

# Joint Skills Enhancement Program for Master Students

of the University of Ghana  
and the University of Bonn

May 31 – August 2, 2024



**STUDY  
FOR  
LIFE**

Getting  
Started



Professional  
Skills



Career  
Steps



International  
Community



## Two Continents, One Study Hall

The University of Ghana and the University of Bonn have a strategic partnership in place connecting the two institutions on multiple academic levels, promoting joint research projects, academic dialogue between researchers of various disciplines and student exchanges. After the first two rounds of the program in 2022 and 2023, a virtual study room opens for the third time this summer semester for use by fourteen master's-level students from the two universities. Around this, a joint interdisciplinary skills enhancement program will be offered to impart valuable studying competencies and other soft skills.

The program offers:

- Access to an exclusive qualification program with no enrollment fee
- Workshops conducted exclusively in English
- Academic competency and soft skill enhancement
- Experienced, highly qualified trainers
- Africa & Europe: Expanding students' learning radius from home base
- A change of perspective to cultivate intercultural competency
- Important international networking at an early academic stage

#### Program completion:

- Students receive a certificate jointly issued by the University of Ghana and the University of Bonn for completing the program
- Credit at the University of Bonn: The program completion credits count towards earning the Certificate of Intercultural Competency

#### Requirements:

- Enrolled in a master's degree program at the University of Bonn or the University of Ghana
- Study phase: Second half of the master's program
- Regular participation in the offered workshops. The workshops usually take place on Fridays in the time from 09:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Ghana time) / 11:30 a.m. - 03.00 p.m. (German Time).
- Very good knowledge of English
- If possible, stay at the place of study for the duration of the program
- Interest in active international networking

## Program

Official Opening with representatives of both universities on **Friday, May 31, 2023 - 09:30 a.m. (Ghana time) / 11:30 a.m. (German time)**  
The opening is followed by the first part of the Intercultural Training:

## Intercultural Awareness and Exchange

### Berit Stoppa

**Date: May 31, June 14 & July 26, 2024**

09:30 a.m. – 01:00 p.m. (Ghana time)

11:30 a.m. – 03:00 p.m. (German time)



Studying within an international environment has a lot of advantages and offers opportunities for intercultural exchange. Specifically, in the time of increasing offers of virtual lectures, international exchange with students of partner universities can be enhanced by intercultural trainings.

The training on intercultural awareness, diversity and exchange offers basic knowledge of cultural and diversity dimensions, intercultural communication and opportunities to get in touch with fellow students of various international backgrounds as well as to get to know each other's academic everyday life. This will be done by a mix of inputs, individual and group work, discussions, and reflection activities. The training is split into three parts.

After the training, participants have a basic understanding of the dimensions of diversity and intercultural communication and have reflected on their own background and cultural environment, are aware of the relevance of stereotypes and the challenges of intercultural communication and have received ideas on how to overcome them. They also have acquired basic knowledge of Ghana and Germany respectively and have exchanged with master students of the University of Ghana/University of Bonn on an informal basis.

## Project Management

**Dr. Jan Schmidt**

**Date: June 07 & 21, July 5  
2024**

09:30 a.m. – 01:00 p.m. (Ghana  
time)

11:30 a.m. – 03:00 p.m. (German  
time)

Everybody is talking about projects: In research, in industry, in your volunteer engagement. It's all about milestones, phases, gantt diagrams and resources. The reason for this is that it's absolutely helpful to plan what you do in an efficient manner and to use tried and tested tools and methods. Therefore, the course project management introduces basic tools and approaches but also creates a link to practice: We will apply the different tools to case examples and thus will get more familiar with them and learn about possible pitfalls.

## Effective Communication

**Prof. Margaret Ivy Gyan**

**Dates: July 12 & 19, 2024**

09:30 a.m. – 01:00 p.m. (Ghana  
time)

11:30 a.m. – 03:00 p.m. (German  
time)

The course on effective communication is intended to help participants understand the fundamental principles which underpin various aspects and types of communication: personal, interpersonal, group (business, organisational), mass, face-to-face, and virtual. The course addresses the processes of communication, and skills needed for effective communication in different contexts and environments. It seeks to improve participants' verbal (oral, written) and nonverbal communication to enable them develop good internal and external relations, improve decision-making and enable speedy problem-solving to enhance productivity.

## Next academic steps: PhD

**Insights into Prof. Felix Ankomah Asante's personal experience in Ghana and Germany**

**Prof. Felix A. Asante**

**Dates: June 28, 2024**

09:30 a.m. – 01:00 p.m. (Ghana  
time)

11:30 a.m. – 03:00 p.m. (German  
time)

In this workshop, Prof. Asante shares personal experiences of his almost three decades of academic and research journey with particular references to Ghana and Germany, to motivate up-and-coming scholars contemplating next steps in their academic endeavors. Prof. Asante emphasizes the role and importance of mentorship in successful academic and research career. Having collaborated extensively with researchers and institutions in Europe especially Germany, and other continents, Prof. Asante has been instrumental in

securing funding to train and mentor graduate students, many of whom have become prominent



academics and researchers themselves. Since this workshop focuses on students pursuing their Masters' degrees, Prof. Asante shares useful lessons on how one can improve his/her chances for PhD admission and funding by drawing from his own experiences and that of his mentees. The discussion will further highlight potential career or job opportunities available to graduate students at both home and abroad.

**Please make a note: Friday, August 2, 2024 is an alternative date in case a workshop date has to be postponed at short notice.**

**Would you like to read about the experiences of the first generations in the program?**  
**[Joint Skills Enhancement Program 2023](#)**



**To apply for the program, please complete the registration form by April 28, 2024:**

**If the number of applicants exceeds availability, admission to the program will be decided by a committee, in which case you will be notified by May 15, 2024.**

**[Apply now](#)**

## Contact:

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