



SEMESTER IN GHANA: CULTURE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT STUDENTS TAKE 2-4 OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES FOR CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING IN GHANA:

*ASP 113: GHANAIAN CULTURE 3 CREDITS

This course is designed to give students a conceptual understanding of cultural universals within the broader Ghanaian society. The purpose of the course is to help students to adequately appreciate the different Ghanaian cultures with a view of promotion for national unity and identity. The course will also address emergent trends on the Ghanaian cultural landscape.

*This course is strongly recommended for students to gain a solid cultural foundation

ASP 202: LANGUAGE AND ETHNICITY IN AFRICA

This course throws the light on the linguistic and ethnic diversities found in Africa and attempts to examine their effects on nation building in Africa. The course studies areas of conflict emanating from linguistic and ethnic difference in Africa.

ASP 103: RELIGION OF AFRICA

This course investigates African's belief in ancestry and further looks at the relation of maintaining peace and harmony in societies. Throughout the course the location of the African ancestors and their roles in religious history will be looked at more closely.

ASP 104: TRADITIONAL AFRICAN MUSIC IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICA AND NEW TRENDS IN AFRICA MUSIC

This course is in two parts – the role of traditional African music in contemporary Africa and new trends in Africa music. It provides students with the opportunity to experience traditional and contemporary African music forms. It also examines traditional Africa music practices and their influences on contemporary Africa and popular music. It also looks at how African music has helped to shape and influence music making between Africa-American and other Africans in the Diaspora.

ASP 105: WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

This course examines the historical and contemporary socio-cultural, political and economic experiences and development of women in Africa from an African centered perspective. It also examines the multiple roles and status of women in various African societies with particular focus on cultural continuity and similarities. The relationship of African women with their men, family and children, work, liberation and spirituality will be discussed.

ASP 106: CULTURE, DEMOCRATIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

This course critically examines the African conception of culture with a view to making clear its implications for the social, economic and political development of the continent. It also gives a comprehensive overview of democracy and development in contemporary Africa. Throughout the course, students will analyze the origin of the democratic waves that swept across Sub-Saharan Africa in the early 1990s and identify measures that can be taken to nurture democratization and state rehabilitation in Africa.

ASP 107: THE AFRICAN FAMILY

This course addresses itself to the conceptual framework of the family in the African environment and the changes that have engulfed the institution over the years. It addresses in particular, the morphology of the family, which has given rise to much interest and controversy.

ASP 108: AFRICAN IN DISPERSION

This course deals with what happened to the African in the places of dispersion first as a slave, and then, as a free person. In addition, it examines the important contributions Africans have made to the overall development of the places of their exile. It ends by discussing the phenomenon of the returnees – those who returned from the Diaspora to the home continent. Their motives for returning, their efforts at surviving in what becomes, in many, alien places, and what they contributed to life in Africa after their return.

ASP 109: THE SLAVE TRADE AND COLONIALISM IN AFRICA

This course is in two sections. The first section will examine the origin and nature of slavery and the slave trade and its social, economic and political implications for Africa. It will also examine the contribution of the slave trade to the take off of the capitalist system. The second section will deal with the prelude to colonialism, the philosophical bases of colonization of Africa and the African response as well as the colonial impact.

ASP 110: AFRICA IN WORLD AFFAIRS

3 CREDITS

The course conducts an in-depth analysis of political developments in Africa from the post-colonial era to the present. In general, the course provides the opportunity for students to have a comprehensive insight into how world events after

independence have shaped political development in Africa as well as the continent's relations with the international community.

ASP 111: GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY IN TRADITIONAL AFRICA

This course attempts to project all the democratic elements associated with government in traditional Africa with the view to finding out the extent to which these elements can be integrated into modern political enterprise in the contemporary African state.

ASP 112: AFRICAN CULTURES AND CIVILIZATIONS

This course provides a definite introduction to the evolution of African cultures and civilizations. It provides a conceptual setting focused primarily on Africa's contribution to the development of human culture and civilizations.

HIS 401: HISTORY OF WEST AFRICA 1900-1970

This course engages the issue of the reduction of West Africans to the status of colonial subjects by various European nations. It fosters an understanding of the reasons for European colonization of West Africa and the ways in which West Africans responded to colonization. It enables students to analyze the nature and purpose of European colonial administrations in West Africa, and the shape of colonial economies, and the direction of economic and social developments in the European colonies of West Africa. The course also examines the contexts for the emergence of nationalist movements in West Africa.

ASP 116: MUSIC IN AFRICAN CULTURES

The course aims at giving the students a conceptual understanding of African music and enhancing their ability to appreciate and critically evaluate the creative ways in which primary values of Africa have been and continue to be preserved through the performance of music in African societies. Case studies is drawn from the performance traditions of societies in Ghana and Africa as a whole.

ASP 114: THEMES IN AFRICAN LITERATURE

This course adopts an interdisciplinary approach. It begins by introducing students to aspects of oral literature in Africa and Ghana, by focusing on the narrative, the poem, and the symbol. The course then focuses on the work of two major African authors: Chinua Achebe and Ama Ata Aidoo. Related themes suggested for discussion include the impact of social and political change, the roles of women and men, and the subject of authority.

ASP 115: PAN-AFRICANISM

This course helps students to understand the concepts of Pan-Africanism and trace the origins of the concept. It examines the unique contributions of Du Bois, Padmore, Garvey, Casely Hayford, Nkrumah, Henry, Sylvester Williams, Leopold Senghor etc. to Africanism. Finally, it evaluates the contribution of Pan Africanism to nationalist movements in Africa.

ADDITIONAL COURSES CAN BE FOUND AT:

http://www.ucc.edu.gh/undergraduate_courses