Why Study in Ghana?

Ghana is a country filled with a rich oral tradition. Folklore, song, and dance are all passed down and preserved generation to generation. Through this course, participants will have the opportunity to explore the abundance of tradition and history first hand. Students will gain crosscultural understanding by comparing their experiences here in the United States with those in Ghana; for example, individualism versus collectivism, family dynamics, and oral versus written tradition.



About the Instructors

Paschal Kyoore is a Professor of French and LALACS and the Director for the African Studies Program. He has been doing research on African folklore for a number of years, focusing his research on Ghana.





Michele Rusinko is a teacher, choreographer, dancer, and writer. Before coming to Gustavus over 20 years ago, Michele was the Director of Dance at Weber State University in Odgen, Utah.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Accessing Studio Abroad

To access the Studio Abroad site, go to http://gustavus.studioabroad.com/. This will take you to the Gustavus home page of the Studio Abroad site.

What is on Studio Abroad?

You can view the January Interim 2016 courses by clicking "Programs" on the top navigation bar. (these will be available in February 2015) If you want to see a list of only the January Interim courses, select "January Interim" from the dropdown menu labeled "Term." If you want to search for a specific program, enter the title beneath the "Program Name" from the drop-down menu. Priority applications will be available and open on Studio Abroad beginning April 1, 2015 to April 15, 2015. You may apply for Gustavus programs until July 31, 2015.

How to apply in April 2015?

First, locate your program. Once you find it, click the "Apply Now" button and follow the instructions on the subsequent screens. Once you get to your application "home page" you will then need to read, submit, and return a variety of other pieces, all of which will be laid out on your home page. Some of these items will be submitted electronically, some still need to be submitted via paper directly to the CICE (i.e. receipt for fees). Read all of the information and instructions carefully

For Gustavus programs, this will be the only application you need to complete. If you are applying to a program through Hamline, UMAIE, or HECUA, this is only the application for Gustavus approval and does not constitute approval or acceptance into the specific study abroad program. You will receive instructions and a link to apply to your specific study abroad program/program provider on the Studio Abroad system once CICE has given you the approval to apply.

ORAL TRADITION IN

GHANA



JANUARY 2016





"To live is to choose. But to choose well, you must know who you are and what you stand for, where you want to go and why you want to get there" ~ Kofi Annan, Ghanaian Diplomat



About the Course

This course focuses on folktales and storytelling in Ghana. Students study and discuss the role of story and storytelling, read and discuss a collection of folktales from Ghana, and listen to testimonies of stories from people of varied social backgrounds and ethnicities in Ghana. They write reflection papers on the narrated personal and collective stories, as well as on the folktales they read, on their visits to UNESCO heritage sites such as the Slave Castles, and their experience with traditional music and dancing as a form of storytelling in Ghana.



Course Information

Instructors: Paschal Kyoore and

Michelle Rusinko **Enrollment:** 20-22

Cost: TBD estimates by late March

2015

Tentative Dates:

January 5-12: On campus January 12-30: Ghana

Deadlines:

Applications available: April 1, 2015 Early applications due: April 15, 2015 Last day to apply: July 31, 2015



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Course Instructors

Paschal Kyoore (507) 933-6078 paschal@gustavus.edu

Michele Rusinko (507) 933-7351 mrusinko@gustavus.edu

Linda Shaw

January Interim Advisor (507) 933-7150 Ishaw@gustavus.edu



Outcomes:

- Intercultural Understanding by thoughtfully considering different beliefs, customs, practices, and social behaviors
- **Ethical Reflection** by contemplating the conflicting value choices of the ethically complex world in which we live

Learning Objectives:

To give students a first hand experience of how stories are created in African cultures. Pre-departure reading and discussions of the role of the story and storytelling, both in the definition of the self and as a tool to facilitate cross-cultural understanding. While in Ghana, students will continue to study the narrative structure of stories, explore the diverse roles that story and storytelling play within the culturally diverse areas of Ghana, and will be guided in reflective writing practices to help process the impact of this study abroad experience on their individual lives.