

LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, & AFRICANA STUDIES IN GHANA

6 credits, 6 ½ weeks (May 24-July 7)



Gain critical thinking, intercultural, and career skills through hands-on field experience engaging with local communities in rural Ghana and classroom exploration of African culture, history, and politics at the University of Cape Coast.

Field of studies/interests:

- Africana Studies
- Anthropology
- Sociology
- History
- Race, Gender Studies/Development
- International Studies
- Ghanaian Culture, Foodways, Music, Writers and Oral Tradition
- Agriculture
- Food Security
- Public Health
- Sustainability
- Biological System Engineering
- Water: Resources, Policy, and Management



Apply online at www.globaleducation.vt.edu by February 1, 2016.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to all majors. Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.5. Contact faculty program leader for exceptions.

Pre-requisite: A mandatory course of HIST 3954/19236 Study Abroad is required during Spring 2017. Virginia Tech Associate Professor Brett Shadle will teach this course.

COSTS

The estimated summer program fee is \$5,000* plus 6 credits of University tuition and fees. The program fee includes group ground transportation, excursions, lectures, CISI insurance, most meals and lodging expenses for the duration of the program. Not included are round trip airfare to Accra, visa and immunization expenses, and some meals. Scholarships of \$1,000-\$1,500 to be applied toward the cost of airfare are available. **A deposit of \$500 will be due upon acceptance to the program.**

*Please be advised this cost estimate subject to change.

*Tuition and university fees are billed separately from the program fee according to University Bursar policy. Six credit hours of tuition + fees will be billed for Summer Session I. See here for credit hour rates for the appropriate term: <http://www.bursar.vt.edu/>.

CONTACT

For more information, contact Selma Haghamed at selma@vt.edu.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Service, Leadership, and Africana Studies in Ghana is a full immersion program. From May 24 - June 14, participants will work with Saha Global on water purification and solar energy harvesting projects in Tamale, the northern region of Ghana. Saha, a non-profit, partners with rural communities to address water safety, energy needs, access to technology, and provide women economic resources. During this portion of the program, Virginia Tech Professor Ozzie Abaye will provide an academic lens to the work with Saha.

The program then transitions to Cape Coast for three and a half weeks (June 14 - July 7) where Virginia Tech Associate Professor Kwame Harrison will offer "Africana Anthropology: The politics of race and culture in the Africana world". Faculty from the University of the Cape Coast will contribute a series of lectures dedicated to exploring African culture, music, history, literature, traditions, and more. The lectures will bring the various topics to life not only in the classroom, but also through visits to relevant cultural sites.

Cape Coast provides a critical framework for understanding and reflecting on how the African continent came to destination for development oriented projects. Through the lenses of anthropology and Africa Studies, participants will be introduced to basic information and critical perspectives necessary to reflect on their involvement, as Americans, in a service-oriented study abroad experience.

Potential program excursions may include:

- W.E.B. Dubois Center Accra
- Kakum National Park
- Elmina Castle
- Nzulezu

ACADEMICS

Participants will earn a total of 7 semester hours of Virginia Tech academic credit.

- 1 credit HIST-3954 Study Abroad (Spring 2017)
- 3 credits AFST 1814 Introduction to African Studies (Summer 2017 Session I)
- 3 credits ALS 3954 Study Abroad or ALS 4994 Undergraduate Research (Summer 2017 Session I)

