2016 Annual Security Report

Statistics for 2013, 2014, and 2015

Accra Global Academic Center
Report on Security and Safety at NYU Accra


The utmost safety of our students, faculty, staff and visitors is a top priority for New York University. We are dedicated to maintaining a campus where learning excels in an environment unencumbered by safety concerns or fear for personal well-being.

Although the area surrounding the NYU Accra site has a low violent crime rate, crime prevention remains a high priority. NYU seeks to ensure the safety of its students and employees. The local police force, a closely screened and well trained staff, and the students themselves all share in the responsibility of making NYU Accra a safe place to study, work and live.

Security and Safety

NYU Accra utilizes contractual security personnel of Intercon Security, who do not have police designation. Intercon Security has been carefully vetted by the University with the goal of ensuring that the safety and security standards enjoyed by the students at the NYU campus in New York City are met. Representatives from Intercon Security regularly meet with NYU Accra site administrators to discuss security issues and ways to improve the services provided.

All the NYU Accra locations have security guard service seven days a week, 24 hours a day, rendered by Intercon Security. Site administrators maintain a dialogue with the Cantonments police branch of the Ghana Police Service to foster a good working relationship between the organizations.

During new student orientation, which is held during the first week of students’ arrival, students are advised on security tips. An illustrative PowerPoint presentation on living safely in Accra is delivered by NYU Accra’s Internship/Community Service and Security Coordinator. A soft copy of the safety and security tips, listed herein on page 5, is also emailed to students. The general manager of Intercon Security Company gives students updated information and tips on security.

In the event of a crime, NYU Accra encourages students, faculty, and staff to promptly report all incidents to the individuals listed above, as well as to the local police. In the event of an emergency, a criminal act or another event that necessitates notification to the student population, a security email is quickly sent to NYU Accra students to assist them in avoiding further occurrences, and all Community Resource Assistants (CRAs) are instructed to hold an emergency meeting to discuss the security situation in the dorms and the general neighborhood of Labone.

An incident report form is filed immediately after the occurrence of each incident and sent to NYU in New York. All incident reports are forwarded to the NYU Public Safety Department in New York, and the appropriate incidents are reflected in the Annual Security Report for the site.

NYU Accra’s Access Policy was developed by the Internship/Community Service and Security Coordinator in collaboration with the Facilities Manager,
endorsed by the Director, and is enforced by the Internship/Community Service and Security Coordinator.

NYU Accra also encourages students to make full use of the NYU Traveler online system so that their travel schedules can be checked against any potential issues at destination countries and through which they can receive up to date travel advisories.

Security and Access in NYU Accra Housing

All of the NYU Accra student housing facilities are located within the vicinity of Labone residential area, which is not contiguous to the NYU Accra campus, and have uniformed security guards posted 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Students studying at NYU Accra may reside in single occupancy, double occupancy, or triple occupancy housing options.

The NYU Accra housing facility utilizes a combination of safety and security technologies.

The Church Crescent Student Residence has an electric fence which is linked to the Intercon Security control room through the alarm system, closed circuit surveillance cameras (CCTV), smoke detectors and a fire alarm system which are linked to Intercon Security control room, sensor lighting, card-operated access control doors at all houses, panic buttons in all the student rooms which are linked to the Intercon Security control room, an alarmed emergency exit door linked to the Intercon Security control room through the alarm system at all houses, remote panic buttons for guards, a communication radio for guards at post, and a stand-by generator for use during power outages.

Security and Access at NYU Accra Campus Facilities

The Center for Technology & Economic Development has an electric fence which is linked to the Intercon Security control room through the alarm system, closed circuit surveillance cameras (CCTV), smoke detectors and a fire alarm system which are linked to Intercon Security control room, sensor lighting, card-operated access control doors at all houses, a security light on the street, a standby generator, and a communication radio for guards at post.

The Academic Center, which contains offices and classrooms, has an electric fence which is linked to the Intercon Security control room through the alarm system, closed circuit surveillance cameras (CCTV), sensor lighting; remote panic button for guards at post which are linked to the Intercon Security control room, a security light on the street, a communication radio for guards at post, and a localized fire alarm system, and a stand-by generator for use during power outages. NYU Accra staff work at the Academic Center on Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Access to the Academic Center and all other facilities on the NYU Accra campus is through the main security gate, which is controlled by a security guard. The security guard inspects NYU ID cards and confirms visitors’ identities before permitting entry.

Maintenance and repairs of the security devices are performed by the Technical Manager of the Intercon Security Company. When a malfunctioning security device is detected, the NYU Accra Community Resource Assistant informs the Internship/Community Service and Security Coordinator and immediate action is taken by Intercon to repair the faulty equipment. The Internship/Community Service and Security Coordinator is responsible for seeing that security equipment is functioning well and that faulty equipment is repaired immediately.

Landscaping and trimming of hedges are performed by the Sparklean maintenance company, and are door lock repairs. The Finance and Facilities
Manager is responsible for the maintenance of the general repair work, assisted by the Assistant Facilities Manager and Library Assistant.

Students are provided with a form to complete when items in the residences are broken. The form is sent to the Facilities Manager for prompt action to be taken on the repair.

**Policies**

The New York University **Sexual Misconduct, Relationship Violence, and Stalking Policy and Protocols**, **Policies on Substance Abuse and Alcoholic Beverages**, the **Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy and Complaint Procedures**, the **Student Conduct Procedures** and the **Missing Student Notification Policy**, outlined in the main NYU Campus Security and Fire Safety report, are applicable to all Global Academic Centers. During orientation, these policies and site-specific security policies and programs are discussed.

**Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Awareness**

Students are encouraged to remain vigilant and be responsible for their personal safety. Students seeking to report or obtain assistance regarding an incident are advised to contact the appropriate site administrator(s) as indicated in this report.

All incoming students are required to complete a Wellness orientation online component that addresses issues of alcohol and drug use, safety in the city, mental health services, and sexual misconduct before arriving at NYU Accra, followed by a one hour face to face orientation when they get to the program.

**AlcoholEdu:** All incoming freshman at NYU are required to complete the two-part, three hour online course, AlcoholEdu for College. The course provides students with information about high-risk drinking behaviors and associated harms, debunks myths about college drinking, and directs students toward tools and resources for staying safe and looking out for friends such as Action Zone Bystander Intervention and the Wellness Exchange hotline. Incoming students are required to complete the first part of AlcoholEdu prior to their arrival in the Fall semester. The second part of the course tests knowledge retention and must be completed six weeks into the Fall term. Failure to complete AlcoholEdu affects students’ spring semester course registration.

**Sexual Misconduct, Relationship Violence, and Stalking Prevention and Awareness**

All students enrolled at each of NYU’s Global Academic Centers completed an interactive, online module that provides education related to sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. Students are advised about where to go to receive free and confidential assistance and where to go to make a formal report to the University if they experience this type of violence. The module also addresses the importance of obtaining consent for sexual activity, and bystander intervention. After completing the online component of the module, students participated in active debriefing seminar with local Student Life and Wellness staff during which they can learn more and ask clarifying questions, particularly around issues of obtaining consent for sexual activity.

**The Think About It** online educational program, which is mandatory for all students, helps ensure that students understand their rights and responsibilities in the important area of sexual misconduct. The online educational program is mandatory for the entire NYU student body attending any of the three NYU campuses (New York, Abu Dhabi and Shanghai) or Global Academic Centers.
This online course examines the interconnected issues of healthy relationships, substance abuse, and sexual violence, among other topics, through a variety of scenarios and guided self-reflection.

Student leaders are exposed to an additional layer of training with a mandatory Bystander Intervention or Consent Workshop. Through the participation in these workshops and in their roles as leaders, these important lessons will be spread to their peers.

**Summary of Security Tips Given to Students During their Security Orientation**

- Always walk in pairs or groups.
- Always watch who is walking in front of you and behind you to see if they are following you. Keep your head up and make eye contact always.
- Avoid walking in isolated places. Stick to well-lit areas and use main roads and walk with confidence and purpose.
- Always hang your bag firmly on your shoulders (better to tuck the bag under the arm) away from the traffic side of the road to avoid snatching. It is advised that you don’t carry your bag across your body/diagonally to avoid being dragged along in case it is snatched.
- Do not “shop on the move” on streets and at traffic lights (there is some risk of your money being taken away when a vehicle moves).
- In Ghanaian culture, it is appropriate to wear clothes that do not expose certain parts of the body unduly. Low-cut shirts/tops and micro-mini skirts are generally frowned upon. There may be exceptions to this rule in Accra as it is a cosmopolitan capital, but outside of Accra it is advised that you dress more conservatively.
- If you have a particular route that you want a driver to take, tell him and insist that it be followed. You should pick up a taxi at a taxi stand located at a hotel or high-end restaurant. Always insist that the driver sends you to your destination first before going anywhere else. If you are alone it is advisable to sit directly behind the driver.
- If drinking in a nightclub, be wary of strangers who would like to drink with you and always protect your drink; don’t leave it unattended because a drug could be dropped in it.
- Never carry your passports, credit cards and ATM cards with you in town unnecessarily. Avoid withdrawing cash at ATMs late in the night so that you do not fall prey to thieves.
- Avoid taking photographs of security posts, airports, diplomatic missions, military facilities, police stations, bridges, and government buildings. This may not be permitted for security reasons.
## Campus Crime Statistics

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<th>Category</th>
<th>On-Campus</th>
<th>On-Campus Residence Halls*</th>
<th>Non-Campus Residence Halls**</th>
<th>Non-Campus</th>
<th>Public Property</th>
<th>Totals***</th>
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* Campus residence halls statistics are a subset of the overall on-campus totals. NYU Accra does not have any on-campus residence halls.

** Non-Campus residence halls statistics are a subset of the overall non-campus totals.

*** Totals reflect on-campus, non-campus, and public property statistics.

**FOOTNOTES**

- In 2013, 2014, and 2015 there were no bias-related incidents.
- NYU Accra did not have on-campus residence halls in 2013, 2014, or 2015.
- NYU suspended coursework at NYU Accra for the Fall 2014 semester, so no students were present between May and December 2014.

These statistics capture reports of allegations of the types listed above [including anonymous reports] that have been collated in New York City for the purpose of this report. These statistics do not represent findings of any University investigative or judicial processes.
Appendix A: Ghanaian Laws Regarding Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

The following is a summary of criminal laws under the Ghanaian Criminal Offences Act, 1963 (Act 29), Domestic Violence Act, 2007 (Act 732), and Criminal Code, 1960 (Act 29) related to dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, based upon good-faith research into the existence of such laws.

“Consent” has been used throughout applicable Ghanaian legislation on criminal law, but there is no specific definition of the word in the context of sexual activity.

“Dating violence” is not defined within Ghanaian criminal jurisprudence.

“Domestic violence” is defined in Section 1 of Ghana’s Domestic Violence Act, 2007 (Act 732) as follows, in the context of a previous or existing domestic relationship:

(a) An act under the Criminal Code, 1960 (Act 29) which constitutes a threat or harm to a person under that Act;

(b) Specific acts, threats to commit, or acts likely to result in

(i) physical abuse, namely physical assault or use of physical force against another person including the forcible confinement or detention of another person and the deprivation of another person of access to adequate food, water, clothing, shelter, rest, or subjecting another person to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(ii) sexual abuse, namely the forceful engagement of another person in a sexual contact which includes sexual conduct that abuses, humiliates or degrades the other person or otherwise violates another person’s sexual integrity, or a sexual contact by a person aware of being infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or any other sexually transmitted disease with another person without that other person being given prior information of the infection;

(iii) economic abuse, namely the deprivation or threatened deprivation of economic or financial resources which a person is entitled to by law, the disposition or threatened disposition of movable or immovable property in which another person has a material interest and hiding or hindering the use of property or damaging or destroying property in which another person has a material interest; and

(iv) emotional, verbal or psychological abuse, namely any conduct that makes another person feel constantly unhappy, miserable, humiliated, ridiculed, afraid, jittery or depressed or to feel inadequate or worthless.

(c) Harassment, including sexual harassment and intimidation by inducing fear in another person; and

(d) Behaviour or conduct that in any way

(i) harms or may harm another person;

(ii) endangers the safety, health or well-being of another person;

(iii) undermines another person’s privacy, integrity or security; or

(iv) detracts or is likely to detract from another person’s dignity and worth as a human being.
“Sexual assault” is most closely defined in the Ghanaian Criminal Offences Act, 1963 (Act 29) as “indecent assault” in section 103 of the Act. According to section 103 (2):

A person commits the criminal offence of indecent assault if, without the consent of the other person, that person:

(a) forcibly makes a sexual bodily contact with the other person; or
(b) sexually violates the body of the other person,
in a manner not amounting to carnal knowledge or unnatural carnal knowledge.

The Act defines “unnatural carnal knowledge” as sexual intercourse with a person in an unnatural manner or with an animal.

“Stalking” is not defined in Ghanaian criminal jurisprudence.