

Ghana: A Case Study in Development

Preprogram Dates: 5:30 – 7:30 pm April 3, and 17 May 1, 18, 20 & 26

Program Dates: June 1 – June 12, 2009 (Arrival May 31, departure June 13)

Registration: Registration for this class is controlled and limited. To be eligible, the program registration form and \$300 deposit must be received by MyKellann Ledden by Friday, March 13, 2009. Due to the limited number of seats and nature of travel/group work, short interviews will be conducted on Tuesday, March 24 from 10am – 7:30 pm. **Enrollment priority will be given to those in the International Relations or Human Rights and Humanitarian Assistance concentration and graduating during the Spring, Summer or Fall 2009 semesters. Short personal statements and interviews will also be considered.** Students will be notified of their enrollment status by Friday March 27, 2009.

Documents: A passport and visa are required for entry into Ghana. Please refer to visa requirements on the New York Ghana Consulate's website: <http://www.ghanaconsulatenewyork.org/>

Health: Yellow fever vaccination documentation is required for the visa application. In addition to yellow fever, please refer to the Center for Disease Control website for important health preparation recommendations: <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinationGhana.aspx>

****Malaria is a major health concern across Ghana****

About the “MSGA Global Field Intensive” Study Abroad Approach MSGA Global Field Intensive: Project Based Study Abroad Initiative

The Global Field Intensive model has been designed for students to maximize their in-country academic experience by engaging in comprehensive pre-departure research and project planning. Rather than simply attending a series of lectures and site-visits while abroad, students are asked to become active participants in their field intensive in-country experience. Global Field Intensives incorporate the following elements across all programs: pre-departure class sessions; pre-departure project planning with professor; onsite lectures; onsite field visits; onsite individual or group information gathering; onsite MSGA faculty and student debrief sessions; post-trip wrap-up sessions and project presentations.

Program Description

Y45.3010 Ghana: A Case Study in Development

Development in the world's poor countries is the subject of major policy debates, as well as being one of the great moral imperatives of our day. In this course, we will examine multiple dimensions of development – economic, political, environmental, social, cultural and regional – through the example of Ghana.

As the first country in sub-Saharan Africa to gain independence from colonial rule, Ghana played a major role in the transformation of the continent. Despite its early promise, the country has endured political upheaval, military rule and economic collapse, as have many in the region. Today, its market liberalization, democratic transition, and political leadership, put it in the forefront of what many hope will be an African renaissance. Yet more than a third of the Ghanaian people live in poverty, despite economic reform that began a quarter of a century ago and democracy that started more than a decade ago. These are among the reasons that a case study of Ghana will fortify a broader understanding of development in Africa.

The course will be organized in two segments: sessions in New York before departure for Accra, and sessions in Ghana. Pre-departure classes will provide students with an overview of development issues, a review of African history and political evolution, and an introduction to Ghana's history, politics, economy and culture. In New York, students will pursue their research projects and prepare for individual case studies in the field. In Ghana, sessions will focus in-depth on major dimensions of the country's development, including the political, social, environmental and economic dimensions. The class will visit development projects and organizations, and students will conduct their own field research for their case studies.

Requirements

- 6 class sessions before departure
- 12-day trip to Ghana, including:
 - 2-day Practicum with development organizations
 - 2-day Individual field research with chosen organization
- Research project including preparatory materials, research report, case study and short presentation

Practicum and Field Research

The class will have the opportunity to visit the field offices of development organizations such as CARE and its partners in western Ghana during a two-day practicum in the Takoradi area. The visit will address rural development, the environment, communities affected by mining and other issues.

CARE http://www.care.org/vft/ghana/care_ghana.asp, is a large private international relief and development organization dedicated to addressing the complex problem of poverty. In Ghana, CARE works with community organizations, underprivileged people and the broader society to strengthen links among them.



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For their individual field research and case studies component, students will arrange a visit with an organization of their choosing in the Takoradi area or in Accra, the capital city. Organizations for additional field study work will be researched and chosen during the April 17th class session.

Internship Option

For those able to stay in Ghana after the program's conclusion, guidance in securing an internship through one of the pre-vetted organizations will be provided from the staff at the NYU Ghana Center. Traditionally, student interns commit at least 10 hours a week.

Faculty

BARBARA BORST, M.A.

Barbara Borst has taught at New York University's Center for Global Affairs since 2000 and led the Center's first field intensive course to Ghana in May 2008. In addition, she teaches international reporting at NYU's Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute. She received an NYU award for teaching excellence in February 2007. She earned a B.A. in English Literature from Yale University and an M.A. in International Relations from Boston University's overseas program in Paris.

A journalist specializing in international affairs, she worked for the Associated Press as an editor on the international desk and frequently reported from the United Nations. The AP recently published her article and photos on the efforts of two Kenyan women to rescue their community from the AIDS epidemic. While based abroad for a dozen years, in Nairobi, Johannesburg, Paris and Toronto, she

reported frequently for *Newsday*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Dallas Morning News*, *The Los Angeles Times*, Inter Press Service news agency, and others.

Site

Located on the Western Gulf coast of Africa, Ghana stands out as one of the most politically and economically stable as well as culturally vibrant countries on the continent. The capital city of Accra is an intriguing blend of successful modernity and rich colonial history. Ghanaians are generally thought to be among the most intellectually curious, friendly and culturally tolerant people in the region. Along with its educational hallmarks, Ghana is also home to a number of national parks where students will have the opportunity to experience the country's remarkable wildlife and landscape. The NYU Center and residence are located in Labone in eastern Accra, not far from the Atlantic Ocean. The neighborhood is within walking distance of the popular Oxford Street in Osu, which is known for its fine shops, restaurants, and outdoor cafés. Labone is one of the friendliest and most pleasant neighborhoods in Accra, a place where students will find beautiful homes surrounded by coconut and palm trees as well as an impressive variety of tropical plants and flowers. Along many of the neighborhood streets, students will see vendors selling local batik cloth and fresh fruits such as papaya, avocados, pineapples, oranges, and bananas.

Lodging & Accommodations

While in Accra, students will stay at the NYU residence facility, a contemporary gated complex of four duplexes in a quiet residential neighborhood of greater Accra and within walking distance from the NYU Center. The University of Ghana-Legon, Ashesi University, and diverse parts of the city are all a short ride away.

Each duplex faces a common courtyard and houses approximately seven students in double and triple rooms, each with a private bathroom. Each also has kitchenette, a large living room with TV/VCR, and a telephone for making local calls to staff and your new friends. The complex also offers air conditioning and 24-hour security. You'll have the choice of preparing meals or eating out, since housing is located near shopping centers including the Makola Market, a large and bustling open air market. Most students opt to purchase a meal plan that allows them to eat their evening meal together at an affiliated local restaurant called Tante Marie.

Accommodations in Elmiria will be at the Coconut Grove Beach Resort

<http://www.coconutgrovehotels.com.gh/index.htm>. Accommodations in Takoradi will be announced at the first class session.

Booking Flights – ARRIVE/DEPART: ACCRA

Student participants will be responsible for booking flights to and from Accra, Ghana. Students should plan to arrive in Accra no later than Monday June 1st. Departure for the United States should be booked for Saturday June 13th from Accra unless the student plans to remain in the country or go elsewhere for additional travel. Please note that you may need to book your flight directly through the airline rather than other discount web-based services (Travelocity, Orbitz, and Expedia do not offer a booking through to Ghana). British Airways, American Airlines, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, United Airways, and Lufthansa are just some of the airlines that fly from the U.S. to Ghana. **BEFORE YOU COMMIT TO PAYING FOR YOUR AIRLINE TICKET, PLEASE CHECK WITH US ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE PROGRAM.**

Cost for the Program

Students will be responsible for covering the cost of the program fee (to be paid separately), tuition for 3 credits, visas and other travel related expenses (including the roundtrip flight to Accra). The program fee will cover student lodging (in Accra and other rural sites), some lunches, and dinners/special receptions, all meetings/special guest lectures, all in-country travel (including airport transportation), and planned cultural excursions.

- Program Fee:
\$1300: Double Room Occupancy
Tuition: \$2400 *Please Note: Special Rate**** 40% off 3 credits of tuition**
- Estimated Airfare: \$1500
- **TOTAL MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST: \$5200**

Program Deposit

A Program Deposit of \$300 is necessary in order to be enrolled in this program. This should be sent to the department via snail mail with your registration form (to the address below) as a check payable to New York University. This will be used towards the program fees. You will be required to pay the full program fee after your registration is confirmed. This deposit check is non-refundable after April 3, 2009.

Send Deposit Checks and Registration Forms to:

NYU SCPS Center for Global Affairs
Attention: MyKellann Ledden
15 Barclay Street
New York, NY 10007

Cancellations and Refunds

- Cancellations from March 27 – April 2, 2009: Refund of payment, less \$300 program deposit
- Cancellations on and after April 3, 2009: Full forfeiture of the program deposit, program fee as well as tuition penalties.

Program cancellations must be made in writing. To protect yourself, we recommend that you purchase flight cancellation insurance.

Registration Deadline

Registration for Ghana is open until March 13, 2009. After March 13, you must contact the department at 212.992.8380 for space availability. Students will know their enrollment status by March 27, 2009.

****IMPORTANT Health Information****

When traveling to West Africa, there are a number of health issues to take into consideration. Prior to departure, you will need to have a mandatory yellow fever vaccination. Proof of this vaccination will need to be submitted along with your visa application materials. In addition, it is essential to begin taking malaria prevention medication approximately two weeks prior to departure.

All emergency health care must be paid in full (usually in cash) and at the time of the visit. Claims can be made to your health insurance company upon your return. For those with private health coverage, please check for international coverage.

The Center for Global Affairs will provide a special travel health consultation for all participants of the Ghana travel program.