Metropolitan Community College

Class Syllabus – Summer 2010

CLASS IDENTIFICATION

TITLE: Sociology/ Study Abroad Course
PREFIX/SECTION: SOCI 2060 GA
CREDIT HOURS: 4.5
CLASS BEGINS/ENDS: June 6, 2010- June 20, 2010
MEETING DAY(S)/TIMES: Sunday to Sunday
NO CLASS DAYS: N/A
WITHDRAWAL DATE: N/A
CLASS LOCATION: Ghana

CONTACT INFORMATION

INSTRUCTOR NAME: Kojo C. Allen
OFFICE LOCATION: Fort Omaha Campus, Building 5, Room 203
OFFICE TELEPHONE: (402)-457-2836
FACSIMILE: (402)-457-2611
OFFICE HOURS: As Needed/On-Site
EMAIL ADDRESS: kallen@mccneb.edu
ACADEMIC AREA: Social Sciences
DEAN’S TELEPHONE: (402) 738-4543

COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is the study of the history, socio cultural diversity in Ghana. It will focus on the economics, political rulers, government, indigenous tribes, ancient and current converted religions, the coming of the Europeans, colonialism, and Ghana’s progression from an ancient powerful kingdom to a republic. Also, Ghana’s role in the slave trade, and its marriage and family systems will be explored.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

There are no prerequisites for this course. The ability to read and write at the College level is highly recommended.
COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1) List and explain the characteristics of diverse tribal population in Ghana and the surrounding Western African Countries.

2) Explore the rich history of Ghana before coming of the Europeans.

3) Investigate and understand specific issues concerning modern day Ghana’s population, economic future, societal mores, and cultural impact on global trading.

4) Examine the Slave Trade and its impact on Ghana/West Africa and how European economies have been bolstered at the expense of the African people.

5) Research Ghana as a country progressing from third world to second world status, in both a historic and political framework.

6) Be able to explain the modernization of Accra, Ghana.

REQUIRED & SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:

TEXT BOOK: Achebe, Chinua Things Fall Apart, 1958
Dubois, W.E.B. The World and Africa

CLASS STRUCTURE:

This is a Study Abroad course and will be an immersion in Ghana’s people, culture, society and political government. The student will live at a host residences where the accommodations are urban and also rural dwellings. This experience includes a fourteen day intense study of Ghana’s tradition, spirituality, ethical and political structures.

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT WORK

1. A 5 page paper researching the history of ancient Ghana up to its independence in 1957. The papers are due by June 28, 2010. Be open to finding out about Ghana’s culture, rulers, government, indigenous and converted religions, British colonialism and finally, Ghana’s progression from an ancient kingdom to a republic.
2. A 5 page paper researching the history of modern Ghana from 1957 to today. Have fun with this project by including research about Ghana's people, their occupations, colleges and universities, the country's political issues, currency, economic imports and exports, the people's food (Traditional Market Site) and staples in their diet.

3. A daily written or typed journal expressing the student's personal growth from this experience will entail entries of at least a page or two of observations each day. Artifacts, photographs, recipes, postcards, newspapers, etc. will enrich your journal and make it a keepsake! Your journal will demonstrate how you observe your surroundings in Ghana and reflections of the interactions you have with Ghana citizens and service learning experience.

4) Book Report on the Text provided and Group presentation upon return from the Study Abroad.

GRADING POLICY:

Grades will be earned on the basis of the total points accumulated throughout the Study Abroad. A point system will be used to determine the grades. The grades will be assigned as indicated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Maximum Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A) Four (4) Papers</td>
<td>400 Points</td>
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<tr>
<td>B) Journals/Art Portfolio</td>
<td>200 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C) Services Learning</td>
<td>300 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D) Group Presentations</td>
<td>100 Points</td>
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</tbody>
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900-1000 = A Excellent
800-899 = B Above Average
700-799 = C Average
600-699 = D Below Average
Below 600 = F Failing

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING PROGRAM:

Metropolitan Community College is committed to continuous improvement of teaching and learning. You may be asked to help us to accomplish this objective. For example, you may be asked to respond to surveys or questionnaires. In other cases, tests or assignments you are required to do for this course may be shared with faculty and used for assessment purposes.
USE OF STUDENT WORK:

By enrolling in classes offered by Metropolitan Community College, the student gives the College license to mark on, modify, and retain the work as may be required by the process of instruction, as described in the course syllabus. The institution shall not have the right to use the work in any other manner without the written consent of the student(s).

COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS:

When you communicate with others in this course, you must follow the Student Code of Conduct (http://www.mccneb.edu/catalog/studentinformation.asp), which calls for responsible and cooperative behavior. Please think critically, ask questions, and challenge ideas, but also show respect for the opinions of others, respond to them politely, and maintain the confidentiality of thoughts expressed in the class. You may also wish to review information at http://www.albion.com/netiquette/.html.

ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT:

Students are reminded that materials they use as sources for classwork may be subject to copyright protection. Additional information about copyright is provided on the library website at http://www.mccneb.edu/library or by your instructor. In response to incidents of student dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.), the College imposes specific actions that may include receiving a failing grade on a test, failure in the course, suspension from the College, or dismissal from the College. Disciplinary procedures are available in the Advising/Counseling Centers or at http://www.mccneb.edu/procedures/V-4_Student_Conduct_and_Discipline.pdf.

STUDENT WITHDRAWAL:

If you cannot participate in and complete this course, you should officially withdraw by calling Central Registration at 402-457-5231 or 1-800-228-9553. Students who attend no class meetings up to and including the Section Census Date published in the Class Schedule at www.mccneb.edu/schedule/default.asp may be disenrolled from the class. There is no appeal for this disenrollment. A student who fails to meet class attendance expectations may receive a final grade mark of FX, indicating an absence-related failure, or a failing (F) grade.
LEARNING SUPPORT

MCC’s Academic Resource Centers, Math Centers, and Writing Centers offer friendly, supportive learning environments that can help students achieve educational success. Staff members in these centers provide free drop-in assistance with basic computing, reading, math, and writing skills. Self-paced, computer-assisted instructional support in reading, vocabulary, typing, English as a Second Language, and online course orientation is also available. Detailed information about the Academic Resource, Math, and Writing Centers is in the Student Handbook, College Catalog, and online at http://www.mccneb.edu/arc/.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

If you have a disability that may substantially limit your ability to participate in this class, please contact a Disability Support Services Counselor located in the Student Services Office on each campus. Metropolitan Community College will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with documented qualifying disabilities. However, it is the student’s responsibility to request accommodations. For further information, please visit http://www.mccneb.edu/dss/ and/or contact Student Services.

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

For assistance with student email, passwords, and most other MCC technology, contact the Help Desk at 457-2900 or mcchelpdesk@mccneb.edu.

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES:

By using the information technology systems at MCC (including the computer systems and phones), you acknowledge and consent to the conditions of use as set forth in the Metropolitan Community College Procedures Memorandum on Acceptable Use of Information Technology and Resources. It is your responsibility as a student to be familiar with these procedures. The full text of the Procedures Memorandum may be found at the following website: http://www.mccneb.edu/procedures/X-15_Technology_Resources_Use.pdf.