Biomedical Science Experiences in West Africa: The Gambia and Senegal
WEST AFRICA RESEARCH EXPERIENCE 2011

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Biomedical Science Experiences in West Africa
The Gambia and Senegal West Africa is one of the most ethnically diverse regions in the world. It is home to over 300 different ethnic groups. There is a dire need for medical, environmental, and educational programs. Langston University, a historically Black University, began study abroad programs in 1960 to several parts of the world. However, the study abroad program to West Africa commenced in 1999 and has remained uninterrupted for 12 years. This program provides an opportunity for students to earn college credits while attending classes and doing volunteer work. Students are able to perform volunteer work for several weeks in the Lamtoro Clinic, The National Agriculture Research Institute, New Eden International Nursery School, Albion Lower Basic School, Access Bank, Magistrate Court, Supreme Court of The Gambia, Immigration Post, Local Newspapers, Radio Station, S.O.S. Orphanages, Four Star Hotels in The Gambia, The Methodist School for Children with Needs and many more.

This project is the experience of one student during the 2011 Summer Study Abroad Trip to West Africa visiting The Gambia and Senegal. The project began in The Gambia and concluded in Dakar, Senegal. The purpose of this trip was to: provide students with a theoretical framework for understanding Africa in a historical perspective; allow students to examine and discuss African institutions such as The Family, Education (formal and informal), Religion, Industry, Economics, and Government; allow students to differentiate between Afro-centric and Euro-centric systems of practices; and expose students to the history of the The Gambia and Senegal.

Albion Lower Basic School