WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN THE YALE YOUNG GLOBAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

For the average SOS student, joining or signing up for a summer camp at an Ivy League university is in some ways essential— if you want your college apps to look good! However, depending on what program you opt for and how ready you truly are to learn more, let me suggest one that fills you with a truck load of insight.

Yale is a university that respects and understands the true meaning of diversity. Diversity not just in terms of the countries and races represented on the campus, but the respect that everyone gives to the most radical and wildest opinions on some sensitive topical issues. There were some people who justified eradicating culture as a step Africa could take to becoming a developed and competent continent!

The program was organised beautifully. Lessons were structured like lectures and seminars. The lectures were given by renowned professors and outspoken individuals who were all passionate about their chosen fields and could talk for hours on end about what they believed in. The lectures were followed by discussion groups where we, the participants, spoke on concerns and questions that came up over the course of the lecture. Afterwards, we had seminars which focused on various topical issues in the world.

The seminars were also structured such that the facilitators provided all necessary information and sat back and moderated the heated debates and arguments that followed. I cannot say that I did not sit in a single topical class that was not full of controversy. I even recall one person who believed that dictatorship was actually the best form of leadership and basically coerced everyone else to believe in that idea!

One thing I will never forget and which would even shatter your spirit to think about is the friendships and bonds that you form with people from the most exotic locations and backgrounds. I made fast friends with an Albanian, Hungarian, a Brazilian— the list goes on and on. The people that you meet are probably going to be as special or even more special than you are. I learnt that the easy way. Learning about the backgrounds of these individuals and how surprisingly similar their countries are to Ghana, is something that enlightened me to my lack of international-mindedness.

The best part of the program was the food. Basically, the Yale campus was a place where food was cheap and abundant and of course, mouth-watering. I for one, spent about a $100 on fast food within three days! I had Chinese food for breakfast, mozzarella and pepperoni pizza for lunch and cheese steaks and tacos for supper. It even hurts a little when I think about those good times. There was also the option of eating the dining hall food which was also good, but why pass up an opportunity to eat as much junk food as possible?

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Jump on this awesome opportunity to attend a summer program at Yale and utilise the opportunity to discover the entire world on one campus!

- Anne-Marie Abban-Demitrus

The dark forest knight has risen! Will he drown in this fresh water?