HELPFUL TIPS FOR NYU ACCRA STUDENTS

- Students are advised to bring Visa debit cards. Travelers Cheques are difficult to change. There are only two banks, which accept Master cards (GT bank and Stanbic) and American Express is not widely accepted.

- Barclays does not charge ATM fees if you have an account with Bank of America

- Notify your bank and doctor that you will be traveling abroad.

- Bring your vaccination records, insurance card and anti-malaria medication

- Bring all the medicine you think you will ever need; aspirin etc

- Make sure to schedule an in-depth meeting with your adviser so you can check your academic standing.

- It’s easy to purchase most toiletries in local shopping malls. However, students should bring their own contact lens solution, feminine products, band-aid and brand names of products they are accustomed to etc.

- The style of dress in Ghana is a bit more conservative and formal than in the United States. Please bring dressy clothes, heels, sandals and other formal attire for social activities including official meetings, church services, weddings, community service/internship appointments, etc. Please do not bring only flip-flops, jeans and tee shirts. “Short-shorts” and revealing attire is not generally socially acceptable.

- Being a conservative society, LGBTQ is not generally acceptable in Ghanaian culture, but there is an underground community. If you are gay, we do not advise you to openly disclose your sexual orientation since not everyone has an open mind about this. Do keep in mind there are Safe Zone trained staff members at NYU Accra.

- Pack lightly because you can get clothes made for you whilst in Ghana. If you think your family members, friends and significant others may be interested in having clothes made for them, get their measurements before you come.

- Students must ensure that they secure multiple entry visas if they plan to travel outside of Ghana and also have extra passport photos for the extension of their residence permits.

- Bring adapters for electronic devices. The electrical current in Ghana is 240 Volts AC whiles that of the U.S. runs on 110-volt AC.
• Students usually travel during the spring/fall break to other African countries. Bring guidebooks for the other countries you may be interested in visiting (Lonely Planet guide books are a good source of information).

• Bring a good traveler’s backpack as well as traveler’s size toothbrush, shampoo and soap for weekend travels and organized trips. Sámi towels are also a great investment when traveling on any trip.

• Bring larger dollar denominations (i.e.$50 and $100) for a better exchange rate.

• Throughout the semester students participate in organized trips and typically, there are dedications of supplies to people at the sites visited. Students are encouraged to bring school supplies, used clothing, toiletries, etc.

• If you plan on working with children, it will be good to bring art and craft such as beads, glitter, construction paper, markers, crayons etc.

• Students interested in enrolling in the Twi language course should bring a Twi dictionary from the US. Please check local bookshops such as Borders and Barnes & Nobles.

• Students interested in enrolling in the Documenting the African City class would have to come along with their own external hard drive (suggestion: 500+GB) and an SD Card (suggestion: 32GB or 64GB)

• Pen (flash) drives and blank CDS are relatively expensive in Ghana so be sure to bring an adequate supply.

• You need to bring regular repellant for skin and also for clothes. Ant-itch cream for bug bites could also come in handy.

• Packages may take a while before getting to Ghana. If you think you will miss home snacks, bring a lot with you.

• Bring a lot of DVDs and board games because there are fewer channels on TV to choose from. If you love reading bring a lot of novels and other reading materials as well.

• Very few Ghanaians are vegetarians so be prepared that vegetarian foods may not always be available when traveling, participating in home stays etc.

• The sense of time in Ghana is different from Western standards. Ghanaians are very “laid back” and will usually come to activities a bit late (at times even beyond an hour). This does not happen at the NYU Accra Academic centre but does generally occur in Ghana.

• It is difficult to jog outdoors because the streets may not always have streetlights and there are many open gutters. Consider joining a local gym for the semester. NYU Accra has an affiliation with Pippas’s gym
located in Ringway Estates, Osu. All students are eligible for free membership assuming they plan to use the facilities. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the gym.

- Be aware that Ghana is a developing country and things may not operate as they do in the U.S. For example, the Internet may be much slower and water and lights can go off occasionally. There are generators and tanks for storing water at the NYU Accra facilities but be prepared for interruptions of such services.

- For more information about what to pack when coming to Ghana, visit the NYU Accra website at [http://www.nyu.edu/global/global-academic-centers/accra.html](http://www.nyu.edu/global/global-academic-centers/accra.html)