



Study abroad.

SYLLABUS

GHANA TODAY

Instructor: TBA

Contact Hrs: 60

Language of Instruction: English

ACCRA, GHANA

This is an interdisciplinary course designed to study some of the major contemporary issues facing Ghanaian society after 50 years of independence from British colonial rule. Students interested in sociology, history, political science, economics, and cultural studies will find this course of particular interest as its subject matter will dovetail with each of these related disciplines.

The following specific areas will be covered over the span of the semester:

Week 1: *Historical Overview of Pre-Colonial to Post-Colonial Ghana*

READINGS: A History of Ghana: Revised and Updated. F.K. Buah. Mcmillan, 1998. Chapters 1-10.

Week 2: *Politics of Democratization in Ghana*

READINGS: Democratization in Late Twenty-Century Africa: Coping with Uncertainties. Jean-Germain Gro, ed. Greenwood Press, 1998. Chapter 7.

Week 3: *Economic Development in Ghana*

READINGS: Regional Development in Ghana: The Theory and the Reality. Jacob Songsore. Woeli Publishing Services, 2003. Chapters 1-3.

Week 4: *Contemporary Familial Patterns in Ghana*

READINGS: Tradition and Change in Ghana: An Introduction to Sociology. G.K. Nukunya. Ghana Universities Press, 2003. Chapters 2, 3, 9.

Week 5: *Contemporary Religious Patterns in Ghana*

READINGS: Tradition and Change in Ghana: An Introduction to Sociology. G.K. Nukunya. Ghana Universities Press, 2003. Chapter 4.

Week 6: *Role of Ghanaian Women in National Development*

READINGS: The Role of Women in Ghana's Economy. Nora Judith Amu. Friedrich Ebed Stiftung. 2005

Week 7: *Illness and Health Care Issues in Ghana*

READINGS: Urbanization and Health in Africa: Exploring the Interconnections Between Poverty, Inequality, and the Burden of Disease, 2005. Jacob Songsore. Ghana Universities Press. Chapters. 1-2.

Week 8: **MIDTERM EXAM**

Week 9: *Critical Issues in Environmental Degradation and Protection*

READINGS: State of Environmental Health: Report of the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area 2001. Jacob Songsore, et al. Ghana Universities Press, 2005. Chpts. 1-4.

Week 10: *Education and Ghanaian Youth*

READINGS: "Child Labour Productivity and Wages: Case Study of Coastal Fishing and Local Restaurants in Ghana," Augustine Cockel, et.al, in Legon Journal of International Affairs, Vol.2/No.2, Pages, 89-115

Week 11: *Tourism in Ghana*

READINGS: Tourism, Diasporas, and Space. Edited by Tim Coles and Dallen J. Timothy. Routledge, 2005. Chapters 7-8.

Week 12: *Ghanaian Media*

READINGS: The Press and Political Culture in Ghana. Jennifer Hasty. Indiana University Press, 2005. Chapters 1-3.

Week 13: *Ghanaian Pop Culture*

READINGS: Current Local Magazines

Week 14: *Ghana's Role in ECOWAS and the African Union*

READINGS: "Address to the Conference and African Heads of State and Governments," Kwame Nkrumah, in Revolutionary Path, International Publishers, NY, 1973. Pages 233-248.

Week 15: **FINAL EXAM**

Quizzes and Exams

There will be two exams, a midterm and the final. The exams will include, primarily, essay styled questions. The purpose of the exams will be to gauge the students' grasp of the material covered in the class lectures and in the assigned readings as well as to measure the students' ability to reflect critically on the subject matter of the course.

Research Paper

A research paper of no less than 12 double-spaced typed pages will be required from each student. The subject matter of the research paper must address one of the subtopics of the course as approved by the professor. All students must turn in a copy of an outline of the specific topic chosen along with a brief annotated bibliography of sources within four weeks from the beginning of the course.

Grading

The course will consist of two exams, worth 70%; and the research paper, worth 30%. Five percent extra credit can be earned for consistent classroom participation.