

Faculty-Directed Study Abroad Program

Global Community Engaged Learning in Ghana (2–3 Weeks)

Global Community Engaged Learning (GCEL) in Ghana is an immersive, community-centered study abroad experience that emphasizes collaboration, cultural exchange, and shared problem-solving to address real-world challenges.

This faculty-directed program is intentionally designed to maximize the long-term benefits of study abroad for both participating students and the host communities with which they engage. Grounded in mutual respect, reciprocity, and meaningful partnership, the program integrates service-learning, cultural immersion, reflection, and collaboration while providing students with a structured and impactful global learning experience.

Program Structure

The program consists of three integrated phases:

Phase 1 – Preparing to Study Abroad in Ghana

Session 1 – Introduction & Orientation

(1-hour workshop held on campus and/or online)

- Overview of Community Engaged Learning objectives
- Travel visa, travel clinic immunization and insurance
- Introduction of team members and program details
- Overview of the GCEL program in Ghana

Session 2 – Preparing for Ghana

(1–2-hour workshop held on campus and/or online)

- Introduction to Ghana's history, politics, culture, economy, and educational system
- Community profile and overview of Ghanaian partner organizations, including Friends of Adaklu
- Program itinerary, health, and safety information
- Introduction to partner organizations
- Introduction to daily journaling and reflective debriefing
- Student self-assessment activities

Phase 2 – On-Site Experience in Ghana

Session 1 – On-Site Kickoff

(1-hour workshop held upon arrival in Ho, Ghana)

- Introductions to Friends of Adaklu, the Friends of Adaklu team, and study abroad program leaders and guest speakers
- Overview of daily journaling expectations and reflection activities

Session 2 – Fieldwork & Reflective Learning

(Daily sessions over 7–10 days)

- Structured service-learning and volunteer projects
- Daily journaling and reflective debriefing sessions

Session 3 – Guest Lectures & Cultural Perspectives

(Held at various times throughout the program)

- Guest lectures and discussions focused on community engagement and learning from a Ghanaian perspective

Session 4 – Next Steps in Global Community Engaged Learning

(2-hour workshop held in Ho, Ghana)

- Discussion on the impact of experience on personal and professional development
- Reflective writing assignment based on student journals
- Completion of the final trip assessment

Phase 3 – Integrating Learning During Re-entry

Session 1 – Debrief & Reflection

(2-hour workshop held on campus or online)

- Completion of program evaluations
- Discussion of re-entry and transition experiences
- Student storytelling and shared reflections
- Program feedback and recommendations

Session 2 – Career Development & Next Steps

(1-hour workshop held on campus or online)

- Strategies for highlighting experience on résumés and during interviews
- Questions and answers session

Program Costs

The estimated program cost currently ranges from **\$3,000 to \$4,000 per student**.

The program fee includes:

- Airport pick-up
- Orientation
- Hotel Accommodation
- Cultural Immersion
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- Bottle Water
- In-country transportation
- Sightseeing and excursions
- Airport drop-off
- GCEL course participation
- 24/7 Program coordination and support

Please note that program costs are subject to change based on the number of participants enrolled and the duration.

Contact us at robert@friendsofadaklu.org to schedule a meeting to discuss your study abroad need.