



Stern International Volunteers Ghana

Make an Impact

May 25-June 5, 2014 (*approximate travel dates*)

SOIM-UB.2000 (2 credits, Pass/Fail)

R 9:30 – 10:45 am

Spring 2014

www.stern.nyu.edu/siv

About Stern International Volunteers

The Stern International Volunteers 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, 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. Similar trip to Peru took place in May 2011 and 2012.

SIV Seminar Course

This year – the 6th year of SIV – we will travel to Accra, Ghana and our focus will be slightly different. In the SIV Ghana course, we will:

- discuss global economic development with an emphasis on legal rights
- research Ghanaian culture, history and laws
- explore our responsibilities and opportunity for impact as volunteers
- consider the role of law as an agent for social change

The course is discussion-based. Each week, we will read articles and book excerpts that serve as a springboard for class discussion. Additionally, students will play an important role in conducting research on Ghana and presenting their findings to the class.

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 Stern undergraduate freshmen, sophomores and juniors who will be based in New York City during the spring 2014 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

Trip Details & Fees

Tentative Travel Dates

The program will run from Sunday, May 25th to Thursday, June 5th. Faculty and students will likely travel on the following itinerary:

- Depart US on Sunday, May 25, 2014 (late evening)
- Depart Ghana on Thursday, June 5, 2014 (late evening)

Estimated Expenses (for which students are financially responsible)

- Students pay Spring 2014 NYU tuition & fees for the course
- Trip Fee - \$1500*
 - Includes:
 - transportation from/to airport
 - meals (except during travel to and from Ghana)
 - housing for 11 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 (<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.

Housing

Students and faculty will be primarily housed in the NYU dorms located at the NYU Accra Ghana Academic Center. Go to <http://www.nyu.edu/global/global-academic-centers/accra/student-life/housing-options.html> for more information.

How do I apply?

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

- ◆ Typed responses to two essay questions
- ◆ Copy of valid passport (if available) or copy of submitted passport application
- ◆ Trip deposit check in the amount of \$500 payable to NYU. Please write *SIV Ghana* in the Memo line

Submitting Your Application

All applications must be submitted by **5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 28, 2013**. Applications should be dropped off to Skye Weis or Autherine Allison in Business and Society Program, 40 West Fourth Street, Suite 400.

Finalists will be invited to interview. Interviews will be held on November 6 and 8. Finalists will be required to sign a NYU Travel Waiver & SIV Program Contract, outlining expectations and responsibilities, to secure enrollment in the course and participate in the interview process.

Applications will be notified of their acceptance before Spring 2014 registration, which begins on November 18th.

Late and incomplete applications will not be considered.

Questions

Questions may be directed to:

Professor Kowal -- rkowal@stern.nyu.edu or Skye Weis – sweis@stern.nyu.edu

Application for Stern International Volunteers Accra Ghana 2014

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: _____

Do you have a valid passport? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, from what country is it issued: _____

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 2 of the following essays 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.