

# Global Issues in Ghana

Join our team as we explore the amazing bio and cultural diversity of Ghana.

## COURSES

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BIOL 485: West African Biodiversity and Conservation Field Biology

SWRK 490: Global Issues in the Cultural and Socio-Political Context of Ghana

SWEK 695: Global Issues in the Cultural and Socio-Political Context of Ghana

## ACCOMMODATIONS

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Accra, Cape Coast, Kumasi, Mole, Tengzu - Ghana

Types of accommodations: Hotels and Dorms

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

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Biology Program:

Explore the amazing biodiversity of Ghana and become aware of the important conservation issues in this country and the rest of West Africa. We will learn about the globally critical Upper Guinean Forest biodiversity hotspot- a region with high diversity that is very threatened by human activities as well as other ecosystems and their biotas within this country and the rest of Africa. If you want to experience part of the real African subcontinent including the welcoming culture of Ghana, then this is the course experience for you!

Social Work Program:

With increased global communication comes an awareness of the similarities of social and natural challenges faced by nations throughout the world. The purpose of this international social work course is to broaden students' knowledge of social work issues and how these are influenced by the cultural and socio-political context of Ghana, West Africa. This course will increase students' knowledge and skills of social work practice with culturally diverse populations such as empowerment, strengths perspective, and multicultural practice. It will also allow students to (a) reflect on their own perspective and (b) observe and study the cultural context of Ghana in an immersive experience (being in Ghana for 21 days, interacting and experiencing its culture and people as students from the United States). Specifically, this course will provide an introduction to the socio-political historical events, social service organizations and educational institutions as well as Ghanaian ways of viewing and handling social problems and social justice. As a student, you are about to embark on an exciting learning experience in Ghana in West Africa, the first of Africa's 54 countries to gain its independence

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Biology Program

Students will acquire a foundation in West African biodiversity, including ecosystems and wildlife as well as the major agricultural crops. They also will gain a knowledge and appreciation of conservation biology, including aspects unique to this part of the world and all of Africa.

By the end of the course, students will gain an appreciation for and an understanding of a culture very different than their own. They will also gain writing and oral presentation skills. The realities of the effect of politics and foreign influence on conservation in West Africa will be understood via student observations and experience firsthand

- Social Work Program
1. Demonstrate an understanding and ability to describe their total immersive experience in Ghanaian Culture
  2. Discuss, using the integrated-perspectives framework, their perspectives of Africa and a contextual perspective of Ghana by systematizing reporting of reflections and observations.
  3. Think critically by using a cultural framework
  4. Relate historical events, social justice, and relationship with the nature of Ghanaian culture
  5. Integrate the experience of Ghana into a coherent view of social policy, social justice, and social work in that country.
  6. Identify and develop strategies and skills to become involved in the global struggle to protect human rights and lives as well as seek for careers in International Social Work.

## PROGRAM DETAILS

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**LOCATION:** *Accra, Ghana*

**ACADEMIC TERM:** *Summer 2014: July 22 – August 7, 2014*

**ITINERARY** (*subject to change*)

Day 1 – Arrive in Accra	Day 9 – Mole National Park
Day 2 – University of Ghana Research Center	Day 10 – Mole National Park
Day 3 – Sha Hills – Wildlife Behavior	Day 11 – Mole National Park
Day 4 – Kakum National Park	Day 12 – Tengzu Area
Day 5 – Kakum National Park	Day 13 – Return to Accra
Day 6 – Kakum National Park	Day 14 – Accra
Day 7 – Bobiri Nature Preserve	Day 15 – Return to Nashville
Day 8 – Travel to Mole	

The schedule is subject to change due to educational opportunities that may arise unexpectedly, the vagaries of weather, and other factors beyond the control of the course instructors and staff.

## ELIGIBILITY

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- Permission of instructor(s) is required.
- Current WKU student eligible to register for WKU courses may apply. Students from outside WKU may participate as visiting students.
- For Graduate course, Graduate student in good standing (Graduate Catalog p.30).
- Students must be 18 years of age or older at time of departure (parent/guardian permission for anyone under 18 at time of departure).
- Students must possess passport valid for at least six (6) months after return date.
- Students must be free of active disciplinary sanctions as verified by Judicial Affairs.
- Students must complete all pre-departure orientations.
- Full payment prior to departure is required.

- Students must complete the Study Abroad & Global Learning application process prior to being registered in this course. We suggest you start this application process immediately and respond to all emails promptly

## **BASE PACKAGE**

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**Cost: \$4,999**

### **Included in Base Package**

- Undergraduate tuition for 3 credit hours, (\$1,090 value) or Graduate Tuition if taking Graduate Course
- Roundtrip Airfare from Nashville to Ghana
- All accommodations in Ghana
- Airport transfers in Ghana
- Course-related ground transportation in Ghana
- Ghana visa and entrance fees
- Some meals as part of the program
- International medical insurance

### **Excluded from Base Package**

- Transportation between your departure airport and your home.
- Independent travel (non-program travel).
- Meals, services, and beverages not included during course-related field programs.
- Personal expenses such as laundry, phone service, and Internet access.
- Tips for guides and drivers not included in program-related activity.
- Travel cancellation/interruption insurance. *Highly recommended.*
- Meals & Services and beverages not mentioned in the program
- Baggage fees and costs associated with flight / program changes
- SAGL Study Abroad Application fee of \$150.00

**Study Abroad courses are not eligible for employee tuition waivers or discounts. Final program fee subject to change due to travel arrangements.**

**Green Sheet subject to change due to adjustment in program or pricing.**

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

<p><b>Your TopNet Account will be billed according to the following Payment Schedule:</b></p> <p>February 3, 2014 - Priority deadline for application with non-refundable \$250 deposit *</p> <p>February 3, 2014 – Program Fee will be charged to students TopNet account. Balance must be paid prior to program departure. Students applying after this date will be billed on a rolling basis.</p> <p>* This is paid by student directly with a credit card. Not billed to student account.</p>	<p><b>Penalty due to Withdrawal or Non-payment:</b></p> <p>After February 1: 25% of total of program cost  After March 1: 50% of total of program cost  After April 1: 75% of total of program cost  After May 1: 100% of total of program cost (No refund.)</p> <p><b>If a balance remains after the payment due date, the participant may be dropped from the program. A student may remain in the program by providing an award notification from WKU's Student Financial Assistance that verifies ability to pay the program fee immediately after aid is received.</b></p>
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## LOGISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- **Passport Requirements** – Each participant must have a passport that includes an expiration date, which is 6 months beyond the last date of the program. The expiration must be beyond July 20, 2014.
- **Professionalism** – The highest level of professionalism is required for this program. Student are expect to maintain WKU standard's in their code of conduct.

## LIABILITY DISCLAIMER

*Western Kentucky University and its associates are not responsible for any loss due to theft, personal injury, flight or weather delays, negligence, or default of suppliers, or suppliers changing of itineraries. They and their associates are not responsible for any loss due to travel/flight delays or changes in travel plans due to Acts of Nature or other unforeseen circumstances, nor are we responsible for accidents and medical care. Tour services are furnished by independent contractors who are not agents or servants of Western Kentucky University. Refunds are not available for unused portions of the package.*