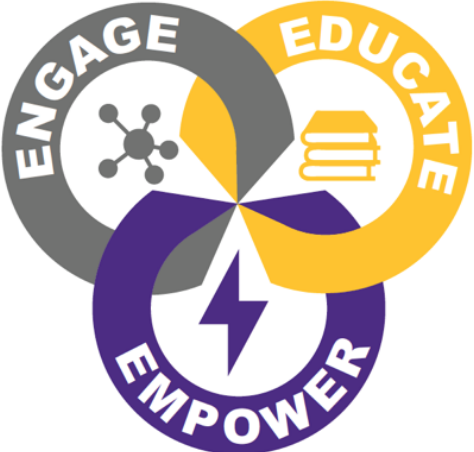


Tennessee Tech University Curriculum & Instruction

CUED 4900(5900): Study Abroad-Ghana, West Africa

Intersession, May 12-25, 2023, 3/1 Credit Hours, Faculty-Led Study Abroad

	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mission</u></p> <p>The mission of the College of Education at Tennessee Tech is to provide unique and rigorous, learner-centered academic experiences for our students to achieve their highest potential as life-long learners, professionals, and citizens.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Vision</u></p> <p>The College of Education will be an empowering force in education.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Conceptual Framework</u></p> <p>The College of Education prepares effective, engaging professionals through a clinically rich, evidence-based program with a network of mutually beneficial partnerships.</p>
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Instructor Information

Instructor Information:

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Course Information

Prerequisites [if applicable]

Students must have a valid passport to participate. All required immunizations must be acquired prior to travel.

Vaccinations/Medication:

Updated August 2, 2022

All vaccinations recommended by the CDC are required. Full list can be found here:
<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/ghana>

Course Welcome and Description

This study abroad course will apply service learning theory and cultural skills studies to gain intercultural compassion and understanding, increase awareness of critical issues facing the world, develop relevant skills in becoming a more effective and engaged world citizen, increase understanding of the role of music, craft, dance, literacy, and education in a multiethnic society, integrate scholarship with fieldwork, and foster effective team work among members of the group. Students will be enrolled at Dagbe Cultural Institute & Arts Center. They will participate in group and private lessons in drumming, dance, and craft. Students will conduct service learning activities primarily through directly teaching elementary and middle-school students at Kopeyia School (Math, Science, ESL, etc.). Students may choose their emphasis (cultural studies vs. teaching), though all students will have opportunities to experience both.

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

Standards

Students will complete course according to all policy and standards required by the Study Abroad Office.

1. Gain familiarity and understanding of Ghana's culture, history, educational system, and language.
2. Gain intercultural compassion and understanding of Ghanaian people in rural and urban areas.
3. Develop relevant skills in becoming a more effective and engaged world citizen.
4. Understand the role of music, art, dance, and craft in rural Ghanaian life.
5. Increase knowledge of specific cultural issues, needs, strengths, problems, and resources.
6. Identify and analyze composition of community, including social, cultural, demographic, life-style, and religion.
7. Investigate the role of personal involvement in community for socially constructive purposes.
8. Improve self-esteem, sense of personal worth, competence, and confidence.
9. Improve communication skills across cultural barriers.
10. Learn to collaborate and problem-solve to resolve conflict.
11. Demonstrate increased proficiency in course-related cultural skills (music, dance, craft, etc.)

Major Teaching Methods

Field Experience, Class discussions, student presentations, reading and writing assignments, digital media projects, and reflection.

Special Instructional Platform/Materials:

Students will utilize their iLearn account to interact with some course materials and assignments.

Topics to be Covered

Ghanaian Society & Culture

History of Ghana

Rural Village Life of Ghana

Ghanaian Drum, Dance, Art, and Craft

Ghanaian K-12 Education

Service Learning

Course Schedule

4 pre-trip meetings to be scheduled during dead hour.

Trip Itinerary:

May 12: Depart Nashville

May 13: Arrive Accra, Ghana - overnight in hotel at Accra

May 14: Travel to Dagbe Cultural Center at Kopeyia, Ghana

May 15 - 19:

-Service Learning Activities at Kopeyia School

-Cultural Studies at Dagbe Center

May 20-21: Excursions & Observations in Rural Ghana

May 22: Travel to Accra – overnight in hotel at Accra

May 23: Accra cultural tour

May 24: Depart Accra

May 25: Arrive Nashville

Course Breakdown

- 1) Attend Pre-Travel Meetings
 - a. Paperwork and Medical Requirements
 - b. Safety
 - c. Cultural Perspectives
 - d. Service Requirements

Updated August 2, 2022

- 2) Introductory Flyer: Create a flyer introducing yourself to the class, including a picture and your major
- 3) Complete pre-travel paperwork
- 4) Participate and Contribute to reflection discussions throughout trip
- 5) Debriefing session upon return to Tennessee Tech.
- 6) Create digital media artifact (video, photo slideshow, podcast, or poster) showcasing your experiences, reflections, insights, and events of interest during the study abroad program.
- 7) (3 credit option and 5900 option): 2-3 page essay reflecting on the following questions:
 - a. In detail, explain what inspired you during this trip to Ghana.
 - b. With Ghana behind you, what commitment will you make during your time at Tech to employ some of the lessons learned through service?
 - c. What will you tell your fellow students at Tech about your trip to Ghana?
 - d. (5900 only): What are the differences in pedagogical approach that you observed at Kopeyia School?

Grading and Evaluation Procedures

Final grade determined by evidence of successful teaching at Kopeyia school, successful performance of cultural skills (music, dance, or art), participation in travel activities, online & in-person discussion, and final project.

Teaching & Performance: 30%

Participation: 30%

Discussion: 20%

Final Project: 20%

Grading Scale [if applicable]

Letter Grade	Grade Range
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 and below

Course Policies

Student Academic Misconduct Policy

Maintaining high standards of academic integrity in every class is critical to the reputation of Tennessee Tech, its students, alumni, and the employers of Tennessee Tech graduates. The student academic misconduct policy describes the definitions of academic misconduct and policies and procedures for addressing academic misconduct at Tennessee Tech. For details, view Tennessee Tech's policy 217 – [student academic misconduct at policy central](#).

Attendance Policy

Students must be present for planning meetings and the duration of the travel abroad experience.

Students who are unable to attend class for an extended period of time due to an emergency/extenuating circumstance (i.e., medical illness, hospitalization, death in the family/bereavement, military or legal obligation), may contact the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs at studentaffairs@tntech.edu to request an absence notification.

Class Participation

Students are expected to participate in group activities, service opportunities, and cultural classes, as well as engage in group discussion & reflection (in-person and online)

Assignments and Related Policy

All assignments are to be submitted by given due dates. Late assignments are accepted only with permission of instructor.

Disability Accommodation

Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the accessible education center (AEC). An accommodation request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the first week of the course. The AEC is located in the Roaden University Center, room 112; phone 931-372-6119. For details, view Tennessee Tech's policy 340 – [services for students with disabilities at policy central](#).

Additional Resources

Technical Help

If you are experiencing technical problems, visit the [myTech IT Helpdesk](#) for assistance.

If you are having trouble with one of the instructional technologies (i.e. Zoom, Teams, Qualtrics, Respondus, or any technology listed [here](#)) visit the [Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning](#) (CITL) website or call 931-372-3675 for assistance.

For accessibility information and statements for our instructional technologies, visit the [CITL's Learner Success Resource page](#).

Tutoring

The university provides free tutoring to all Tennessee Tech students. Tutoring is available for any class or subject, as well as writing, test prep, study skills, and resume support. Appointments are scheduled, so contact the [Learning Center website](#) for more information.

Health and Wellness

Counseling Center

The Counseling Center offers brief, short-term, solution-focused therapeutic interventions for Tennessee Tech University students. The staff of the Counseling Center is available to assist

students with their personal and social concerns in hopes of helping them achieve satisfying educational and life experiences. To learn more or schedule an appointment, visit the [Counseling Center website](#).

Health Services

Health Services offers high-quality, affordable care that is accessible and promotes the health and wellness of our Tennessee Tech community. Visit the [Health Services](#) website to learn more.

Pandemic Protocols

Each student must take personal responsibility for knowing and following any University protocol related to pandemics and other public health events. Students are expected to follow all directives published by Tennessee Tech on its official webpage. As conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic change, the University's COVID-19 protocols are also likely to change. Students are expected to monitor the University's official webpage to stay up to date on public health protocols.