



LaYim Tehi Tuma: Thinking Together

Dalun, Ghana (Remote)

May 31-July 23, 2021 (tentative)

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Now entering its 9th year, LaYim Tehi Tuma (“Thinking Together” in Dagbani), is a summer action research fellowship program grown out of a grassroots collaborative between the Bi-Co and local educators in the rural community of Dalun, Ghana. The fellowship is focused on understanding and rethinking formal/informal, community-based, and self-directed education in the context of “postcolonial” societies. The mission of LTT is to create a platform for collaborative thinking that co-creates education through study, intercultural exchange, internships within community-based partnerships, and engaging Black study/ies in ways that open questions about what education is and can be, as an intervention in colonial pasts and movement towards just and thriving futures.

Through study, action, and reflection, Lagim Tehi Tuma combines several elements. 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.

With the direction of Professor Alice Lesnick, Local Program Coordinator Alhassan Sumaila, Fellow Coordinators, and a Dalun-based leadership team, Lagim Tehi Tuma includes undergraduate students from the University of Development Studies in Tamale, Ghana and, as a recent development, Lincoln University (LU) students.

2021 PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Bi-Co and LU Fellows will participate virtually while UDS Fellows will be participating in person. Fellows engage in a one-week intensive orientation, both within their institutional cohorts and collaboratively. They then spend 6 weeks in their internships, followed by a week of sharing prepared reports, projects, and reflections. All Bi-Co fellows must commit to all pre-fellowship and debriefing 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 re-entry 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, thinking together about arts in/as education, with team-building, invited talks, and hybrid tours/excursions.

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.

In addition to internship work with local organizations and mentors, Fellows are expected to participate in the following strands of LTT programming:

- **Committee Work** (Communications, Research, Health & Safety, Budget, Black is Beautiful)
- **Personal Inquiry Projects**
- **Dagbani Language & Dagomba cultural learning**
 - 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. Materials are posted on the Lagim Tehi Tuma program's website!
- **Research & Reflection Discussions**
- **Regional Immersion & Contextualization**

Prior to engagement (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 preparation for working in a remote setting with counterparts and mentors working in person.

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. Interested students should contact [past LTT fellows](#) (listed on p. 2) with questions! Taking [EDUC B308-001 Inquiries into Black Study, Language Justice, and Education](#) in Spring 2021 will be a useful (but not mandatory) opportunity for preparing for the fellowship.

Deadline: The deadline to apply for this internship is **Sunday, February 14, 2021** via the "Thinking Together" application on the [CPGC's website](#) 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 early to mid**

March.

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 in the fall following their internship. More specific information about these crucial elements of the Fellowship program can be found on the [CPGC website](#).

Stipend: A stipend will be provided to participants of this program. Amount TBC.

For more information about the program's content and structure, contact Sabea Evans (skevans@brynmawr.edu) or 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 Tebi 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 Tebi 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.

"The relationship between the bi-co, UDS and Dalun is a very rare find. I feel like this relationship sets an example of relationships educational institutions should have with one another and other communities to rethink and challenge societal expectations. The beauty of every relationship is all parties being able to benefit from the connection which I believe this association accomplishes. The students from both the bi-co and UDS students learn ways to organize through cultural differences and community members of Dalun benefit from the programming designed by Dalun community members and other LTT members. My stay in Dalun has also showed me the impact this program has on community members whether it be Titagya students' community centered way of learning or the shifting thought on beauty standards with internships like the Simli Radio station and Black is Beautiful, thinking together on ways to combat colorism." — Hawa Barry, BMC '22, Former Fellow