Kyhl Lyndgaard teaches in the environmental studies department and was in South Africa during the first US-South African summit after apartheid ended. The leaders then were Nelson Mandela and Bill Clinton. He’s excited to revisit South Africa and to relearn the words to the national anthem "Nkosi Sikelel’iAfrika." In addition, Kyhl has significant experience abroad from teaching English in Taiwan; he later brought students to study in Beijing and Harbin, China.

**COLG 385: Diversity and Truth-Telling in South Africa**

**Course Overview**

“Diversity and Truth-Telling” will explore a range of cultural and social groups in South Africa (past and present) as well as a look at some of the biodiversity in the Cape region and how the land has impacted human settlement and culture. Remarkable, searing stories are told by various anti-apartheid activists, writers, journalists, and scientists. These truth-tellers describe how interactions between these various groups have played out over the last 100 years in South Africa, with a particular focus on the end of apartheid in the 1990s to the current day. We will include a look at how a changing climate is already seen through historic droughts and other impacts. My students would be guided through written reflections on these difficult topics in which they are asked to interrogate some of their own interactions—both at home and in South Africa—and what their own stories and truths are as they develop greater self-awareness and cultural competency throughout the intensity of a semester in a young African democracy.