ARABIC SUMMER STUDY ABROAD IN MOROCCO

Summer Study Abroad Program: May 23-July 30, 2016

SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

THE PROGRAM

This program is intended to enable students to accelerate their acquisition of the Arabic language both by compressing eight credits (two semesters’ worth) of language courses into a two-month intensive session and also by immersing them in an environment where Arabic is a major spoken language. Students will study Modern Standard and colloquial Moroccan Arabic (they are very different languages) and explore Moroccan culture through lectures in culture, family homestay, encounters with locals in the urban environment of Fes and through excursions to other parts of the country. The location is a well-established and –reputed language school in a UNI World Heritage site: it has trained native English speakers in all levels of Arabic for over twenty years. Fes is the Moroccan cultural capital and the likeliest place for students to consistently hear and speak in Arabic.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Students will have the option of staying in hotels (very inexpensive by our standards), a villa set up as a dormitory with limited space, or the preferred option, family homestay. ALIF has an extensive network of families who have been vetted for cleanliness, safety, ability to understand the needs of American students and long experience doing so. Homestay is by far the best option for language acquisition and also the cheapest for students. Nevertheless, some students, due to dietary, health or other issues, may be unable to fully embrace the homestay experience, hence the villa/hotel option.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations during their study abroad experience should discuss these needs with the Program Director and the Office of Disability Services at the time of application.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 1, 2016

CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Director:
Eman Maamoun

Office Address:
840B Langdale, GSU, Atlanta
GA 30302

E-mail:
emaamoun@gsu.edu

Tentative Itinerary

23-25 May: Travel to Fes via Casablanca and one intermediate destination (usually Paris, Amsterdam or New York).

25 May – 28 July: Coursework in Fes, with excursions usually on weekends.

29-30 July: Return to Atlanta
ELIGIBILITY

The program is open to undergraduate and graduate students who meet all academic requirements of the Georgia State University College of Arts and Sciences. Raw beginners are as welcome as students who have already taken some Arabic: in fact, this is the best way for beginners to learn. Program size is limited and participation is contingent upon acceptance by the Program Director.

CREDITS AND COURSES

Each student will be able to receive credit for the next two four-credit Arabic courses after the most recent course taken at GSU. A beginner will receive credit for ARBC 1001 and 1002. A student who has completed one semester of Arabic will receive credit for ARBC 1002 and 2001, etc. Students may elect to take one session of Modern Standard Arabic and one of Colloquial Moroccan Arabic; the two languages are as different as Latin and Spanish. Students taking colloquial Arabic will be granted credit for ARBC 3100, Spoken Arabic Dialect. ALIF also offers courses in Moroccan and Arabic culture; it is feasible for students to elect to take such courses, in which case they would receive credit for ARBC 4510, Arabic Study Abroad. Students from other institutions should follow their institution’s regulations concerning transfer credits.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

An application will be made available via the Study Abroad office. Applications will be evaluated on baseline academic qualifications, appropriateness of study abroad to student’s degree program, a demonstration of ability to meet the financial demands of the study abroad program, and a brief interview between the prospective student and Prof. Maamoun and Dr. Campbell, in order to ascertain that the student has the maturity and drive to adjust to a foreign culture. Students from universities other than GSU are welcome to apply, but must, as part of the initial deposit for the program, register for the summer 2016 semester as “transient” or visiting students at GSU. Non-GSU students must meet the same qualifications, including submitting on-time payments as per the schedule, as GSU students. Students interested in applying should find this program’s listing at mystudyabroad.gsu.edu and begin an online application. Transient Students: please see the Transients Student section under the Explore & Apply tab. International students at Georgia State who hold F-1 visas must contact the Office of International Students and Scholar Services at (404) 413-2070 to discuss possible implications of study abroad for their immigration status.

COST

Program cost may vary at any time according to currency fluctuations and changing travel arrangements. The program cost is tentatively set at $2,874, PLUS regular Georgia State University tuition and fees. Non-resident/out-of-state students will pay in-state tuition plus a $250 fee in addition to the program cost.

FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Georgia State University students are eligible to apply for the IEF Study Abroad Scholarship/Georgia State University Foundation Scholarship and may be eligible to apply for the Foreign Experience Scholarship. Visit mystudyabroad.gsu.edu and select the Scholarships & Financial Aid tab or call the Study Abroad Programs office at (404) 413-2529 for more information.