

Proposed Syllabus - Education Abroad 8 - 23 July, 2012

Music, Arts, and Culture in Ghana: Experience for Music Education

MUED 583 - three credits

Instructor:

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Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide an immersion experience within the culture of Ghana, with an emphasis on the vital musical and arts component of Ghanaian life, and the potential applications for inclusion in the US Music Education classroom/rehearsal. The course will involve direct study and individual student development of drumming skills in the Ga, Ewe, and Ashanti tribal traditions, African xylophone (*gyill*) playing, dance, and storytelling. Drum making techniques as well as batik and kente weaving will be explored.

Required Text

Gocking, Roger. (2005). *The History of Ghana*. Greenwood.
ISBN-13: 978-0313318948

Oppong, Joseph. (2003). *Ghana*. The Chelsea House. ISBN-07: 91073785

Salm, Stephen. (2002). *Culture and Customs of Ghana*.
Greenwood. ISBN-13: 978-0313320507

Course Structure

This course will involve three pre-trip orientation sessions held on campus, with readings and discussion questions assigned. These sessions are designed to prepare the student for the upcoming immersion experience by developing an understanding of the history of Ghana and in practical preparation for such a trip. The time in Ghana will be divided between directed study and self-directed exploration; seven days will be spent in residence at the Dagara Music and Arts Center in Nsawam/Accra, with the remainder being spent in Accra. Directed experiences will include providing outreach Music Education experiences for Ghanaian children, along with tours of the Cape Coast to visit to the area's slave forts and Kakom Nature Reserve and potential for individual study with artists at the Centre for National Culture.

Course Assessment

The final grade for this course will be based on a total point system. Points will be awarded as follows:

- 1) Successful completion of the course of study at the Dagara Music and Arts Center: 200 points
- 2) Journal/Reflection Paper: 100 points. Due no later than 1 August 2012

Each student will keep a personal Journal during the full experience, including all pre-trip activities and preparation. The paper will include reflection upon the experiences of the trip and study.

- 3) Curriculum Strategies: 100 points. Due no later than 1 August 2012

Students will design curriculum strategies/specific lesson plans for inclusion of the various aspects of the trip into their Music Education program.

- 4) Active, positive, participation in all pretrip and Ghanaian activities: 100 points

Grading:	<u>Total Points</u>	
	500 to 460:	A
	459 to 419:	B
	418 to 378:	C
	≤ 377:	F