringing vitamins, protein bars, nuts, favorite snacks, etc.

The cuisine will be similar to the U.S. with breakfasts including cereals, yogurt, eggs, and toast and lunch/dinners consisting of sandwiches, salads, and pastas. Fruit is always available for students to snack on and occasionally cookies.



Exercise

The Australian center has basic weights, yoga mats, trails for walking/running, a grass volleyball court, and a basketball hoop.



Money

The local currency is the Australian Dollar (AUD).

Both cash and debit/credit cards are widely accepted. All students are required to bring a credit/debit card with at least \$3,000 in case of emergencies. Mastercard and Visa are the most commonly accepted cards internationally. Notify banks about international travel.

Students need to bring at least 100 AUD to start (see page 13). AUD can be ordered from banks prior to traveling, exchanged for USD at the airport, or withdrawn from ATMs. There is no opportunity to exchange USD for AUD outside the airport. In When bringing USD to exchange, travel with bills in excellent condition (clean, unwrinkled, unmarked, with no tears). Students will have access to ATMs in Cairns, Atherton, and Yungaburra.



Climate

Students will be exposed to high heat and humidity and mud and mold. The "dry" season runs May - October, although, the rainforest is always rainy! Average temperatures during the dry season range from 62-85°F but can drop to 50°F in Australia and 72-88°F in Indonesia (Summer 2). The wet season runs November -April. Average temperatures during the wet season range from 70-88°F.



Considerations

Language: English is the official language.

Culture and Diversity: Cairns is over 70% White with smaller Asian and Indigenous communities. Around 60% of people are Christian and 30% having no religion.

Physical Readiness: Students must walk for up to 2 hours at a time. Some sessions will require swimming and snorkeling in the open ocean (0-2 times per session). Swim assessment required to not wear a lifejacket.

Hazards: Snakes, spiders, insects, heat and humidity, motion sickness, drowning, etc. In Australia, cassowaries and terrestrial leeches are also present on campus.

Travel: Students will frequently travel by car.



Electricity

The electrical voltage in Australia is 230 (the U.S. uses 120). Check all electrical devices to see if voltage converters are needed. Australia uses plug type I (the U.S. uses A and B). All U.S. students will need plug adaptors.



Internet

Wireless internet is available at the center, but it can be slow and frequently unavailable. WIFI does not reach the student cabins. SFS reserves the right to limit activities occurring on our servers including, but not limited to, streaming or downloading audio/video content (Facetime, Netflix, etc.).



Computers

Students must bring laptops with Microsoft Office (or the ability to open Microsoft files offline) and a USB port (or USB adapter). Electronic devices are subjected to a much harsher environment than normal, which may cause malfunction. In particular, Apple products do not fare well in high humidity, and there are no nearby Apple stores. All devices are difficult to repair or replace locally, so please take extra precautions.



Phones

Students with unlocked phones can purchase Telstra SIM cards at the airport (\$10-40 USD/ month). Only some of the center receives cell service. Since WIFI is limited at the center, most students opt to buy a SIM card.



Mail

Any packages and letters sent to Australia from the U.S. should be sent airmail. Do not send any medications by mail. The average travel time for airmail from the U.S. to Australia is 10-14 days. Therefore, no mail can be sent during the last two weeks of the program as students will not receive it! Mail will not be forwarded.

Address: Student name, SFS Centre for Rainforest Studies,
P.O. Box 141, Yungaburra, Queensland, 4884, Australia

Sample Schedule

This schedule is a sample; no week will follow it exactly. Programs typically begin with long classroom days and transition into more fieldwork later on. Final schedules are provided upon arrival and are subject to change, including the day-of, due to weather, availability, and factors outside of SFS' control. Flexibility is essential.

All events are mandatory. We respect religious and cultural observances, but because of our cohort-based field programs, accommodations (schedule changes, special meals, personal observance time, etc.) may be limited. Communicate any anticipated needs with SFS in advance to discuss any feasible arrangements.

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p>Free time at the Center (Laundry, Homework, Relaxation).</p> <p>During days off at the center, students will be provided meals. During long weekends in Cairns, students will be asked to buy food and provide housing for themselves Friday-Sunday. See Page 13 for budgeted costs.</p> | 6:45-7:45am Breakfast | 7:30-9am Breakfast and Morning Meeting | 7:30-9am Breakfast and Morning Meeting | 7:30-9am Breakfast and Morning Meeting | 7:30-8:30am Breakfast | 7:30-9am Breakfast and Morning Meeting |
| | <p>8am-6:30pm Field Trip</p> <p>Field trips can be any day of the week and occasionally last multiple days.</p> | 9-10am Tropical Biome Ecology & Climate Change - Lecture | 9-10am Environmental Sustainability & Socio-Economic Values - Lecture | 9am-12pm Tropical Biome Ecology & Climate Change - Group Presentations | 8:30am-12pm Community Engagement | 9-10am Wildlife & Conservation Biology - Lecture |
| | | 10-11am Environmental Sustainability & Socio-Economic Values - Lecture | 10-11am Environmental Sustainability & Socio-Economic Values - Project | | | 10-11am Environmental Sustainability & Socio-Economic Values - Guest Lecture |
| | | 11am-12pm Wildlife & Conservation Biology - Lecture | 11am-12pm Tropical Biome Ecology & Climate Change - Lecture | 11am-12pm Wildlife & Conservation Biology - Lecture | | |
| | | 12-1:30pm Lunch/Announcements | 12-1:30pm Lunch/Announcements | 12-1:30pm Lunch/Announcements | 12-1:30pm Lunch/Announcements | 12-1:30pm Lunch/Announcements |
| | | 1:30-5pm Wildlife & Conservation Biology - Evaluation | 1:30-5:30pm Tropical Biome Ecology & Climate Change - Presentation Prep | 1:30-5:30pm Free time at the Center | 1:30-5pm Environmental Sustainability & Socio-Economic Values - Field Work | 1:30-4:30pm Field Trip |
| | 5:30-6:30pm Dinner | 5:30-6:30pm Dinner | 5:30-6:30pm Dinner | 5:30-6:30pm Dinner | 5:30-6:30pm Dinner | 5:30-6:30pm Dinner |
| | 6:30-7:30pm Dinner | 6:30pm-Sunset Free time at the Center | 6:30pm-Sunset Free time at the Center | 7-9pm Wildlife & Conservation Biology - Field Work | 6:30pm-Sunset Free time at the Center | 6:30pm-Sunset Free time at the Center |
| Sunset Curfew | Sunset Curfew | Sunset Curfew | Sunset Curfew | Sunset Curfew | Sunset Curfew | Sunset Curfew |

- Meals and Announcements
- Free Time
- Community Engagement
- Classroom Time
- Field Work
- Curfew



Health & Safety in the Field



24-Hour Emergency Hotline

SFS maintains a 24-hour emergency hotline. To urgently contact a student in the field, call 978.219.5113.



Student Health & Wellness Manager

The Student Health & Wellness Manager is a full-time primary medical responder and student support personnel on campus. They are certified in Wilderness First Response, or an equivalent certification, and trained in sexual assault first response. They also counsel students on life abroad, conduct risk assessments, attend medical appointments, and help coordinate program logistics.



Orientation

Prior to departure, SFS requires attendance at a pre-departure orientation focused on essential aspects of the program. Students must also research the inherent risks associated with traveling abroad and cultural considerations themselves. Upon arrival to campus, students receive an additional orientation about the local community and culture, center operations, and relevant risks.



Medical Care

SFS maintains detailed risk assessment and management plans. If a medical care facility visit is needed, staff will accompany the student to the appointment. There may be times when medical care is delayed. Students are responsible for all medical costs and all incidental expenses related to injury, illness, or quarantine incurred by any party involved, including but not limited to transportation, accommodations, etc. Some medical conditions may necessitate medical withdrawal from the program. Final decisions on medical withdrawals are made by SFS. See the Health and Safety Guide for more information.



Mental Health Support

Adjusting to new environments while away from usual support systems is challenging. While abroad, there is decreased communication with home, limited privacy, and fewer opportunities for exercise. Many students find the rigorous schedule of SFS programs and the rare opportunities for alone time overwhelming.

SFS is partnered with Telus Health ([My SSP website](#)) to provide students with access to free, mental health and wellness support via WIFI. My SSP is a supplemental resource, and students should work with their mental health provider to create a primary support plan while abroad. See the Health and Safety Guide for more information.



Identity

Each country is shaped by its history, and therefore attitudes towards gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and religion can differ greatly. What seems like discrimination may simply be curiosity. Students should research how their identity might be perceived in a new context.

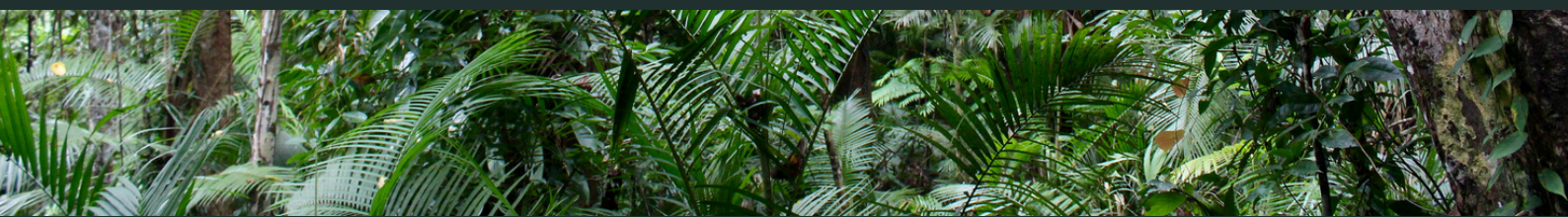
Studying abroad is a privilege, and it is not our students' place to change the host country's culture or values. SFS campuses are permanent fixtures and home to staff year-round. As representatives of SFS and students' own countries, behavior that is disrespectful, illegal, or contrary to cultural norms can degrade the relationship with the community.



Sexual Health & Wellness

Please consider:

- The ramifications that a short-term relationship may have on a small residential campus or within the local community.
- Access to protection, medication for sexually transmitted infections, and emergency contraception may not be available.
- The current dialogue and understanding of consent in the U.S. does not always apply in other cultures.
- If anyone feels subjected to sexual harassment, they should walk away from the situation without concern for being culturally inappropriate. They can report harassment or assault to any staff member.
- In the case of a sexual assault, SFS provides support to students including access to medical care and support systems and the option to report to law enforcement. However, local laws and limited availability of resources such as rape kits can complicate reports of sexual harassment or sexual assault in foreign countries.



LGBTQIA+

SFS welcomes all students at our centers, but recommends students know the following when traveling:

- Laws and social customs of other countries may criminalize same-sex relationships or certain gender expressions.
- Travelers may experience discrimination and harassment when traveling.
- Some cultural practices are based on traditional gender roles. As a result, when traveling, students might be misgendered.
- Some languages are gendered, resulting in a lack of terms that encompass non-binary and gender-neutral identities.
- In other countries, health services specific to transgender people may be limited or unavailable.
- In some situations, it is not possible to use preferred names or genders (visa paperwork, plane tickets, hotel reservations, and government sites). Gender X is not recognized worldwide, and students may need to provide binary sex information. See the LGBTQ+ Resource Guide for more information.



**PREPARING FOR
DEPARTURE**



Program Costs

The relationship SFS has with students' schools will determine the billing process. Within a week of acceptance, students or their schools will be required to pay a non-refundable deposit to reserve their spot. Afterward, we will reach out to students or their schools to collect tuition payments. Up-to-date costs and refund policies can be found [here](#).

Included in SFS program costs are program advising and orientations, tuition and research fees, airport transfers, housing and meals during program time, field excursions and cultural activities, official transcript processing, and evacuation and 24/7 support in case of emergencies.

| PROGRAM | BILLING DEADLINE |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Spring | November 1st |
| Summer 1 or 1 + 2 | April 1st |
| Summer 2 | May 1st |
| Fall | June 1st |

| BASIC COSTS (BILLED BY SFS) | SEMESTER | SUMMER 1 | SUMMER 2 | SUMMER 1+2 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Tuition | \$22,850 | \$5,850 | \$5,850 | \$11,700 |
| Room & Board | \$6,750 | \$2,580 | \$2,580 | \$5,160 |
| BASIC PROGRAM COST | \$29,600 | \$8,430 | \$8,430 | \$16,860 |
| ADDITIONAL COSTS (ESTIMATED, ACTUAL COSTS MAY VARY) | | | | |
| Airfare to Australia | \$3,000 | \$3,000 | \$3,000 | \$3,000 |
| Passport | \$200 | \$200 | \$200 | \$200 |
| Visa fees (if applicable) | \$100 | \$15 | \$15 | \$30 |
| Immunizations/Medications | \$200 | \$200 | \$200 | \$200 |
| Personal Expenses | \$600 | \$200 | \$200 | \$600 |
| Program Breaks - Accommodation & Food | \$1,600 | \$400 | \$400 | \$1,600 |
| ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL PROGRAM COSTS | \$5,700 | \$4,015 | \$4,015 | \$5,630 |
| TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS (BASIC + ADDITIONAL COSTS) | | | | |
| ESTIMATED TOTAL PROGRAM COST | \$35,300 | \$12,445 | \$12,445 | \$22,490 |



Financial Aid

All students are encouraged to apply for SFS financial aid. Financial aid applications are reviewed on a rolling basis starting in February for summer programs, April for fall programs, and September for spring programs. Early submissions are welcome. Students who submit an SFS financial aid application by the payment deadline will be considered for our full range of aid options. Learn more [here](#).



TRAVEL



PASSPORT

Students must have a passport in hand four months prior to departure that is valid for their entire stay in Australia.



VISA

Australia

Students' Australian visas will be applied for and granted before the program start date. Australia Visitor Visas (Subclass 600, 6-month) (Semester programs) cost \$150 USD and Australia Visitor Visas (Subclass 601, 3-month) (Summer 1 and Summer 2) cost \$15 USD. Visa costs are the responsibility of the student, and prices are subject to change. Visa instructions will be given upon acceptance.

If traveling before or after the program, students should make sure that the visa(s) will remain valid for their entire stay.

Non-U.S. citizens may require a different visa process and are responsible for applying for, obtaining, and paying for their own visa valid for the duration of their program.



FLIGHTS

Students are responsible for the cost of flights to and from their program. Students will receive travel instructions at least 2 months prior to the start of their program. Do not book flights before receiving these instructions.

SFS staff will meet students at the airport on the date and time specified in the airport instructions and transport them to the center. Students will receive airport instructions 1-2 weeks prior to the start of their program. If students are traveling before the program, they are responsible for meeting the group at the airport at the designated date and time. Additionally, SFS is not responsible for transporting or storing luggage before or after the program.

SFS is not responsible for reimbursing travel expenses for programs canceled or rescheduled due to acts of war or civil unrest, strikes, weather, quarantine/epidemics/sickness, government regulations, or failure of equipment, power, or communications.





Medical Requirements



Medical Approval Process

Students are required to complete the SFS medical approval process. The review is not meant to exclude, but to inform and allow support systems to be put in place. No student may enter the field until medical approval is granted by SFS. See the Health & Safety Guide for more information.



Vaccinations & Medications

Required

- None

Recommended

- [Centers for Disease Control](#), travel clinics, or medical providers can provide further recommendations.



International Health Insurance

Students are required to buy international health insurance. Students will receive international health insurance requirements upon acceptance to their program. Keep in mind most companies reimburse medical costs, so students need an emergency credit card/debit card with at least \$3,000 USD to pay for medical expenses upfront.

All students are enrolled in an emergency evacuation and repatriation insurance plan through American International Group, Inc. (AIG) for the duration of their program only. This is supplemental insurance to students' own comprehensive health insurance outlined above. See the Health & Safety Guide for more information.



Accommodating Disabilities

SFS works with students, schools, and physicians to determine required accommodations and whether they can be safely and reasonably maintained on program. We strive to meet students' needs, but due to the remote nature of programs, there are varying levels of accessibility. Questions regarding health or learning accommodations can be directed to the Student Life Department or the Office of Academic Affairs respectively.



PACKING GUIDE



Packing Considerations



Luggage

SFS does not have a specific policy regarding how much or what type of luggage students bring, however, students will be sharing a room, and there is limited space to store belongings. Bring only what can be maneuvered oneself and check with all airlines for luggage restrictions and fees. Summer 2 students' flights to Indonesia will limit each person to 45 lbs of luggage total which includes carry-ons and personal items; some students choose to pay the correlated fees for excess weight instead.



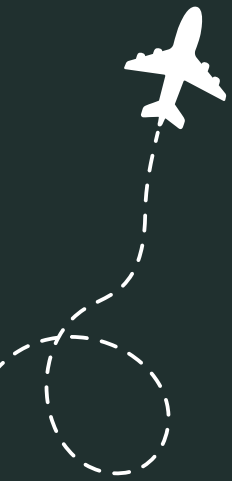
Packing Tips

The rainforest is hard on clothes, and belongings will likely get moldy, especially during wet season. Many students bring old clothes to wear in the field and leave behind at the end of the program. Avoid white clothing and do not bring anything that cannot be damaged!

March flies (which have a nasty bite) are common around the center and are attracted to dark clothing in particular.

Hair care products vary by region. Travelers with curls or hair that is easily damaged might consider packing preferred products in a quantity that will last for the entire program.

While packing, consider the impact of the ingredients and packaging. Plastic can be difficult for waste management in remote environments. Think about bringing a reusable tote, metal straw, cloth napkins, etc. We also highly encourage biodegradable products.





Required Packing

- **Shorts** 2+ pairs of casual shorts to wear around the center and athletic shorts for workouts.
- **Pants** 3+ pairs for fieldwork, lightweight blends that dry quickly. 1+ pair of sweatpants for colder nights. Prioritize pants over shorts.
- **T-shirts/Tank tops** Synthetic, quick-dry athletic fabrics are best.
- **Long-sleeved shirts** Light-weight fabric for working in the field and heavier ones for warmth.
- **Warm Sweaters/jackets** Nights can be chilly, so bring adequate warm layers.
- **Warm hat**
- **Underwear and Socks** for more than one week including 3+ pairs of light wool or synthetic (not cotton) hiking socks. Long socks preferable to tuck pants into
- **Casual/nice clothes** for town. See page 6 for time off.
- **Pajamas** appropriate for shared spaces.
- **Swimsuit**
- **Rash guard (SEMESTER ONLY)**
- **Sun hat and sunglasses**
- **Rain boots** The center has several older pairs of rain boots for student use, but students with especially large or small feet or who would like a new pair should bring their own. Lightweight, shin-high boots with good tread are best.
- **Rain jacket** with a hood.
- **Hiking boots** Preferably waterproof.
- **Sneakers**
- **Flip-flops or Crocs** Keens tend to mold! Consider an extra pair for showering.

- **One set of sheets and a pillowcase** Standard twin size. A pillow is provided.
- **Sleeping bag** Synthetic fill (down is much harder to keep dry/ mold-free), lightweight/higher temperature rated.
- **Towels** 2 large towels and 1 face/hand towel. Quick dry towels only!
- **Toiletries** Basic items can be purchased in town but bring enough for at least a week. Preferably biodegradable.
- **Laundry bag** Alumni recommend one that is easy to carry the 5-10 minutes from the cabin to the center.



- **Record of immunizations and Health history**
- **Personal first-aid kit** Consider Anti-itch creams, Neosporin, Bacitracin, Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Pepto Bismol, Band-Aids, Tape, Tweezers, Nail clippers, Antihistamines, Pro-biotics, Antidiarrheals, Vitamin C, Cold medicines, Immune boosters, Hydration salts/Liquid IV, etc.
- **Two compression ("ace") bandages** in case of snake bites.
- **Prescriptions** Overseas prescriptions are not always accepted. Bring adequate supplies of prescription medications to last the entire duration of the program alongside doctors' prescriptions to avoid customs delays. Think about inhalers, allergy medication, contacts/glasses, etc.
- **Motion sickness medication/Dramamine/ginger chews** preferably non-drowsy.
- **Period care** Students can buy basic period care products in town. Tampons do not have applicators. We encourage menstrual cups or environmentally friendly, biodegradable options.

- **Flash drives and/or External hard drive** at least 2 GB
- **Computer** that can open Microsoft Office documents offline and has a USB port or USB port adapter.
- **Waterproof cases for electronics and Silica packets** (or some water-absorbing equivalent).
- **Surge protector and Plug adaptors**
- **Wristwatch** preferably water-resistant or waterproof.
- **Headlamp with extra rechargeable batteries** flashlight can be brought as a backup, but not as a replacement.
- **Dry bags or sturdy plastic bags** gallon-sized Ziploc bags work well. Great for helping protect clothes against mold.
- **Day pack** small backpack suitable for taking gear into the field or long weekends off. 15-30L recommended.
- **Weekend bag** to bring on overnight field excursions or weekends off. 35-55L recommended.
- **Notebooks and Pens/Pencils** Can buy locally.
- **Sturdy work gloves** for community service work.
- **Water bottles** 1+ bottles with 1L capacity. Alumni recommend insulated bottles!
- **Insect Repellent** 1+ bottles. Can buy locally.
- **Sunscreen** 1+ bottles. Can buy locally. **REEF SAFE FOR SEMESTER PROGRAMS**
- **Tupperware and Travel mugs** for packing lunches.



Optional Packing

- **Purse/tote bag** for town.
- **Small clothing repair kit**
- **Waterproof rain pants (SEMESTER ONLY)**
- **Water-proof daypack cover**
- **Umbrella**
- **Pocketknife** Checked luggage only.
- **Snorkel gear** for weekends off
- **Lightweight blanket** in addition to the sleeping bag.
- **Hammock** Strongly recommended by alumni.
- **COVID-19 Tests and Masks** for personal use. Recommended as local supply may vary.
- **Earplugs and Eye mask** Up to 7 roommates!
- **Baby wipes and Hand sanitizer**
- **Journal**

- **Games, Movies, Books, and Crafts** No DVDs as the DVD player on campus only plays Australian DVDs.
- **Musical instruments** may be subject to undesirable storage and weather conditions. Two guitars and a didgeridoo are available to play at the center.
- **Snacks, Drink powders, and Dietary supplements** Any favorites
- **HDMI Adapter**
- **Camera** Alumni recommend one apt for underwater photos.
- **Voltage converter** if needed for electronics.
- **Headphones and/or Bluetooth speaker** Noise canceling recommended.
- **Binoculars** preferably 8 x 40 but anything in the 6 x 30 to 10 x 40 range is fine. Alumni strongly recommend.
- **Extra batteries**
- **External battery packs and Long charging cords** The outlets in the student rooms are not next to the beds.



Contact Us

Keep up with SFS Follow us on Instagram [@theSFS](#)/[@theSFS_australia](#), read [news from the field](#), and find the [full list of the SFS team bios here!](#)

Questions about billing? Billing@fieldstudies.org

Deposit payments, invoices, billing deadlines, financial aid packages, and loan paperwork.

Questions about health and safety? StudentLife@fieldstudies.org

Medical paperwork, immunizations, managing medical conditions, and dietary needs and preferences.

Questions about academics? Academics@fieldstudies.org

Learning accommodations, syllabi, and directed research.

Questions about admissions or enrollment? Admissions@fieldstudies.org

Which program is the best fit, application materials, and travel and visa logistics.