

(Free read ebook) Doing Development in West Africa: A Reader by and for Undergraduates

Doing Development in West Africa: A Reader by and for Undergraduates

From Duke University Press Books

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From Duke University Press Books : Doing Development in West Africa: A Reader by and for Undergraduates before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Doing Development in West Africa: A Reader by and for Undergraduates:

In recent years the popularity of service learning and study abroad programs that bring students to the global South has

soared, thanks to this generation of college students' desire to make a positive difference in the world. This collection contains essays by undergraduates who recount their experiences in Togo working on projects that established health insurance at a local clinic, built a cyber cafeacute;, created a microlending program for teens, and started a local writers' group. The essays show students putting their optimism to work while learning that paying attention to local knowledge can make all the difference in a project's success. Students also conducted research on global health topics by examining the complex relationships between traditional healing practices and biomedicine. Charles Piot's introduction contextualizes student-initiated development within the history of development work in West Africa since 1960, while his epilogue provides an update on the projects, compiles an inventory of best practices, and describes the type of projects that are likely to succeed. *Doing Development in West Africa* provides a relatable and intimate look into the range of challenges, successes, and failures that come with studying abroad in the global South. Contributors: Cheyenne Allenby, Kelly Andrejko, Connor Cotton, Allie Middleton, Caitlin Moyles, Charles Piot, Benjamin Ramsey, Maria Cecilia Romano, Stephanie Rotolo, Emma Smith, Sarah Zimmerman

"The perspectives of the students in this collection make it clear that simply having good intentions, dedication, or even excellent innovative ideas are not sufficient to implement the initiatives that development workers hope to. A grasp of local politics and regional histories and social forms is critical, not just to success, but to understanding the nature of the 'problems' in the first place. An innovative work, *Doing Development in West Africa* is an eminently readable and teachable text valuable to courses in international relations, political science, and anthropology."