

## Comparative Education: An International Experience

These special sections of EDU 301/501 and EDU 300/503 offer students in any major the opportunity to consider the role of immigration on national policy, grounded in the socio-cultural realities of education across three nations. Students who have completed 301 or 501 may take this course as an Independent Study.

- Open to all students—Graduate and Undergrad, regardless of major.
- Includes a required field placement experience (300 or 503) in schools
- Meets General Education Intellectual Issues requirement
- Meets a part of the required first block course work for Curriculum and Instruction education major
- Tentative Travel Dates: January 4-20, 2010

## Course Enrollment & Requirements

The study visit is a required component of the two 3 credit courses, "EDU 301/501 Schooling, Pedagogy, and Social Justice" and EDU 300/503 Field Placement. The courses meet concurrently during Q2, and course syllabi will be provided with course requirements.

All students will take both EDU sections for 6 credits total. Students needing only one of the sections must seek approval from the instructors and the director of international education and programs. Note: All students must participate in the overseas component of this course and will pay the same program fee.



Port of no return - Ouidah, Benin

## Program Description

Issues of immigration are changing the face, and our understanding, of local and international communities, by increasing the diversity of our population. How do policy decisions enacted by governmental entities integrate these changes? For example, how are national policies towards language usage implemented in classrooms? All immigrants carefully negotiate difficult transitions between and across cultures, often acting as willing or unwilling cultural brokers at the intersection between communities. Everyone, especially teachers, needs to be cognizant of, and comfortable with, where their students come from in order to help students bridge their multiple communities. Students of color, who enter schools from less industrialized nations, who do not speak the primary language of the school, face additional difficulties associated with language fluency and cultural competency.

Using schools and education in the United States, France and Benin as our cultural context, we will explore how two industrialized nations are grappling with these issues in the face of mandates for multiculturalism versus cultural assimilation. We will explore where the immigrants are coming from and what they are bringing with them, culturally, linguistically, politically, and educationally.

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## Housing and Meals

Students will be housed in residences in central Paris and Benin. Some meals are provided.

## Program Costs

The cost information below lists all activities included in the program fee, and estimates for additional expenses. There is no additional tuition charge for this program.

**Program Fee: \$3,950.00**

The Program fee includes the following:

- International flights to Paris and Benin;
- Some meals;
- Tours;
- Health insurance coverage;
- Accommodation;
- Site visits.

The following are estimates and are not included in the program fee:

- Connecting flight (varies);
- Passport and visa cost - \$200.00;
- Spending money - \$200.00;
- Additional meals - \$200.00;
- Pre-departure Innoculations/Medical Prep. - \$400.00

The above are estimates and will vary per individual spending habits.



Benin Participants - January 2009

## Qualifications

Participants must be matriculated Oswego students. Interested students will be registered for Q2 course "EDU 301 or EDU 501 Schooling, Pedagogy, and Social Justice" (or EDU 399/599 Independent Study) and EDU 300/503 Field Placement during course registration by the Office of International Education and Programs.

## Payment Dates

September 15, 2009                      \$250 deposit due  
October 19, 2009                         Program Balance due

## Applications

Submit completed application with \$250 deposit by September 15th to the Office of International Education and Programs. Earlier applications are strongly encouraged. Refer to <http://www.oswego.edu/intled> for application and registration instruction.



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