

PROPOSAL FOR NEW STUDY ABROAD or EXCHANGE PROGRAM
USAC-Ghana at University of Ghana

RATIONALE: Since 2013, we have been sending students on the USAC specialty semester long program located at the University of Ghana. Over the course of those years (including fall 2018) we have sent 10 students on the program. Upon their return, students always talk about the unique learning opportunities (such as the included field trips, the courses taught by local faculty, the programming put on by the local resident director, etc.) that presented themselves in Ghana. USAC continues to provide a high level of support to students on-site, which is something many of our returnees have said they appreciated.

USAC offers a summer program at the same location as the semester program, however we have not allowed students to participate. We at first didn't allow the summer program due to potential conflicts of losing interest in the South Africa summer program we have. Upon further review of the courses offered at each location, we have realized that the Ghana program offers a different experience than the South Africa program. We also feel that the Ghana program attracts students who are looking for an opportunity to study in Western Africa.

The USAC Ghana summer program also allows students to enroll in a service learning course worth 1-2 credits (varies by how many sessions students do). In addition, there are non-credit volunteer opportunities available too.

One difference between the USAC summer program and the semester program is that students will only take courses offered by faculty hired by USAC. In the semester program, students can take courses at the University of Ghana, but that is not an option in the summer.

ENROLLMENT LIMITS:

The USAC Ghana summer program can enroll 40 students/session. Due to UW-Eau Claire's early deadlines, we have not run into issues with students not being allowed to participate due to enrollment limits. USAC has also said that their summer programs average 15-30 students each session, so they do not see a capacity issue.

ACADEMIC LOGISTICS:

- **Can UW-Eau Claire accept credit from this program? What other UW System colleges/universities or U.S. universities are accepting credit from the host institution?** Yes, we currently accept credit USAC grade reports on the semester program and other USAC programs.
- **How are grades reported?** Grades are reported on an official USAC grade report. Grade from the summer are usually received in late August

- **What language is used on the above document? If not English, what resources are required for an English translation?** English
- **What credit system is used and how does it translate into U.S. credits?** All students earn U.S. credit while on a USAC specialty program.
- **How is course level determined?**
Course levels are the same as UW-EAu Claire: 100, 200, 300, 400. Currently 100 and 200 level courses are considered lower division and 300 and 400 are considered upper division.
- **What grade scale is used and what is the conversion to UWEC grades?** Grades are reported using the standard A-F scale with plus and minus designations.

CURRICULUM:

Students can earn three-six credits in session I and three to four credits in session II (or six to ten if they complete both sessions). Students are required to take at least one 3-credit course in each summer session. Course availability is contingent upon student interest and enrollment and is subject to change. Courses are taught in English by local or visiting faculty.

Session I

- [African Music and Dance](#) (DAN/MUS, 100-level, 1 credit)
- [Contemporary Issues in Africa—Developing Countries](#) (PSC, 300-level, 3 credits)
- [International Health](#) (CHS, 300-level, 3 credits)
- [Service Learning](#) (SOC/SW, 400-level, 1 credit)
- [Social Service Delivery Systems in Ghana](#) (SOC/SW, 400-level, 3 credits)
- [The African Storyteller](#) (ENGL/HIST, 300-level, 3 credits)
- [Twí—African Language I](#) (WLL, 100-level, 1 credit)

Session II

- [African Literature](#) (ENGL, 400-level, 3 credits)
- [African Music and Dance](#) (DAN/MUS, 100-level, 1 credit)
- [Black Diaspora Culture](#) (AAS/ANTH, 300-level, 3 credits)
- [Contemporary Issues in Africa—Sustainable Economic Development](#)(ECON/ENV/PSC, 300-level, 3 credits)
- [Service Learning](#) (SOC/SW, 400-level, 1 credit)
- [Society, Government and Politics in Ghana and Africa](#) (PSC/SOC, 400-level, 3 credits)
- [Twí - African Language I](#) (WLL, 100-level, 1 credit)
- [Twí - African Language II](#) (WLL 100-level, 1 credit)

Service learning:

Per USAC's website:

“Service learning is a particular type of course offering that combines the classroom with the community and academics with action. Prepare to make yourself a part of the city where you study in a way that most visitors cannot experience. It will call for some initiative and a willingness to become involved. Service Learning is a course and counts as part of your credit load. It cannot be taken for audit. Note that non-credit volunteer opportunities may also be available.

You have the unique opportunity to experience Ghanaian culture and society through a service learning course and work in a variety of settings, which includes opportunities like teaching/tutoring at an elementary school, working at a local orphanage, assisting with advocacy and awareness programs at the West African Aids Foundation, training and fundraising opportunities at a community development NGO, working at the Accra Zoo or West African Primate Conservation Action, assisting at a local dance or theater company and others based on request. Some organizations may charge a one-time fee for the service learning or volunteering placement. You will learn more about the available opportunities during your on-site orientation and your placement will be confirmed at that time based on your interests and organizations' needs.”

HOUSING:

Per USAC’s website:

“The University of Ghana believes in community living as an essential part of student life, and primarily houses students on-campus in Residence Halls. USAC students reside in the International Hostel in double rooms. Single rooms may be available for an additional fee. A few Ghanaian students are selected to live there with you, which offers a great way for you to get to know locals. There is 24-hour security.

The dorm is very clean and has many amenities. There are communal bathrooms on each floor. Kitchen facilities are available for students to do their own simple cooking. Each floor has a common room with couches, chairs, and some TVs. Most students eat out, rather than cook. There is a café on the bottom floor of the dorm with delicious food and the staff is friendly. There is also a convenience store where you can buy drinks, snacks, and miscellaneous items. There are student cafes and cafeterias on campus where students can eat three meals a day for a minimal price. There are also many restaurants throughout the city.

Wifi is available in housing and on campus at no charge. There is a lounge in the dorm where for a small fee students can use computers and internet if they don't have their own computer.

Housing in the residence hall (in a double room) is included in the program fees for the summer session.”

CALENDAR:

Summer session I, 2018: May 29, 2018-July 12, 2018
Summer session II, 2018: July 13, 2018-August 7, 2018
Summer sessions I & II, 2018: May 29, 2018 – August 7, 2018

USAC has confirmed that summer session I, 2019 will begin on May 29, 2019, so there won't be a conflict with our new calendar.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Minimum 2.5 GPA and sophomore standing or higher by program start. Students need to have good academic, conduct and financial standing.

FOREIGN CULTURE REQUIREMENT:

For students in catalog years through 2015-16, under the current guidelines for short-term programs, eligible students could fulfill 1/3 of the requirement for participating in the program and completing service learning for credit.

LIBERAL EDUCATION CORE:

For students in catalog year 2016 and later, this program can fulfill one integrated learning (I1) requirement upon completion of the integrated learning assignments.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

The first opportunity that UWEC students would have to participate on the USAC Ghana summer program would be summer 2019.