



Intensive Language Study: Asante Twi

TWII 1003-3503 (3 Credits / 45 hours)

SIT Study Abroad Program:

Ghana: Africa in the 21st Century

Course Description

This course is designed to help students obtain oral proficiency and enable them to adapt to the host culture. Language instruction begins during orientation and quickly introduces students to basic vocabulary, sentence structure and basic vocabulary that encourage students to immediately begin using Asante Twi. The actual classroom content lasts eight weeks and the learning process lasts throughout the semester in homestays and several structured field assignments. The course achieves its objectives by relying heavily on demonstrative drills and skits as well as individual and group participation in class.

Learning Outcomes

The Intensive Language Study: Asante Twi course comprises 3 credits based on 45 hours. Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate proficiency in spoken Asante Twi as a tool needed for entry into the local culture;
- Demonstrate strong listening, comprehension, and communication skills;
- Use the language confidently and effectively in everyday situations, as well as within the context of the demands of the Independent Study Project; and
- Demonstrate a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the rich and complex Ghanaian culture and society through the extended interdisciplinary resources afforded by the language instruction.

By the end of the program students can expect to discourse around the following themes:

- Greetings
- Family
- Shopping
- Bargaining
- Transportation and Fares
- Activities in the house and community
- Meal time practices

- Quantity and Quality
- Asking and Giving Directions
- Weekday Names
- Weather
- Health
- Curative Measures and Medicines
- Rites of Passage

Course Requirements

Readings

You are responsible for all the readings, and should be prepared to bring them to bear on discussions in class. The readings will help you place the classes in their context, to challenge and engage lecturers, to generate questions for class discussions and to deepen your knowledge of particular aspects discussed in class. They are not necessary tailor –made for each and every class. Supplementary reading materials, not mentioned on the list, will sometimes be assigned and made available.

[Readings will be assigned]

PLEASE NOTE: COURSE CONTENTS, LECTURERS AND READINGS MAY BE MODIFIED AS NEEDED. SHOULD ANY CHANGE OF CLASS TOPICS OR LECTURERS BE NECESSARY, STUDENTS WILL BE PROMPTLY NOTIFIED.

Evaluation and Grading Criteria

Assignments

Timely completion of all seminar assignments is expected. Unless otherwise stated, all assignments and papers must be turned in on the due date, by 5 pm at the very latest. Assignments may be given to the academic director (AD) or program assistant. Any assignments received after 5 pm on the due date will be considered late. Late assignments will be docked 5% of the total grade for each day late. No assignment will be accepted after 7 days late, i.e., your grade will be a “0” if it is more than one week late. If special circumstances arise and you believe you will be late in turning assignment, it is your responsibility to talk with the AD at least one day before the due date. No extensions will be given on the date an assignment is due. All assignments are evaluated according to organization, analytical quality, depth of understanding; argumentation and presentation of evidence. Students will be assessed on the quality of their graded work and their thoughtful participation in the seminar.

Students continue to improve their language skills through spoken interactions with host families, program staff (where appropriate), peers, and in general public transactions and on daily basis. Additionally, students are expected to frequently quiz each other in informal settings for the purpose described above. These learning and practice efforts and contexts will be monitored and are integral part of the total grade.

Evaluation

Oral proficiency test 1	20%
Oral proficiency test 2	20%

Skits involving language use	10%
Final oral proficiency test	50%

Grading Scale: The grading scale for all classes is as follows:

94-100%	A
90-93%	A-
87-89%	B+
84-86	B
80-83%	B-
77-79%	C+
74-76%	C
70-73%	C-
67-69%	D+
64-66%	D
Below 64	F

Grading Criteria

An “A” grade for an assignment entails superior (not just “very good”) performance in terms of structure and organization of assignments, analysis, logical argumentation and consistency, and the provision of factual, numerical and/or historical evidence. In terms of class Participation, an “A” grade refers to full attendance, punctuality, attentive listening and active engagement in all Academic Seminar lectures, discussions, field trips and other activities. It also means polite and respectful behavior. The level, frequency, and quality of the students’ participation will be monitored and taken into account.

Student Expectations

Class Participation

Participation in class refers to attendance, punctuality, attentive listening and active engagement in all academic seminar lectures, discussions, field trips and other activities. It also means polite and respectful behavior. You are also expected to practice culturally sensitive behavior at all times and put forward a solid effort to use the local language.

Disability Services: Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Disability Services at disabilityservices@sit.edu for information and support in facilitating an accessible educational experience. Additional information regarding SIT Disability Services, including a link to the online request form, can be found on the Disability Services website at <http://studyabroad.sit.edu/disabilityservices>.

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