

Lagim Tehi Tuma: Thinking Together

Dalun, Ghana

May 26-August 4, 2020 (*tentative*)



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Lagim Tehi Tuma (“Thinking Together” in Dagbani), is a Bi-Co Summer Action Research fellowship with the community of Dalun, Ghana focused on re-imagining education through community-based partnerships, collaborative study, and cultural exchange. Now entering its 8th year, the Lagim Tehi Tuma program grows out of a grassroots collaborative between BiCo and local educators in a rural community in Northern Ghana.

Focused on understanding and rethinking education – formal and informal, community-based and self-directed – through study, action, and reflection, Lagim Tehi Tuma combines several elements. These include:

- Team-building with a group of BiCo and Ghanaian undergraduate Fellows
- Independent and collaborative study
- Introductory language learning
- Internships with local organizations and mentors
- Special projects
- Speakers and excursions

The process of thinking together about education entails engagement with questions of history, culture, race, class, gender, and other dimensions of identity; of colonialism, nationality, and post-coloniality; and of the discourses of development, post-development and indigeneity.

Under the direction of Professor Alice Lesnick, Local Coordinator Alhassan Sumaila, Graduate Coordinators, and a Dalun-based leadership team, Lagim Tehi Tuma includes undergraduate students from the University of Development Studies in Tamale, Ghana.

2020 PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Fellows engage in a three-week intensive -- two weeks at home/online and one week at the University for Development Studies in Tamale, Ghana. They then spend 7 weeks in Dalun at the end of which they prepare written and video reports and reflections. All fellows must commit to all pre- departure and post-travel programming hosted by Haverford’s CPGC and Bryn Mawr’s Career and Civic Engagement Center as well as to taking one of a set of recommended courses (or proposing one in its place) in order to continue and deepen their learning.

Fellows work in one of the internships listed below, but also support each other’s work in other internships, and share in program-wide activities such as learning a traditional dance from a leader of the Dalun cultural group, and thinking together about arts in/as education.

Titagya Schools (titagyaschools.org): Early Childhood Education in Dalun and Surrounding communities

In this internship, fellows assist in prekindergarten or kindergarten classrooms, collaborate on curriculum units, and assist with Family Day. They also learn and think together about the workings of a transnational NGO.

Simli Radio: Community Radio Projects

Fellows learn about the work and reach of Northern Ghana's only community radio station, co-create content and programming and think together about the roles of radio and other media in rural communities.

Dalun ICT Centre: Community and Computer-based Learning

In this internship with the Dalun community's central site for computers and information technology, Fellows assist in classes and work on projects to foster and think together about digital literacy to serve the Dalun community's goals.

Literary Arts and Archives: Simli Centre & Dalun Library Archival Coordination and Communication

Through this internship, fellows will collaborate with different sites to help organize archival documents produced from the Simli Centre since its inception, as well as help build the growing archive and network of literary work held by the new Dalun Library. Fellows will develop an organizational plan for the Simli Centre archive, consider programmatic connections between the Savannah Art Centre's library and the Dalun Library, and collaborate with Titagya Schools and The Golden Baobab Foundation for Education to facilitate local production of Dagbani language children's books to add to the Dalun Library.

NUTS AND BOLTS

Eligibility and Application Information: This internship is open to Haverford and Bryn Mawr students. Before applying, please visit the [Lagim Tehi Tuma website](#). Applicants must submit an application form, an unofficial transcript, and a recommendation form completed by a faculty member. Apply through [CPGC's website](#). Interested students should contact past LTT fellows with questions!

Deadline: The deadline for this internship is **Sunday, February 2, 2020** via the "Thinking Together" application on the CPGC's [online application](#) platform for Haverford students, and through [Career and Civic Engagement](#) for Bryn Mawr students. Applicants should express a preference for working at one of the sites listed above, although sometimes these preferences shift once the team is in place. **Selected applicants will be contacted for an interview in mid to late February.**

CPGC's Fellowships for Global Citizenship Program: This summer internship is part of a larger fellowship that offers a comprehensive preparatory and reentry program along with funding and support during your summer engagement. Prior to the summer internship, CPGC staff, faculty and community partners will help students build on their passions and capacities for ethical engagement and social change action. Fellows continue their journey through a re-entry course upon returning to campus in the fall. More specific information about these crucial elements of the Fellowship program can be found on the [CPGC website](#).

Students interested in applying through CPGC must meet with the Manager of International Programs, Stephanie Zukerman.

Prior to departure (April/May), Fellows will be expected to attend meetings with their cohort to build connections with each other and their hosts, and to begin the logistical and emotional preparation for living abroad, including receiving health advice from a travel doctor.

Fellows will be expected to attend Dagbani language lessons throughout the summer, and are encouraged to begin their learning before the summer learning begins in earnest. Lessons are posted on the Lagim Tehi Tuma program's website!

Stipend: During this ten-week program, the CPGC and Career and Civic Engagement Center will cover Fellows' expenses for food, flights and ground transportation, and lodging. The Center will pay the Summer Earning Expectation for students who have that stipulation in their 2020-21 financial aid package.

For more information: about the program's content and structure, contact Professor Alice Lesnick (alesnick@brynmawr.edu). For questions regarding the application and selection process, please contact Stephanie Zukerman at Haverford College's CPGC (szukerma@haverford.edu) or Jennifer Prudencio at Bryn Mawr College's Career and Civic Engagement (jprudencio@brynmawr.edu).

"From the start, Lagim Tehi Tuma has always been about widening, and, sometimes, shattering, the lens from which we view ourselves and others, and much of that work can only be done in continuing dialogue and actions around race, class, power, and community. I have had the privilege to play many roles in this project over the years and what keeps my heart invested is its unwavering commitment and desire to adapt to the needs and wants of all communities involved. To me, Lagim Tehi Tuma is not a summer trip, but an exemplary lifetime project of international community building." -- Esteniolla Maitre, BMC '14, Former Fellow, Student Coordinator, Distance Coordinator, and Advisor.

