



STERN SCHOOL
OF BUSINESS



Stern International Volunteers Ghana 2017*

APPLICATION www.stern.nyu.edu/siv

Trip Dates:

Spring Break, March 10, 2017 – March 18, 2017

Course Details:

Spring 2017 | SOIM-UB.2000 (3 credits)

Thursdays 9:30 – 10:45 am

Professors Kowal & Taparia

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



SIV Ghana 2016 projects implemented in the village of Waadze-Tsatoe:

- 3 Room School Block
- Amenuveve Batik Center Micro-Business
- Clean Water Micro-Business



About Stern International Volunteers (SIV)

Stern International Volunteers (SIV) was founded in 2007 as an international community service initiative designed to bring experiential learning to Stern's Social Impact Core. It was successfully launched in January 2008 when a small group of Stern undergraduate students traveled to San Carlos, Costa Rica, with Stern faculty and administrators, to engage in an infrastructure project - painting an elementary school. In May 2009, a second group of students traveled to Ayacucho, Peru, and worked with the local community to support the needs of the elderly, orphans and child laborers.

Due to its success the size and scope of the program was expanded. Over the next 3 years (2010 – 2012) Stern undergraduate students and faculty returned to Peru with twice the number of student volunteers. Additionally, for the first time, student volunteers were required to participate in a 2-credit course that would enrich their learning experience.

In 2014, the SIV program began partnering with NYU's Study Abroad site in Accra, Ghana and became SIV Ghana. Students enrolled in **SIV Ghana 2014** studied the many aspects of Ghana including its history, legal systems, business organizations and human rights. In May 2014, the class (17 students and 2 Stern faculty members) made the inaugural trip to Accra Ghana. While there students gained first-hand experience of what they had studied in their Stern classroom; observing fruit and cocoa cooperative businesses, carrying water & mixing concrete for school floors in a rural village, visiting key historical sites and engaging in group reflections.

In subsequent courses, **SIV Ghana 2015 & 2016**, our overall mission evolved to include social entrepreneurship as a mechanism for social change. Designing and implementing sustainable business models became an essential feature of SIV Ghana classes. In addition, creating a multi-year engagement with one specific village in rural Ghana would produce greater educational opportunities and support stronger global relationships.

SIV Ghana 2015 focused on the village of Woadze Tsatoe (WT) in Ghana's Eastern Volta region. The **SIV Ghana 2015** class spent a busy semester learning about Ghana, social entrepreneurship and business modeling. Students researched and developed social entrepreneurship projects in areas of special concern to the WT community - education, clean water, sanitation and aquaculture (micro business). The class (15 students and 2 faculty) traveled to WT in May 2015 where they spent time building the community's first cement latrine, speaking with villagers about their needs and gathering information for their social entrepreneurship projects. One key take away was that what had been conceived in the classroom often differed from what the students observed on the ground. The students were engaging with WT as "searchers" rather than "planners".

The 26 students in **SIV Ghana 2016** greatly benefitted from the "handover" data and insights conveyed to them by the previous class, i.e. fishing was the only income source, fish were scarce & illnesses prevailed due to environmentally unsound lake conditions, village women had no skilled work & education was of prime importance. As a result, the SIV Ghana 2016 class focused upon educational initiatives (including WT's first 3 room cement school block), introducing computer technology to the primary school and kick-starting the village economy with 2 community owned micro-businesses – clean water and a batik shed. During our 2016 trip

to WT many exciting things took place – Stern students collaborated with village leaders to formulate 2 micro-businesses including setting up systems for accounting, management and accountability – bylaws were drafted, numerous “business” meetings were held under the trees, and we witnessed the incubation of their emerging economy centered upon the sale of clean water and fabric hand batiked by the village women.

SIV Spring 2017

Now in its 4th year at NYU Stern, SIV Ghana is a unique pedagogical model that brings together classroom education, experiential learning and tangible social/business impact in developing countries. One key distinction is SIV Ghana’s commitment to sustainable business and social development in one village over several years. As a participant in **SIV Ghana 2017** students will be exposed to life-changing business and societal experiences as well as insure that sustainable development continues in Woadze Tsatoe. This year we plan to explore whether teaching business skills, i.e. finance, accounting, marketing, sale and management, to the villagers who now own 2 micro-businesses (clean water and batik/tie dye center) will promote business growth, development and prosperity in an emerging markets such as this. Educational lessons to impart fundamental business and social skills will also be created and taught to the village children - their next generation of entrepreneurs.

Program Goals

Through involvement in the program, we aspire to:

- broaden students’ understanding of the world and its economic disparities
- deepen students’ commitment to community service
- heighten students’ awareness of social entrepreneurship as a business mechanism for sustainable social change
- influence students’ perspectives on the world as they become future business leaders

Who should apply to Stern International Volunteers Ghana 2017

Eligible applicants are current, matriculated NYU undergraduate **FRESHMAN, SOPHOMORES & SENIORS** who will be based in New York City during the spring 2016 semester. **Stern Juniors are not eligible due to ISP.**

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

Thurs. Oct. 13	12:30-1:30pm	Tisch UC15
Tues. Oct. 18	12:30-1:30pm	Tisch UC15
Wed. Oct. 19	12:30-1:30pm	Tisch UC15

Application Deadline

Fri. Oct. 21	Applications DUE and Travel Stipend requests DUE*
Oct. 24-28	Interviews
Tues. Nov. 1	Notification of Acceptance (with stipend award status)
Mon. Nov. 7	Program Fee Due (\$1600)
Nov. 14 - 18	Students MANUALLY registered for SIV Ghana 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 March 10 – March 18, 2017 (spring break)

- Depart for Ghana Thursday March 9, 2017
- Arrive in Ghana on Friday, March 10, 2017
- Depart for USA on Saturday, March 18, 2017
- Arrive in USA Sunday March 19, 2017

Estimated Expenses (for which students are financially responsible)

- Students pay Spring 2017 NYU tuition & fees for the course
- Trip Fee - \$1700* (approximately) Includes:
- Transportation from/to airport & for all in country excursions
- Meals (except during travel to and from Ghana)
- Housing (hotels during excursions)

NOT Included In Trip Fee

- **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** (\$70 - <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** (\$200 - \$300 approx.)

***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 21, 2016**. ***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 notified on **Tuesday, November 1**
Program Fee, Signed travel contract and Passport copy due **Monday November 7**

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

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

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

Student ID#: _____ Sex: _____ Male _____ Female

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

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?
