

**NEW!**  
**Summer 2009**  
**In West Africa**

# Making Cultural Connections Across the Atlantic

**What:** This four week experience will take educators from the U. S. Midwest to West Africa, where they will learn about the education, health, culture, languages, public policies and the arts in two West African countries. Those who travel during summer 2009 will have an opportunity to work with educators living in West Africa, collect artifacts that can be used to teach about these regions, develop service plans and/or policy alternatives, and collaborate on the development of curriculum boxes based on these experiences.

**Why:** The goal of this project is to develop a transnational curriculum designed to engage educators, health care providers, policy analysts, and students in thinking critically about themselves as global citizens, and includes the following activities:

- Acquiring knowledge about the causes and consequences of the global impact on education, health, economy, environment, and cultural practices in West Africa;
- Examining the common causes and shared consequences of globalization in West Africa and in the U. S. Midwest; and
- Incorporating this knowledge into the curriculum at all educational levels, as well as into the provision of health care and the development of policies.

**When:** Four weeks during Summer – June and July, 2009

**Where:** Bamako, Mali and Dakar, Senegal, West Africa. Senegal is located on the western most coast of Africa. Mali is the seventh largest country in Africa, and is located to the east of Senegal.

**Who:** This opportunity is available to educators, public administrators, policy analysts, school teachers, university professors, and graduate students in the humanities, social sciences, health and human services, area studies, and foreign languages.

**Requirements:** Those who wish to be considered to participate in the Field Work phase of this program, must have completed,

- A seminar called, “West Africa and U. S. Midwest: Consequences of Globalization” offered on Saturdays, twice a month between March and May 2009), AND
- Apply to participate in the Overseas Field Work experience

The seminar and field work will meet requirements for professional development hours for educators.

**Costs:** The seminar, *West Africa and U. S. Midwest: Consequences of Globalization* is free. If you would like academic credit you will need to register and pay for credit hours through the Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Health and Human Services, Education, or the Office of Lifelong Learning and Education. Project directors are seeking federal funding to support travel costs. Additional information is located at the **Cultural Connections** web site: <http://www.cultureconnections.org>.

**Project Directors:** Please indicate your interest in this opportunity by e-mailing or calling project directors: Dr. W. F. Santiago-Valles at [santiago.valles@wmich.edu](mailto:santiago.valles@wmich.edu), 387-2561 or 388-3809 or Dr. Yvette D. Hyter at [yvette.hyter@wmich.edu](mailto:yvette.hyter@wmich.edu) , 553-6307 or 269-387-8025.

