

## Joshua Williams Shares His Ghana Experience



Joshua Williams, (Left) comes in to CIE for a post-Ghana trip interview. The Honors Program group arrives in Ghana, students, faculty and staff (Right) spent 11 days sharing and exploring, see page 6.

Foreign Language Instructional Center  
FOREIGN LANGUAGE TAKES YOU PLACES

Foreign Language Instructional Center (FLIC) provides instruction in world languages and in less-commonly taught languages to individuals and organizations seeking to advance their language proficiency for academic, professional or personal goals. Mission of the center is to assist the challenge for various language acquisition as facilitated by the United States government. FLIC uses a combination of traditional and technology-based instruction by qualified instructors.

Foreign Language Instructional Center (FLIC)  
FLIC@UMES.EDU  
WWW.UMES.EDU/FLIC

Joshua Williams, a junior in Digital Media Studies, has just returned from the Honors Program visit to Ghana over Winter Break. What surprised him the most was how moved he was by the beauty and nature of the country, and the main business district trash pick-up was meaningful to him. He also enjoyed learning the history of Kente cloth, its symbolic of the relationships with other peoples. The tree planting also felt like a way to show the growing relationship between UMS and the host University.

Joshua is putting in a lot of time in the studio now over in EASC, and after graduation, he plans to pursue a career behind the camera, working his way toward being a director.

Joshua wished he had a little longer to enjoy Ghana just a bit more. Here are some of his favorite parts of the experience.

### Joshua's High Points

- The natural beauty
- Watching the handmade Kente cloth process
- Community service aspect
- Ease of communication with international phone plans and WhatsApp

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# FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Fellow Hawks,

Spring Break is right around the corner. It is not only a good time to relax and recharge, but also a great opportunity to begin planning your academic abroad experience. Scholarships like the Rangel, Gilman, and Fulbright usually have Fall deadlines, so take time now to check them out, start planning for your recommendation letters, and your personal essays. We celebrate the students who applied for study abroad scholarships, and those in the midst of application now.

Study abroad is a great way to build language skills, intercultural competencies, problem solving skills and cognitive adaptability. Did you know that international students take advantage of our study abroad programs? Find out more today!

We encourage students to drop in to the Center and find out about their many options. We are here to welcome new international students, locate resources, and activities for undergraduate and graduate students alike. We are always on the lookout for scholarships for both study here at UMES, and study abroad. And of course, ways to celebrate and strengthen the marvelous multicultural community here at UMES.

Stop in and see us, or make an appointment for a Google Meet or phone conversation.

Let's soar together! Hawk Pride!



Interim Director  
Center for International Education



## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITY DEADLINES



1

March 7, 2024

**Gilman Grant for Pell Grant Recipients**

<https://www.gilmanscholarship.org>

4

March 31, 2024

**AGA KHAN Foundation for International Students**

<https://www.akfusa.org>

2

March 15, 2024

**Middlebury Summer Language Immersion Program**

<https://www.middlebury.edu/language-schools/>

5

April 2, 2024

**Freeman-Asia**

<https://www.ije.org/programs/freeman-asia/apply/>

3

March 17, 2024

**The NBR Undergraduate Diversity Fellowship Program**

[www.nbr.org/udfp](http://www.nbr.org/udfp)

6

April 27, 2024

**The Stephen Feinberg Scholars Scholarship**

<https://www.cbcfinc.org/programs/scholarships/fags-stephen-feinberg-scholars-scholarship-program/>



# INTERNATIONAL HAWK NEWS



## Spring 2024 International Student Orientation

The 2024 Spring International Student Orientation was held at Wilson Hall. Throughout the orientation, essential information was covered to ensure a smooth transition at UMES and living in America. New international students received information about international student supports and services, UMES campus life, and gained essential tips for a successful start to their semester.



*Ms. Malone, the Bursar addresses payment details.*



*Ms. Gladding talks about international students Admissions.*



*New international students attending the orientation.*



### Missed the Orientation? No Problem!

We can arrange a meeting either in person or virtually. Please reach out to CIE (Center for International Education) for a one-on-one appointment. Email us at [ois@umes.edu](mailto:ois@umes.edu) or give us a call at 410-651-8385.

# INTERNATIONAL HAWK NEWS



## Meet Your New African Student Association (ASA) President!

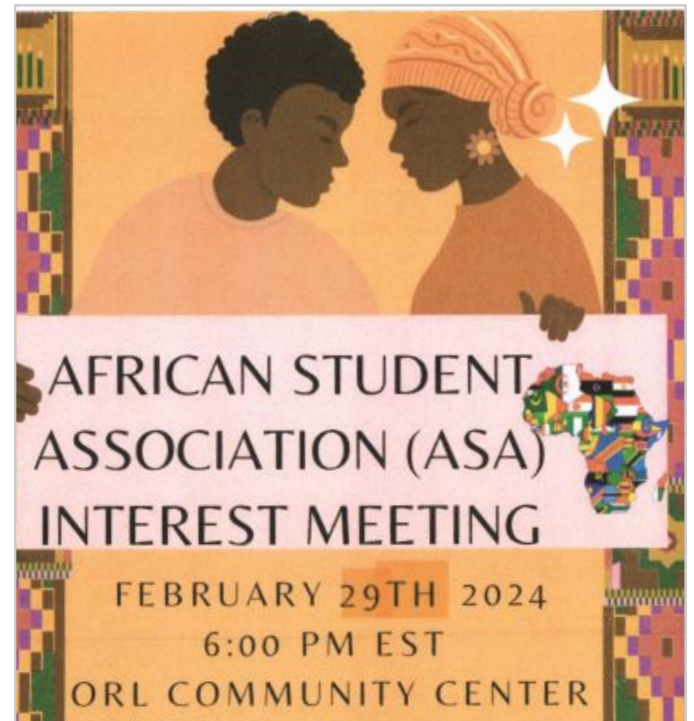
### Hope-Abigail

Hope-Abigail stopped by Center for International Education to spread the word about their upcoming interest meeting. Undergraduate and graduate students welcome. Go check it out! Get social! Get involved.



This junior, hailing from Cameroon, is a biology pre-dentistry major pursuing a career as an oral surgeon. Way to soar Hope-Abigail!

We are so happy to be partnering with ASA again this year!



## Caribbean International Club (CIC) New President

### Kamarie Mills

Caribbean International Club (CIC) new President **Kamarie Mills** stops by to say hello, let us know about upcoming events, and grab a February Goodie Bag! Kamarie is a senior and a pre-veterinary student.

We look forward to planning Spring and next Fall with CIC.



### Mark Your Calendars!



Carnival celebration will be held April 8-13, with a big event on Saturday April 13! Want to join CIC? Be a part of Carnival? Contact Kamarie at [kamills1@umes.edu](mailto:kamills1@umes.edu)



# SPRING 2024 VISITORS TO CIE



*If you see our CIE visitors around campus, stop and say "hi"!*



## Brooklyn Davis



This senior from New Orleans knows her way around UMES, but is still navigating our chillier weather! She is a business administration major, with an interest in exploring Japan and the UK. She came in for a goodie bag, and walked away with this Bourbon Street plaque that CIE garnered at a regional conference. Thanks for making our Warm Your Hearts event a success!

## Sneha Shahi



Newly arrived Sneha Shahi stopped in to ask about resources and connect to other students from her native Nepal. Sneha is a freshman studying Criminal Justice, and is looking forward to exploring UMES clubs and organizations.

Welcome Sneha!

## Jade Reid



A Bio pre-med sophomore and enthusiastic study abroad applicant, Jade came by to go over her study abroad program application, and pick up some sweet treats. Seen here with new Korean instructor Dr. Kang (Left), holding Korean and American versions of the marshmallow pie.

## Londyn Davis



Sophomore Londyn is a tech engineering education major. She came in to check out CIE, and pick up a goodie bag. Just for fun, she posed outside CIE with a flag of England, representing her namesake! She is from New Orleans, like her sister Brooklyn, and also interested in Japan. We look forward to working with Londyn & getting to know her.

## FLAGS



Are you walking for commencement in May? Let us know your country or heritage. If we have the flag in our inventory, we would be proud to fly it in your honor!  
[oiss@umes.edu](mailto:oiss@umes.edu)

### January

- Cuba
- Haiti
- Sudan
- India

### February

- Sri Lanka
- New Zealand
- Grenada
- St Lucia
- The Gambia

### In honor of students or visitors

- Spain
- Cameroon
- Ethiopia
- Zambia

# DR. BRIDDELL ON HONORS PROGRAM 2024 TRIP TO GHANA

Rooting Ourselves in Ghana: The Honors Program Immersion Trip By Dr. Jocelyn D. Briddell, Adjunct Instructor (Excerpts and summaries from a trip report article)

On January 3, 2024, a group of 19 students, faculty, and staff embarked on an enriching journey to Ghana for academic research and cultural exploration, made possible through a partnership with Sunyani Technical University (STU) in Sunyani, Ghana.

During our stay, STU graciously hosted us, fostering dynamic exchanges of ideas between our universities. We were warmly received by the Sunyani Traditional Council, where we had the honor of meeting the Mother Queen. Another notable encounter was with Honorable Justina Owusu-Banahenele, Regional Minister of the Bono Region of Ghana, like meeting the governor of Maryland, and one of only two women among 16 regional ministers, she discussed her transition from teaching to politics and the significant impact of her role as a woman in leadership. Other activities included a tree planting on the STU campus and a clean-up initiative at Nana Bosoma Market in Sunyani, both aimed at contributing positively to the local community.

We journeyed from Sunyani to visit the Kintampo Waterfalls and the Fiema Monkey Sanctuary before arriving in Kumasi, where we visited significant cultural sites such as the Manhyia Palace Museum, Kumasi Cultural Centre, and Bonwire, renowned for traditional Kente cloth weaving.

Our exploration continued to Cape Coast, with poignant reminders of the harrowing history of the trans-Atlantic slave trade; a stark reminder of the atrocities endured over 400 years ago. In Accra, Ghana's capital, we enjoyed sightseeing: Nkrumah Memorial Park, Independence Square, Makola Market, and the Center for National Culture. A highlight was the W.E.B. DuBois Cultural Center, where we discovered the profound influence of W.E.B. DuBois in Ghana and explored his preserved home, still housing over 1,000 volumes of his personal collection.



When asked about the most profound moment of our trip, the tree planting stands out for me. The symbolism of a tree and its roots feels like we've permanently "rooted" ourselves in Ghana. Now that we have returned home, we can envision our trees proudly swaying in the breeze, welcoming us back home one day to our roots.

This could be you! Ask us how! [oiss@umes.edu](mailto:oiss@umes.edu)



# FUN FACTS

*Where in the world do you want to escape to?*

- ✓ Where do you want to escape to? Choose a channel and let your mind wander with slow TV and ambient videos handpicked just for you.
- ✓ Relax with natural images and sounds while you work. Put them on your TV or even invite your friends to watch together.

*Explore the world from home*

Go to the website  
and click the screen  
to start



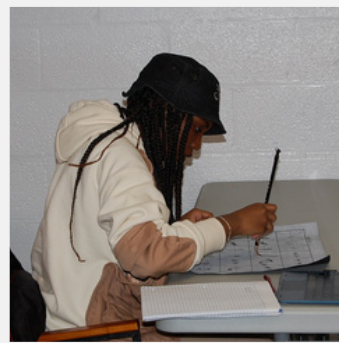
<https://escapista.app/natureza>

## LANGUAGE AND STUDY ABROAD EXPANDING HORIZONS

A visit to Dr. Zheng's Chinese class, where the students are learning about calligraphy. Dr. Zheng talks about the class and the experience: In today's Chinese language learning class, students were introduced to both Paper Cutting and Chinese Calligraphy writing practice, delving into China's rich cultural legacy. They explored traditional art forms like paper cutting, known as "剪纸" (jiǎnzhǐ), through hands-on activities and visual aids, immersing themselves in the intricate world of Jianzhi.



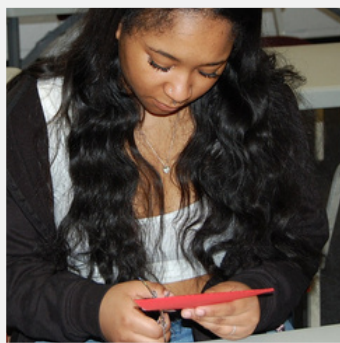
*Dr. Zheng*



*Kayla Collins*



*Daymond Thomas*



*Makiyah Knight*



*Dr. Zheng and Bee Burton*



*Oluwagbenga Akingbulugbe*

Through these activities, students not only gained insight into the historical significance and artistic techniques of Jianzhi but also enhanced their language skills by discussing its cultural context in Mandarin, fostering a deeper understanding of both the art form and the language. Simultaneously, students engaged in the practice of Chinese Calligraphy, or Shufa (书法), a revered art form dating back thousands of years, which embodies the harmony of brushstrokes, ink, and paper to express aesthetic beauty, cultural heritage, and spiritual depth. Practicing basic calligraphy with a brush served multiple purposes, enhancing students' understanding of Chinese characters, stroke order, and structure while cultivating patience, discipline, and appreciation for artistic expression.

# FACULTY-LED OPPORTUNITIES



## Dr. Champagne Holds a Study Abroad Interest Meeting for Spain Summer 2024



Dr. Carole A. Champagne



Students interested in studying abroad in Spain attentively listen to Dr. Champagne's explanation.



### England

May 7 - May 15, 2024

01

### Spain

May 26 - June 22, 2024

02

### Zambia

May 27 - June 6, 2024

03

### Denmark

June 3 - June 23, 2024

04

### Colombia

July 1 - July 28, 2024

05

## Faculty-led Study Abroad Programs

Over the past months, students have attended live presentations about upcoming faculty-led study abroad programs to Colombia, Denmark, England, Spain, and Zambia. Keep watch on UMES News Monday email for announcements about interest meetings and **\*EXPLORE\* your options!** All majors and disciplines welcome!

*Check out the timeline and forms at:*  
<https://wwwcp.umes.edu/ciel/faculty-led-tours/>  
*Spain program dates: May 26 – June 22, 2024*



SCAN ME







Deadline:  
March 15,  
2024

## Middlebury Summer Language Immersion Program

# SPOTLIGHT ON SCHOLARSHIP

*Take the Language Pledge and dramatically improve your proficiency, in just one summer.*

### Key Features

- ✓ Build proficiency in a foreign language
- ✓ Immerse yourself in another culture
- ✓ Quickly acquire linguistic and cultural fluency results you'll take pride in for life.



### Scholarship Website

➔ <https://www.middlebury.edu/language-schools/admissions/application-instructions-immersion>



## Mango Languages

### HOW TO START ?

- 01 Visit [www.umes.edu/flic](http://www.umes.edu/flic)
- 02 Click on 'Mango Languages'
- 03 Sign up using **your UMES email account**
- 04 Learn new languages for **FREE**





**Deadline:**  
**April 2,**  
**2024**

# Freeman Awards for Study in Asia (Freeman-ASIA)

# SPOTLIGHT ON SCHOLARSHIP

Freeman Awards for Study in Asia (Freeman-ASIA) provides scholarships for U.S. undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need to study abroad in East or Southeast Asia.



## Who Should Apply?

Freeman-ASIA accepts applications from U.S. citizens or permanent residents studying at the undergraduate level at a two-year or four-year college or university who demonstrate financial need to study abroad in East or Southeast Asia.



## Learn More

Interested students should apply to Freeman-ASIA in the academic term before their study abroad program begins. Applications must also be endorsed by both the study abroad adviser and the financial aid adviser by the specified deadline.



## 2024-2025

**Student Applications and Adviser Certification** will be due no later than Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Savings Time.

## Award Details

A Freeman-ASIA award provides need-based funding to assist the recipient with the cost of the study abroad program and related expenses, including airfare, basic living costs, local transportation, books, and more.


FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

410-651-8385

[oiss@umes.edu](mailto:oiss@umes.edu)

<https://www.umes.edu/CIE/>





**Deadline:  
March 17,  
2024**

# The NBR Undergraduate Diversity Fellowship

Application is now open for 2024

*The National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR) — an independent, nonpartisan Asia policy research institution located in both Seattle and Washington, D.C.*

## Overview

The Undergraduate Diversity Fellowship Program offers a paid 4-month fellowship for students to work with existing program teams at NBR's D.C. office. This opportunity allows fellows to expand their networks and develop skills in research, event planning, publications, and general office and project management support through direct professional experience.

## Eligibility

1. Community college and freshmen, sophomore, or junior undergraduate students interested in pursuing a career in international affairs or Asia policy are eligible.
2. Members of historically underrepresented groups, such as Black and brown students, are strongly encouraged to apply.

Learn more and submit applications

 [www.nbr.org/udfp](http://www.nbr.org/udfp)

