

PROGRAM INFORMATION & APPLICATION



**STERN SCHOOL
OF BUSINESS**

Stern International Volunteers Ghana Trip

Dates: May 19, 2016 – May 30, 2016 (tentative)

Spring 2016 | SOIM-UB.2000 (3 credits*) | R 9:30 – 10:45 am

Professors Kowal & Taparia

www.stern.nyu.edu/siv

*counts towards *Stern's Social Entrepreneurship Minor and Wagner's Public Policy & Management Minor*



A latrine completed by SIV Ghana in May 2015 in the Waodze-Tsatoe village

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About Stern International Volunteers

The Stern International Volunteers (SIV) was founded in 2007 as an international community service experience designed to bring Stern's four-course Social Impact Core to life. Its successful launch in January 2008 brought a small group of students to San Carlos, Costa Rica, where they worked on an infrastructure project painting an elementary school. And in May 2009, a second group of students traveled to Ayacucho, Peru, where they worked hand-in-hand with the local community to support the needs of the elderly, orphans and child laborers.

Due to the success of the program, we expanded both the size and scope. In May 2010, 2011 and 2012, we returned to Peru with double the number of student volunteers (20). Each group was accompanied by one chaperone from the Stern Undergraduate College administration. Additionally, for the first time, student volunteers were required to participate in a 2-credit pass/fail course that will enrich the learning experience by providing students with multiple lenses for thinking about their experiences while in Peru.

In 2014, the SIV program shifted its focus to Ghana. In the SIV Ghana Seminar 2014 students studied Ghanaian history, political/legal structure, business, human rights and culture. An inaugural group of 17 Stern undergraduates and 2 Stern faculty members traveled to Accra Ghana for 10 days to experience first-hand what was studied in the classroom. This trip partnered with NYU Accra and Adanu*, a Ghanaian NGO and included business visits, volunteer work in a rural village, cultural excursions and group reflections. In Spring 2016 – the 9th year of SIV – we will again travel to Accra, Ghana.

* <https://www.adanu.org/>

SIV Seminar Spring 2016

"Stern International Volunteers" (SIV) Ghana, now in its third year as a course at NYU Stern, is a unique offering that brings together in-class education, experiential learning and tangible social impact in rural development. In May 2015, SIV Ghana adopted the village of Woadze Tsatoe in the Eastern Volta region of the country. After a rigorous semester of classes covering modules including history, law, politics and social business design, fifteen students and two faculty members spent two weeks on the ground engaged in education and infrastructure related volunteer work, and in developing a series of social entrepreneurship projects that could potentially kick-start a local economy. NYU now has a five-year plan, whereby subsequent groups of NYU students can build on this initial work, be exposed to life-changing educational experiences, and ensure continuity of development in this region. Upcoming projects for 2015-2016 include building a 3 room school (currently school is cancelled when it rains or is too hot due to impermanent building structures), a health care facility (the hospital is more than one hour away and the village relies on motorcycles for transportation) and clean water/sanitation (there is no running water, the lake water that is being used has bacteria and one latrine serves a community of 300).

Ghanaian history, legal systems, business and culture will be studied as well as the principles of social entrepreneurship as a framework for aligning business interests with implementing social change. Students will select social entrepreneurship projects related to our trip and conduct research during the semester. Our studies will continue in "real life" when we go to Accra.

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Program Goals

Through involvement in the program, we aspire to:

- broaden students' understanding of the world and its economic and legal disparities
- deepen students' commitment to community service
- heighten students' social, intercultural and legal awareness
- influence students' perspectives on the world as they become future business leaders

Who should apply to the Stern International Volunteers?

Eligible applicants are current, matriculated NYU undergraduate freshmen, sophomores and juniors who will be based in New York City during the spring 2016 semester. Seniors are not eligible because the program extends past graduation.

We are seeking students who are:

- eager to participate in dialogue about global social issues and the role of service
- enthusiastic about interacting with the local communities in Accra, Ghana
- prepared to work as part of a high-performing team
- open to new ideas and experiences

Information Sessions

Tues, October 13	12:30-1:30pm	Tisch, UC15
Thurs, October 15	12:30-1:30pm	Tisch, UC15
Mon, October 19	12:30-1:30pm	Tisch, UC21
Tues, October 20	12:30-1:30pm	Tisch, UC15

Application Timeline

Friday, October 23	Applications and Travel Stipend requests due*
Friday, October 30	Notification of Acceptance (with stipend award status)
Friday, November 6	Program Fee Due (\$1600)
Monday, November 16	Spring 2016 Registration – students will be manually registered for this course by the UG Dean's Office

Trip Details & Fees

The trip will be administered in partnership with NYU's global study abroad site at Accra, Ghana. <http://www.nyu.edu/global/global-academic-centers/accra.html>

Tentative Travel Dates

The program will run from May 19 – May 30, 2016 (spring 2016 final exams end on May 17)

Faculty and students will likely travel on the following itinerary:

- Depart for Ghana Wednesday May 18, 2016 - arrive in Ghana on Thursday, May 19, 2016
- Depart for USA on Monday, May 30, 2016 – arrive in USA Tuesday May 31, 2016

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Estimated Expenses (for which students are financially responsible)

- Students pay Spring 2016 NYU tuition & fees for the course
- Trip Fee - \$1600 (approximately)
 - Includes:
 - Transportation from/to airport & for all in country excursions
 - Meals (except during travel to and from Ghana)
 - Housing for 12 days (NYU Accra Dorm & hotels during excursions)
- Airfare to and from Ghana (approx. \$1500 -- book early!)
- Passport Fees (approx. \$75-100 – only if you need a new or renewed passport)
- Visa fees (\$60 - <http://ghana.travisa.com/>)
- Cost of Vaccinations (approx. \$300)
 - Recommended by the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC). The CDC recommends several vaccinations when visiting Ghana. NYU's Health Center's Office for Allergy, Immunization & Travel Medicine provides these vaccinations but they are not included in your health plan. We recommend checking with your parents about other insurance coverage but you should factor these costs into your out-of-pocket expenses.
- Personal expenses

*Stipends

A limited number of stipends will be awarded **based on financial need**. Unfortunately, no merit-based stipends will be available. We will make our best effort to notify you if you have been awarded a stipend before you register for the course.

If you wish to apply for a stipend, you will need to have a current FAFSA on file and submit a short statement of need (no more than 300 words) with your application.

How do I apply?

All interested students should complete the application form on the following pages. In addition, all applications must include:

- ◆ Completed application form
- ◆ Typed responses to one essay question
- ◆ Statement of need, if applying for a travel stipend

Submitting Your Application

All applications must be submitted by **Friday, October 23, 2015**. ***Please note that applicants must also include their stipend application at this time.*** Applications should be dropped off at the Business and Society Program, 44 West Fourth Street, KMC Suite 7-150 or emailed to rkowal@stern.nyu.edu.

Acceptances and Stipend Awards (if applicable) will be given out on **Friday, October 30**.

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Program Fee (\$1600, approximately), signed travel forms and copy of passport due **Friday November 6.**

Questions

Questions may be directed to

Professor Kowal, rkowal@stern.nyu.edu

Professor Taparia, htaparia@stern.nyu.edu

Skye Weis, sweis@stern.nyu.edu

Application for Stern International Volunteers Accra Ghana 2016

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (M.I.)

Student ID#: _____ Sex: _____ Male _____ Female

Currently, I am a: _____ Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior

Cell phone: _____ Stern Email Address: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Will you be applying for a travel stipend? _____ Yes _____ No

Do you have a valid passport? _____ Yes _____ No If yes, from what country: _____

2. INTERESTS & EXPERIENCE

Major(s): _____

Minor: _____

List activities and organizations you have been involved in, both on- and off-campus (community service, academic, special interest groups, etc.).

*(*Please note, previous community service experience is not a prerequisite for acceptance into this program.)*

Briefly describe your most meaningful extra-curricular or service experience and why.

What, if any, leadership roles/positions have you held?

3. ESSAY QUESTIONS

Please choose **ONE** of the following essay questions and type your responses on a *separate sheet of paper*. Limit your responses to no more than 400 words per essay.

1. Why do you want to participate in the Stern International Volunteers and what do you think you will gain from this experience – academically and personally?
2. How does this program relate to your present and future personal, academic or career goals?
3. Describe an experience you've had that has influenced your perspective on your role in your community.

4. TRAVEL STIPEND ESSAY

A limited number of stipends will be awarded based on financial need. You must have a current FAFSA on file. If you wish to apply for a stipend, please submit a short statement of need below (no more than 300 words).
