

Study in Senegal, West Africa this summer!

Suffolk University

Black Studies Summer Program

June 7-28, 2009



HST 330: The History and Culture of Senegal



CJN 419: Photography in Dakar



BLKST 263: Sabar: Music and Dance of Senegal



BLKST 264: The Géwël Tradition in Sound and Motion



BLKST 463: The Art of the Silver Smith

For information contact: Prof. Robert Bellinger, Director/[rbelling@suffolk.edu](mailto:rbelling@suffolk.edu)

### Additional information

The Black Studies Summer Program will be based on the Suffolk University Dakar Campus where program participants will take meals and have classroom meetings. Located in the Mermoz community of Dakar, the campus is easily accessible to markets, cultural activities and major points of interest in Dakar.

Suffolk University's Dakar Campus is a modern campus where students will have access to the computer lab and the library, which, with its e-holdings is the largest library in Dakar. The basketball court, the soccer field (the finest in the city) and the various on-campus activities provide natural opportunities for American and Senegalese students to interact and get to know one another.



Beach at Toubab Diallo

For more information contact:  
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# Suffolk University Black Studies Summer Program



Dakar, Senegal  
June 7-28  
2009

## Description

Taking place in the beautiful, cosmopolitan city of Dakar the Black Studies Summer Program is designed to provide students an opportunity for cultural exploration and understanding from a first hand perspective. Each class is designed to provide students with both skills and opportunities to actively interact with the people, places and institutions they come into contact with during their time in Senegal. Through language, history and culture students will be challenged to explore different ways of knowing and new ways of expressing themselves. Each class will help students break out of Western and nationalist cultural assumptions and take on, if even briefly, the perception of someone living in a different culture. By experiencing the validity of perspectives other than their own, students will develop a genuine understanding of diversity.

## Classes Offered



### HST 330 The History and Culture of Senegal

This class will introduce students to the richness of Senegalese culture and history, from the 11<sup>th</sup> century to the modern era. Along with history, students will examine Senegal's culture and customs through lectures, readings, music and film. Through field exploration students will have the opportunity to interact with people, institutions and historic sites.



### CJN 419 Photography in Dakar

The class will be for those interested in photography as it relates to the journalistic process as well as photography as Fine Art. Together, photography as document and work of art creates a powerful means of expression. Students will be required to produce a portfolio of superior work that will be collected as a group portfolio to be exhibited at the University's Boston campus in the fall. Additionally a research project and photo essay in Power Point format is required with the topic to be approved by the instructor.

### BLKST 263 Sabar: Music and Dance of Senegal

Taught by professional practitioners of the sabar tradition this class will use language, history, philosophy, spirituality, music and other aspects of culture to introduce students to the sabar dance tradition and provide them with an opportunity for cultural exploration and understanding. Students will be introduced to sabar dance techniques and traditional dance movements. They will also learn about the connection of the movements to the music. In addition to the classes students will have the opportunity to experience sabar drum and dance in traditional and popular contexts.



### BLKST 264 The Géwël Tradition in Sound and Motion

Using the drum as the central organizing principle this class will present and explore African non-literary text traditions of oration, movement and sound, and the ways that information is preserved and transmitted through these forms. Taught by professional practitioners of the sabar tradition students will be introduced to sabar drums and the techniques for playing them. They will also learn about rhythms, bakks, and the connection of dance movements to the rhythms. In addition to the classes students will have the opportunity to experience sabar drum and dance in traditional and popular contexts.



### BLKST 463 The Art of the Silver Smith

This class will introduce students to the art of working with silver and making jewelry. To accomplish this, the students will work with a family of traditional silver smiths who will teach them about each aspect of the jewelry making process. During the class students will learn how to use the tools of the smith and will develop their creativity making chains, rings, pendants and bracelets. Students will also learn about the various symbols and representations used by the smiths.

## Faculty

**Dr. Robert Bellinger**, Program Director, Associate Professor, Suffolk University  
Department of History  
**Ken Martin**, Adjunct Professor, Suffolk University Department of Communications and Journalism  
**Mouhamadou Moustapha Faye**, Director, Sing Sing Juniors Sabar Drum and Dance Ensemble  
**Aziz Faye**, Instructor, Sing Sing Juniors Sabar Drum and Dance Ensemble  
**Nogay Ngom**, Lead Dancer, Sing Sing Juniors Sabar Drum and Dance Ensemble  
**Malick Ngom**, Lead Drummer, Sing Sing Juniors Sabar Drum and Dance Ensemble  
**Sanga Gueye**, Silversmith, Soumbidioune Artisanal  
**Ibrahima Sow**, Silversmith, Soumbidioune Artisanal

### Fees\*

4 credits—\$5,712.00  
8 credits—\$8,084.00

(\*including housing, three meals a day, and all program related activities.)  
**(does not include airfare)**