Globalization and Health in Ghana
(3-4 credits)

This 24 day field-based course fosters global engagement by introducing students to the historical, social, cultural, and political processes that are at the forefront of globalization and health in Ghana. One objective of the program is to offer students who may not have opportunities to travel abroad (first-generation college students) access to, as well as support and preparation for overseas travel and education. Students will learn through cultural immersion, including tours, university campus visits, and first-hand experience and interactions with health service providers in Accra, Ghana’s capital city and nearby towns and villages. Students can from the following for their individual and group research projects choose to: 1) focus entirely on globalization, 2) focus entirely on health, or 3) explore the relationship between globalization and health, and the processes that link them. Globalization will be explored in the context of cultural dynamics and political economy. The role and impact of factors such as identity, trade, neoliberalism, arts, technology, Pentecostal Christianity, NGOs and the state, will be examined. Dimensions of health include conceptions of illness and healing, health systems and services, and social determinants of health such as gender, education, environment, religion, cultural norms, values and resources. Students interested in exploring specific global health issues such as maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, mental health, drug abuse etc. are welcome.