Page 1, Q3. Major

1  Psychology  

Page 1, Q4. Program (City, Country, Program Sponsor)

1  Legon, Ghana, CIEE  

Page 2, Q1. What were your goals for off campus study?

1  I wanted to take Psychology courses going towards my major.  

Page 2, Q2. To what extent did you succeed in accomplishing your goals? Why did you succeed or not?

1  I succeeded in getting to know Ghana, through organized and independent travel. I took psychology classes which went towards my major. I volunteered/interned at a local NGO, which allowed me to give back to the community. And I experienced personal growth through experiences that forced me to be independent.  

Page 3, Q1. How many students were on the program?

1  57  

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### Page 3, Q2. How many Oxy students?

| 1 | 2 |

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### Page 3, Q3. Please comment on the goals and academic abilities of your fellow students. How were they similar/dissimilar to yours?

| 1 | They were similar, but many other students were more interested in complete cultural immersion. |

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### Page 3, Q4. Describe the background of your classmates, e.g., all Americans, all Oxy students.

| 1 | They were all American students from various Colleges and Universities. |

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### Page 3, Q5. Describe your housing situation.

| 1 | I lived in a homestay with a family. I had seven host siblings and lived in an affluent neighborhood. |

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### Page 4, Q2. In which of the following did you participate:

| 1 | I interned at a local non-profit NGO and volunteered at various orphanages. |

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### Page 4, Q4. List any courses and/or professors you would suggest avoiding.

| 1 | The Psychology of Religion Course was sexist and insulting. The required readings were copied and pasted from Wikipedia. |

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### Page 6, Q2. Did you contact Oxy alum living abroad as part of the Alumni and Study Abroad Partnership Program (ASAPP)?

| 1 | No |

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Page 6, Q3. What strategies can you recommend for meeting locals and making friends?

1 Be friendly and open to new people. I was approached constantly by local people. It is difficult to make true friends, especially being a woman, but everyone is anxious to talk to you and learn about America.  
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Page 6, Q4. Were there aspects of the culture with which you were not comfortable?

1 There was extensive sexism, women on the program were harassed daily. For the most part it was small whistles, yelling and grabbing, but some situations were more serious and dangerous. The men have no respect for women, especially American women. Also there is very little professionalism in Ghana, even among people like doctors, police officers, and bank officials.  
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Page 6, Q5. What suggestions do you have for future participants for engaging with the culture?

1 Stay open minded but speak out when you feel uncomfortable. Give your phone number out sparingly unless you want constant contact (including middle of the night phone calls).  
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Page 7, Q1. How much did you spend on airfare to/from your program?

1 1,350  
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Page 7, Q3. What was the approximate exchange rate during your stay?

1 2 USD to 3 GHC  
Jun 7, 2011 10:14 AM

Page 7, Q4. How much did you spend on books and supplies?

1 20 USD  
Jun 7, 2011 10:14 AM

Page 7, Q5. How much did you spend on local transportation to/from daily class?

1 0 - 2 USD  
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Page 7, Q5. How much did you spend on local transportation to/from daily class?

Page 7, Q6. How much did you spend on personal travel during your time abroad? Please specify length and nature of your personal travel.

1 140 USD - Cape Coast, 3 nights 70 USD - Volta Region, 2 nights 60 USD - Kokrobite Beach Resort, 1 night

Page 7, Q7. Describe how you took your meals, e.g., groceries prepared in kitchen, dining hall etc., and how much you spent on meals weekly, not including bars, clubs etc.?

1 My host family prepared my main meals, so breakfast and dinners were free. I ate lunches on campus during the week for approx 2 - 6 USD per day.

Page 7, Q8. What would you recommend as a minimum monthly budget for incidental expenses, excluding travel? Please include recommendations for such items as: local transportation to/from daily class, telephone calls, internet, laundry, museums, concerts, movies, cafes, restaurants, pubs and clubs.

1 300 USD

Page 7, Q9. How do you recommend taking your money abroad? Did you open a local bank account?

1 I brought my Visa ATM card, there were plenty of machines to withdraw cash from. Don't bring Mastercard, but consider bringing Travelers Checks as backup in case your Visa card is stolen or doesn't work.

Page 8, Q1. What sort of items or clothing did you take along and then find you did not need?

1 Pants, long sleeve shirts.

Page 8, Q2. What did you take that you found most useful?

1 Shorts, tank tops, t-shirts, skirts.
Page 8, Q2. What did you take that you found most useful?

- More summer dresses and tank tops.  
  Jun 7, 2011 10:15 AM

Page 8, Q3. What do you wish you had brought along?

- Cheetos  
  Jun 7, 2011 10:15 AM

Page 8, Q4. Were there any items you wanted that you were unable to obtain?

- Very hot, it never got cold enough to wear a sweater, even when it rained.  
  Jun 7, 2011 10:15 AM

Page 8, Q5. In general, how would you describe the weather in the area in which your program was based?

- Yes, I brought my laptop and bought a modem so I could access email. There were many computers on campus I had access to as well (although during final exam month they blocked access to facebook.)  
  Jun 7, 2011 10:15 AM

Page 10, Q1. Any suggestions to the IPO for improving Occidental’s on-campus orientation or other services?

- No, they were very informative.  
  Jun 7, 2011 12:18 PM

Page 10, Q2. What information about your program could be emphasized more to prospective applicants?

- That although the program has a center on campus in Accra for students, they are only helpful to a certain extent.  
  Jun 7, 2011 12:18 PM
**Page 10, Q3. Describe the overall strengths and weaknesses of the program.**

|   | The orientation was very good, but after that students are essentially on their own. They are given advice and minimal help, but overall must figure things out independently. | Jun 7, 2011 12:18 PM |

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**Page 10, Q4. Do you have any suggestions for the program director(s) and/or staff off-campus?**

|   | They should be held responsible for the mistakes they make. Whenever problems arose, they seemed to be so scared of being blamed they would twist information and lie about what they had previously said, so that it would appear to be the students' fault or misunderstanding, when we knew it wasn't. | Jun 7, 2011 12:18 PM |

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**Page 10, Q5. For what sorts of students, if any, would you recommend this program?**

|   | This is a good program for students who need direct enrollment opportunities to take classes that give them credit towards their major (like I did with psychology). It is not particularly regulated, so students looking for support and planned activities might be disappointed. | Jun 7, 2011 12:18 PM |