Study Abroad Integrated Learning: 
Culture, Media, & Social Movements 
in Senegal

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Origins of MILA course

Muhlenberg Integrated Learning Abroad

IFDS Dakar, Senegal (2013)

Exploratory trip to refine project (2014)
MILA course: spring 2016

Cross-listed COM / FRN

3 main objectives:

1) Intercultural competence (knowledge, skills, and attitudes)
2) Language acquisition: Wolof and French
3) Media industry / Filmmaking and editing techniques
Senegal trip: May 23–June 4, 2016
Music video project
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Follow-up & Implications for next time

- Continued connections with hip-hop artists through FB and social media
- Collaborations between French Club and local orphanage / school
- Organizing “Artistic Activism in Francophone World” conference including Senegalese hip-hop community

Changes for next time:
- Challenges of traveling abroad with students to developing countries
- Language focus: less Wolof, more French
- Locating professionally trained instructors of less-commonly-taught languages
- Collaborate with hip-hop group ahead of time (LC Commons) to prepare video(s)
- Manage expectations of video production by students