



Global Perspectives in Higher Education: Ghana
HPSE-GE 2152 (3 credit points)
Spring Break Program
March 16-23, 2019

Class session dates and locations at NYU Campus,
Location: East Building Room 302, 239 Greene Street

Friday November 9, 4:30-6:30 pm

Friday February 8, 4:30-6:30 pm

Friday March 1, 4:30-6:30 pm

Friday April 12, 4:30-6:30 pm

Faculty:

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Purpose of Program

The study trip to Ghana is designed to provide graduate students with an opportunity to examine Ghana's higher education system and to discover and analyze similarities and differences in comparison to higher education in the United States and other countries. Through visits to universities and public and private colleges, we will engage in discussions with rectors, faculty members, deans of students and their staffs and students themselves. Special lectures with scholars and national officials will help us understand the goals and future aspirations of Ghanaian higher education and how higher education meets the social, political and cultural needs of society.

Course Description

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES IN HIGHER EDUCATION: GHANA.

In addition to preparatory meetings at NYU, students will participate in an eight-day field trip to Ghana that will provide an in-depth case study of its higher education system. The trip includes lectures from scholars and visits to Ghanaian colleges and universities to meet with faculty, administrators and students. Additional sessions will be held with scholars and local experts on higher education in Ghana to explore current issues and government priorities. Our campus visits will include public colleges, private and religiously affiliated institutions, and for-profit colleges. Topics will include curricular opportunities; college admissions requirements; distribution of students by class and ethnicity; college climate and student services.

The visit will be primarily based in and around the capital city of Accra and its outlying regions, as well as an overnight trip to the Cape Coast.

Course requirements:

Class Contribution:

The contribution you make to the success of this class and to this study abroad experience is important. Students are expected to contribute to the development of a strong, inclusive learning community. As in any graduate course, you are expected to come to class having read the assigned materials thoroughly enough to contribute to a discussion on critical issues within the readings. Students are also expected to attend and actively participate in all classes and scheduled trips except where it is indicated that the activity is optional.

Short Response Paper:

In order to prepare for the trip, students will be required to read literature on the Ghanaian higher education system. Based on the readings, students are expected to prepare a 3-4 double-spaced page reflective response paper due by **4 PM on Thursday, February 28, 2019** on NYU Classes. This paper should discuss an issue from the readings that the student will likely study further during our time in Ghana and may be part of preparation for the final research paper.

Journal:

Journaling while we are in Ghana will provide you with an opportunity for daily reflection on what you are learning and experiencing. This journal provides a place for capturing your personal reflections on issues we address in class, through presentations, as well as on the broader experiences that you have in Ghana. You will need to submit **five** entries from the daily journal you kept while in Ghana by **Monday, April 1, 2019 at 11:55 PM** using NYU Classes. These entries should contain reflections on Ghanaian higher education or Ghanaian culture, society, or politics. The entries must be typed and double-spaced.

Final Research Paper/Project and Presentation:

You will conduct a study and write a final research paper on your area of specialization grounded in issues relevant to Ghana. The purpose of this paper is to deepen your understanding of critical educational issues in Ghana. The final research paper should be approximately 12-15 pages long (typed, APA format).

An outline of this paper will be due **Thursday, April 11, 2019 by 4 PM** on NYU Classes. Each student will also present his/her research topic at our NYU class session on **Friday, April 12, 2019** to obtain feedback and guidance from the group.

By no later than **Monday, April 29, 2019 at 11:55 PM** students will submit their final papers on NYU Classes.

IMPORTANT: Unless there is an extenuating circumstance, no incompletes will be given for late/missing/unfinished work.

All written assignments, including the journals, should be typed, double-spaced and submitted through NYU Classes via the "Assignments" section.

SAMPLE

Required Books:

The syllabus lists the required readings for the course per the class schedule on the pages that follow. The following books are required for this course. Selected chapters will be posted to the NYU Classes site.

Quartey, K. (2010). *Wife of the gods*. New York: Random House. [May swap with novel coming out in July]

Utley, I. (2010). *Culture smart: Ghana*. London: Kuperard.

Required Reading Assignments:

For Class #1 on Friday, November 9th

Book

Utley, I. (2010). *Culture smart: Ghana*. London: Kuperard.

For Class #2 on Friday, February 8th

Book

Quartey, K. (2010). *Wife of the gods*. New York: Random House.

NYU Classes

Aburge, J.B. (2018). Institutional governance and management systems in sub-Saharan Africa higher education: Developments and challenges in a Ghanaian research university. *Higher Education*, 75, 323-339.

Atuahene, F. (2014). Charting higher education development in Ghana: Growth, transformations, and challenges. In *The Development of Higher Education in Africa: Prospects and Challenges*, 215-263.

Effah, P. & Senadza, B. (2008). Ghana. In Teferra, D. and Knight, J. (eds.), *Higher education in Africa: The international dimension*. Boston, MA: Center for International Higher Education. pp. 208-237.

Yusif, H. & Ofori-Abebrese, G. (2017). Admission path, family structure and outcomes in Ghana's public universities: Evidence from KNUST students enrolled in the social sciences. *Higher Education*, 74, 1069-1089.

For Class #3 on Friday, March 1st

Readings to be added.

Readings to complete before start of program on March 16, 2019

Readings to be added.

SAMPLE

Additional Resources (Highly Recommended)

Ghanaian Higher Education System

- Adu, K.H. (2009, June 28). Ghana: Private higher education on the rise. *University World News*.
- Akplu, H.F. (2016). Private participation in higher education in sub-Saharan Africa: Ghana's experience. *International Higher Education*, 86, 20-22.
- Appiah, E. & Ebenezer, E.E. (2010). Rising rate of private universities in Ghana: The case for public and private support. Proceedings of the International Conference on e-Learning.
- Asamoah, M.K. (2017). Access to undergraduate education is an unresolved burden in Ghana: A qualitative approach. *International Journal of Lifelong Education*, 36(5), 595-612.
- Atuahene, F. (2008). The challenge of financing higher education and the role of student loans scheme: An analysis of the student loan trust fund (SLTF) in Ghana. *Higher Education*, 56, 407-421.
- Atuahene, F. (2014). Charting higher education development in Ghana: Growth, transformations, and challenges. In *The Development of Higher Education in Africa: Prospects and Challenges*, 215-263.
- Atuahene, F. & Owusu-Ansah, A. (2013). A descriptive assessment of higher education access, participation, equity, and disparity in Ghana. *SAGE Open*, 1-16.
- Bailey, T., Cloete, N., & Pillay, P. (2011). Case Study: Ghana and University of Ghana. Centre for Higher Education Trust.
- Daily Graphic Online Editorial Board. (2018, April 30). Streamline admission to technical universities. *Daily Graphic Online*.
- Effah, P. (2003). Ghana. In Teffera, D., and Altbach, P.G. (eds.), *African higher education: An international reference handbook*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press. pp. 338-349.
- Effah, P. & Senadza, B. (2008). Ghana. In Teferra, D. and Knight, J. (eds.), *Higher education in Africa: The international dimension*. Boston, MA: Center for International Higher Education. pp. 208-237.
- Kokutse, F. (2018, March 16). Accreditation body head calls for tougher powers. *University World News*. [Sounds a LOT like a Flexner Report in the US context].

- Kokutse, F. (2018, April 11). Minister calls for ‘rethink’ on higher education funding. *University World News*.
- Kokutse, F. (2018, July 1). New body to regulate all higher education institutions. *University World News*.
- Kokutse, F. (2018, May 4). Open university set to meet growing demand for higher education. *University World News*.
- Kokutse, F. (2018, February 16). Private universities have the potential to ‘take over’. *University World News*.
- Kuyini, A.B. (2013). Ghana’s education reform 2007: A realistic proposition or a crisis of vision? *International Review of Education*, 59, 157-176. [There’s a good timeline of the education system].
- Mabokela, R.O. (2015). “*The older women are men:*” Navigating the academic terrain, perspectives from Ghana. *Higher Education*, 69, 759-778.
- Mohamedbhai, G. (2017). The importance of polytechnics for Africa’s development. *International Higher Education*, 88, 30-31.
- National Accreditation Board. (2018). Number of accredited tertiary institutions in Ghana per category as at April, 2018. Available online <http://www.nab.gov.gh/news1/414-accredited-published-tertiary-institutions-as-at-august-2016-summary>
- National Council for Tertiary Education. (2014). Annual Report 2014.
- National Council for Tertiary Education. (2014). Basic Statistics on Tertiary Education Institutions 2012/2013.
- National Council for Tertiary Education. (2014). Report on the technical committee on conversion of the polytechnics in Ghana to technical universities.
- Nuffic. (2015). The Ghanaian education system described and compared with the Dutch system. [Has some good charts of the degree structure and other basic info perhaps better for slides].
- Okrah, K.A. & Adabor, J. (2010). Rethinking free education: How higher education shortchanges and denies access to the less privileged in Africa – the case of Ghana. *Michigan Academician XL*, 53-63.

U.S. Embassy in Ghana. (2018). Educational system of Ghana. Available online at <https://gh.usembassy.gov/education-culture/educationusa-center/educational-system-ghana/>

Ghanaian Education – General

Akyeampong, K. (2009). Revisiting free compulsory universal basic education (FCUBE) in Ghana. *Comparative Education*, 45(2), 175-195.

Higher Education Outcomes

Boahin, P. & Hofman, W.H.A. (2012). Implementation of innovations in higher education: the case of competency-based training in Ghana. *Innovations in Education and Teaching International*, 49(3), 283-293.

Ntim, S. (2014). Embedding quality culture in higher education in Ghana: Quality control and assessment in emerging private universities. *Higher Education*, 68, 837-849.

Heaton, T., Spencer, J., & Oheneba-Sakyi, Y. (2009). Religion and socioeconomic attainment in Ghana. *Review of Religious Studies*, 51(1), 71-86.

Morley, L. (2011). Sex, grades and power in higher education in Ghana and Tanzania. *Cambridge Journal of Education*, 41(5), 101-115.

Yusif, H. & Ofori-Abebrese, G. (2017). Admission path, family structure and outcomes in Ghana's public universities: Evidence from KNUST students enrolled in the social sciences. *Higher Education*, 74, 1069-1089.

Cultural Context

Addo, C. (2018). 5 bad things people say about some tribes in Ghana. YEN.com.gh

Aglanu, E.D. (2016). Ghallywood or the Ghanaian movie industry. In K. Konadu & C.C. Campbell (Eds.) *The Ghana reader: History, culture, politics* (pp. 451-455). Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Benile, S.K. (2000). Promotion of Ghanaian languages and its impact on national unity: the Dagara language case. In C. Lentz & P. Nugent (Eds.) *Ethnicity in Ghana: The limits of invention* (pp. 204-225). New York: St. Martin's Press.

Bosak, J., Eagly, A., Diekman, A., & Sczesny, S. (2018). Women and men of the past, present, and future: Evidence of dynamic gender stereotypes in Ghana. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 49(1), 115-129.

- Bowers, E. (2016). Ghana market women. In K. Konadu & C.C. Campbell (Eds.) *The Ghana reader: History, culture, politics* (pp. 399-402). Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Gifford, P. (2016). Paradigm shift. In K. Konadu & C.C. Campbell (Eds.) *The Ghana reader: History, culture, politics* (pp. 422-427). Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Gyimah-Brempong, K. & Asiedu, E. (2015). Remittances and investment in education: Evidence from Ghana. *The Journal of International Trade & Economic Development*, 24(2), 173-200.
- John, E. (2018, June 22). 'God knows us. God loves us.' *New York Times*.
- Kwami, A. (2016). Kumasi realism: Alex Amofa. In K. Konadu & C.C. Campbell (Eds.) *The Ghana reader: History, culture, politics* (pp. 416-421). Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Lentz, C. & Nugent, P. (2000). Ethnicity in Ghana: A comparative perspective. In C. Lentz & P. Nugent (Eds.) *Ethnicity in Ghana: The limits of invention* (pp. 1-28). New York: St. Martin's Press.
- McDonnell, T. (2018, March 10). What's the world's fastest-growing economy? Ghana contends for the crown. *New York Times*.
- Middleton, J. (2016). One hundred fifty years of Christianity in a Ghanaian town. In K. Konadu & C.C. Campbell (Eds.) *The Ghana reader: History, culture, politics* (pp. 177-188). Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Nkrumah, K. (2016). Independence speech. In K. Konadu & C.C. Campbell (Eds.) *The Ghana reader: History, culture, politics* (pp. 301-302). Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Okeke-Agulu, C. (2018, April 14). Opinion: Ghana deserves this cathedral. Don't fight it. *New York Times*.
- Okyere, S.A., Abunyewah, M., Erdiaw-Kwasie, M.O. (2018, May 31). Policymakers have a lot to learn from slum dwellers: an Accra case study. *The Conversation*.
- Yankah, K. (2016). Mobile phones and our cultural values. In K. Konadu & C.C. Campbell (Eds.) *The Ghana reader: History, culture, politics* (pp. 447-450). Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Africa-wide Initiatives

Lom, M.M. (2011, December 18). Pan-African University officially launched. *UniversityWorldNews*.

MacGregor, K. (2015, March 10). African research universities alliance launched. *UniversityWorldNews*.

Makoni, M. (2016, August 26). Will the new African passport improve academic mobility. *UniversityWorldNews*.

Teferra, D. (2017, June 23). New cluster to implement continent-wide education strategy. *University World News*.

Teferra, D. & Altbach, P.G. (2004). African higher education: Challenges for the 21st century. *Higher Education*, 47, 21-50.

World Bank. (2014, April 15). World Bank to finance 19 Centers of Excellence to help transform science, technology, and higher education in Africa. WorldBank.org