

Global Connections

May 10-16, 2026

Southern Utah

“Awe in Abundance: Spiritual Exploration in American Southwest Deserts”

This immersive Global Connections experience invites Oxford undergraduates to explore the transformative power of awe through encounters with three of Utah's most magnificent landscapes—Arches, Canyonlands, and Capitol Reef National Parks—alongside Oxford Chaplain Brent Huckaby and English professor Sarah Higinbotham. Students will investigate how awe-inspiring natural environments reshape human consciousness, perspective, and meaning-making through direct engagement with landscapes that have moved observers across cultures and centuries. Through guided hikes beneath towering formations, within slot canyons, and across desert vistas, combined with reflective practices designed to cultivate receptivity, students will explore how encounters with geological time, immense scale, and raw beauty alter our understanding of ourselves and our place in the world.

The Pierce Program in Religion covers the majority of the cost of this trip.
Scan QR code for application and more information.



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Questions? Email oxorsl@emory.edu