

# Madagascar 2018

A black and white lemur with large, bushy ears is perched on a tree branch in a lush green forest. The lemur is looking directly at the camera with its mouth slightly open, showing its teeth. The background is filled with dense foliage and sunlight filtering through the leaves.

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NREM

# Why Madagascar?

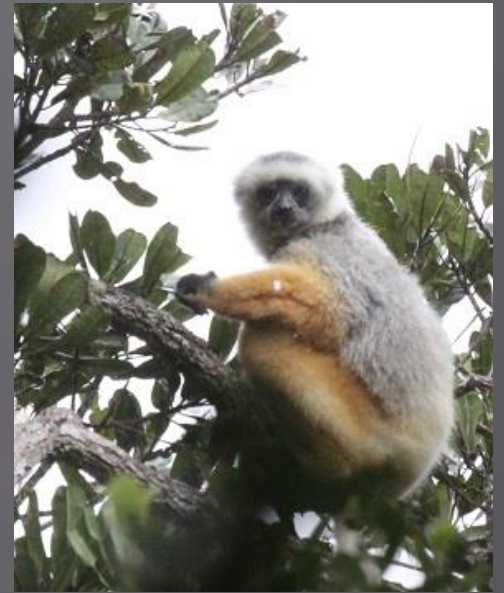
- ▣ The fourth largest island in the world
  - Four times the size of Iowa
  - Mostly located between 12°S and 26°S
- ▣ High rates of endemism
  - >90% of plants and animals are endemic!
  - Lemurs
  - Many birds
  - Herpetofauna, insects, and more
  - Many conservation challenges related to human population
- ▣ Diverse native habitats from rainforest to spiny forest
- ▣ Unique blend of cultures: Polynesian, African, Arabian
- ▣ Fascinating history of exploration and exploitation

# The course

- ▣ NREM 496A (3 credits), spring 2018
- ▣ Instructors: Dr. Dinsmore, Dr. Wolter
- ▣ Prerequisites: recommend one Biology class
- ▣ Course registration by instructors only
- ▣ Meet weekly during the spring semester (lectures on topics relevant to the trip)
- ▣ Research paper on a topic of your choice
- ▣ Short presentation during the trip
- ▣ Visit Madagascar in March!



# Lemurs





# Birds





# Birds





# Other critters





# Scenery





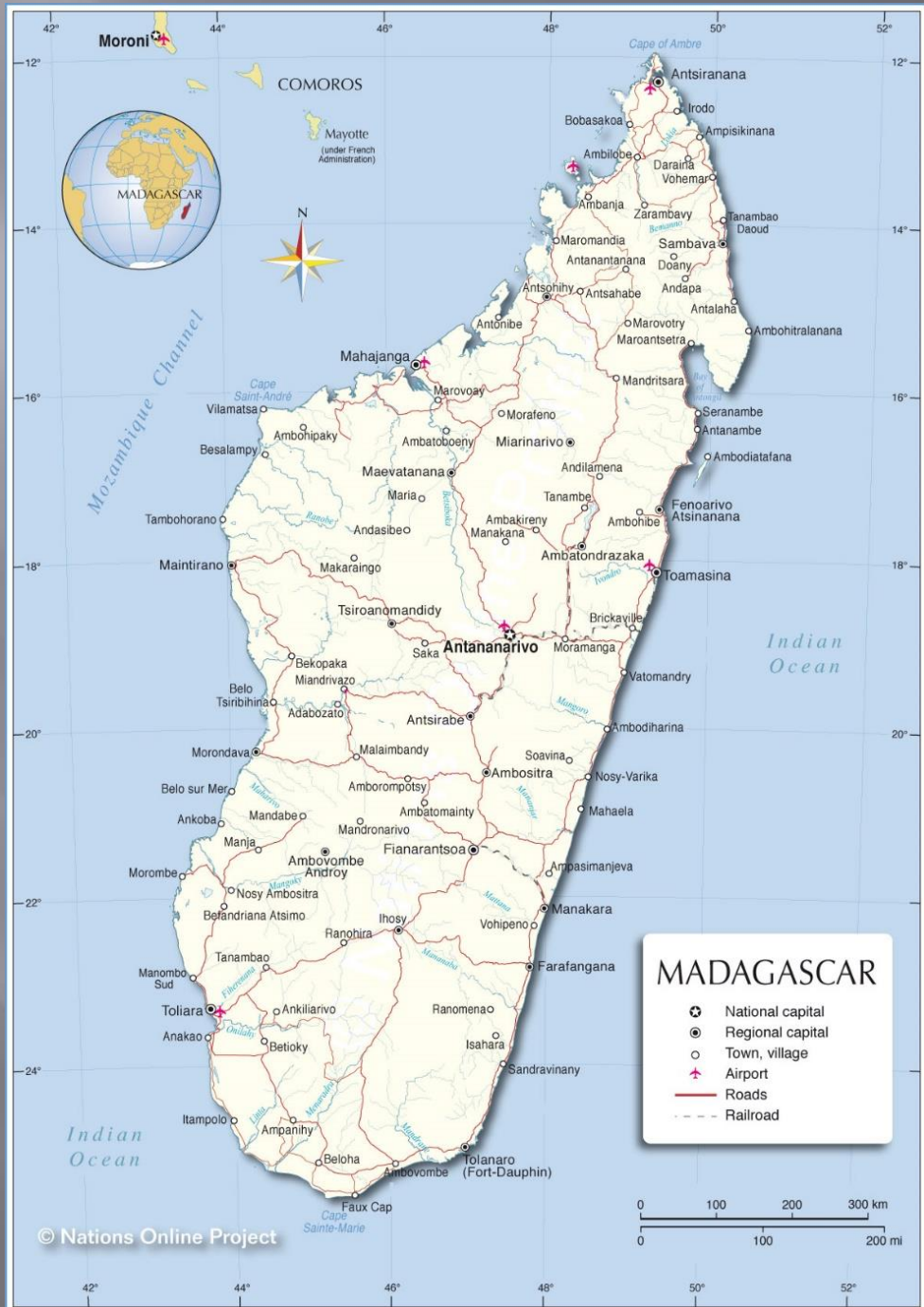
# Scenery

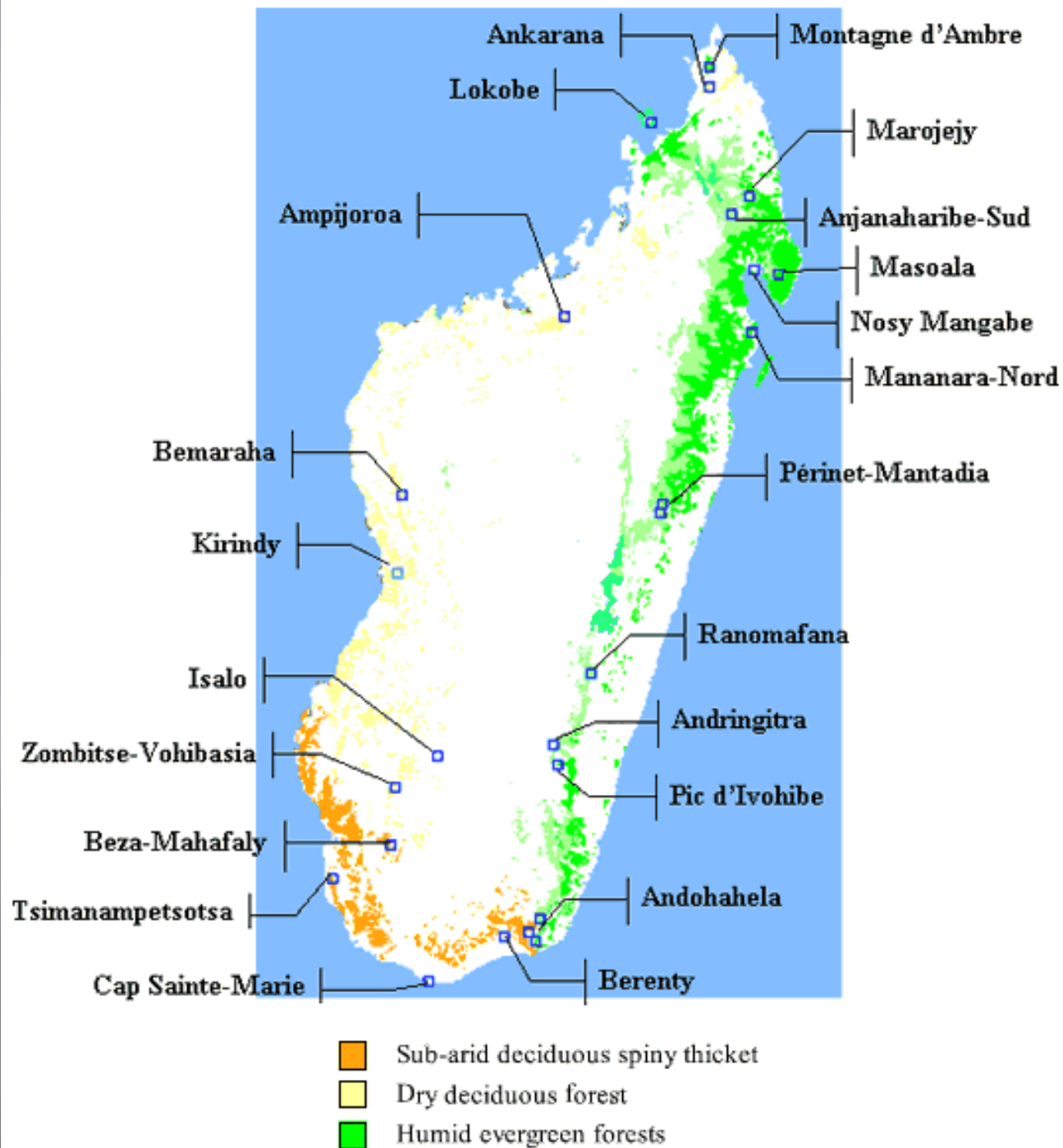


# Trip itinerary

- Mar 7-8** Des Moines to Antananarivo (via Minneapolis, Paris)
- Mar 9-11** Andasibe area (national parks)
- Mar 12** Return to Antananarivo, fly to Toliara, drive to Ifaty
- Mar 13-16** Ifaty area (national parks, coastal area)
- Mar 17** Morning near Toliara, then fly to Antananarivo
- Mar 18** Antananarivo to Des Moines









# Other trip details

- ▣ Weather: temps mostly between 70 and 85°F
- ▣ Communicate in Malagasy
- ▣ Limited communication (Internet?)
- ▣ Time zone: 8 hours later than Iowa (UTC+3)

# Costs

- ▣ Estimated costs:
  - Expedition (\$1,125)
  - Airfare (\$3,500)
  - Insurance, shared leader, misc. (\$1,175)
- ▣ Total: estimated \$5,800
- ▣ Application deadline is 1 October (decision by 15 October)
  - 1-page essay: “Why Madagascar for me?”
- ▣ Deposit of \$500 due 30 November
- ▣ Scholarships – 1 November deadline
  - Apply in GAP office (018 Curtiss)



# Questions?

The background of the slide features a silhouette of a desert landscape at sunset. On the left, there is a large, leafless tree. To its right and in the foreground, there are several tall, spiky cacti. The sky is a gradient of colors, from a deep blue at the top to a bright orange and yellow near the horizon where the sun is setting.

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