



**Job Position: Program Instructor/Leader Position
Round River Conservation Studies Botswana**

Summary:

Round River Conservation Studies is a conservation organization dedicated to working with local communities to protect large intact landscapes.

Dates: August 25th - December 15th, 2026.

Position:

We are seeking a dedicated and passionate Instructor/Leader to join our Botswana team in advancing our fieldwork initiatives and conservation education. This multifaceted role encompasses conducting herbivore monitoring surveys, planning and leading academic programs, providing student support, managing logistics and safety protocols, fostering collaborations with local partners and senior staff, teaching undergraduate courses, and offering comprehensive student support. The position requires living on-site, ensuring availability and approachability to students, and being on-call to address emergent needs. The ideal candidate will possess a strong background in conservation science, field research methodologies, and teaching, coupled with exceptional organizational and leadership skills. If you are committed to environmental conservation, enjoy mentoring students in experiential learning settings, and thrive in dynamic field-based environments, we invite you to join us in our mission to promote impactful conservation initiatives on a global scale by leveraging scientific research, educational outreach, and collaborative community engagement.

Responsibilities:

1. Program Leadership:

- Develop and implement schedules for program activities, including academic sessions and biological field research.
- Lead and facilitate program activities, ensuring alignment with learning objectives and safety protocols.

2. Collaboration and Research:

- Collaborate with local partners and senior Round River Conservation Studies staff to design and conduct biological field research projects.
- Coordinate logistics for research activities, including obtaining necessary equipment, permits, campsites.

3. Logistics and Safety Management:

- Oversee logistics for the program, including transportation arrangements, accommodation, and meal planning.
- Ensure the safe operation and maintenance of program vehicles, including driving.

4. Teaching Responsibilities:

- Teach undergraduate courses such as Applied Conservation Biology, Biological Field Methods, Community Based Natural Resource Management, and Natural History.
- Engage students in discussions and activities that encourage their understanding of complex conservation issues within the context of the local region.

5. Student Support:

- Provide guidance and support to students in project analysis and report writing, fostering critical thinking and research skills.
- Offer general support and ensure the well-being of students throughout the program duration.

6. Communication and Coordination:

- Maintain regular communication with RRCS headquarters and local partners to coordinate program activities and address any issues or concerns.
- Foster a collaborative and inclusive learning environment, promoting teamwork and mutual respect among students and staff.

7. Budget Management:

- Manage and enter expenditures and financial transactions in a timely manner, adhering to organizational policies and procedures.

8. Documentation and Reporting:

- Maintain accurate records of program activities, including research data, student evaluations, and incident reports.

By performing these key duties and tasks, the Instructor/Leader will play a crucial role in facilitating an enriching and immersive learning experience for students while advancing conservation research and education goals. The duties and place(s) of performance of this position may change as program needs dictate and as determined by management.

Qualifications:

- Educational Background:
 - Master's degree or higher in a relevant field such as conservation biology, ecology, environmental science, or a related discipline.
- Field Research Skills:
 - Proficiency in planning, conducting, and analyzing biological field research projects, preferably in remote or wilderness settings.
 - Familiarity with field research methodologies, data collection techniques, and statistical analysis.
- Teaching Experience:
 - Demonstrated experience in teaching undergraduate courses related to conservation biology, field methods, ecology, or natural history.

- Ability to create engaging and interactive learning experiences that foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills in students.
 - Experience developing curriculum and student learning outcomes is preferred.
- Leadership and Program Management:
 - Proven leadership abilities in scheduling and leading program activities, including academic sessions and field research expeditions.
 - Experience managing logistics and safety protocols for field-based programs, including driving and maintaining program vehicles.
- Collaboration and Communication:
 - Strong interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to collaborate effectively with local partners, senior staff, and students from diverse backgrounds.
- Student Support and Mentorship:
 - Experience providing mentorship and support to undergraduate students in project analysis, report writing, and overall academic and personal growth.
 - Dedication to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment that promotes student success and well-being.
- Certifications and Technical Skills:
 - Certification in wilderness first aid or wilderness first responder training
 - Experience in outdoor risk management and emergency response protocol are preferred.
 - Proficiency in driving 4WD vehicles with manual transmission, with a clean driving record and the ability to navigate rugged terrain safely.
 - Familiarity with GIS (Geographic Information Systems) software and other relevant technical tools for data analysis and mapping is desirable.

- **Budget Management:**
 - Ability to develop and manage program budgets, including timely budgeting, monitoring expenditures, and ensuring financial accountability.
- **Adaptability and Resilience:**
 - Ability to thrive in challenging and dynamic environments, including remote field sites and variable weather conditions.
 - Demonstrated adaptability and resilience in responding to unforeseen challenges and adjusting plans accordingly.

Salary and benefits:

The compensation for this position is a range of \$10,000 to \$12,000 per spring/fall semester, commensurate with qualifications and experience. In addition to the salary, travel costs, lodging, and meals during program activities are covered by Round River Conservation Studies. Competitive health benefits. Salary and benefits may increase after one year of satisfactory performance.

Company overview:

Round River Conservation Studies provides deep technical expertise and long-standing partnership relationships to drive effective landscape-scale conservation efforts across the globe through scientific research, educational programs, and community partnerships.

Equal opportunity statement:

Round River Conservation Studies is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, status as a protected veteran, status as a qualified individual with disability, or any other category that may be protected by law.

Contact information:

Interested applicants should send a cover letter and resume in an email addressed to Student Program Co-directors Benjamin Szydlowski and Gabriel Kayano at studyabroad@roundriver.org.