

Université Mohamed V, Souissi; Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center 🏠 🧑

colloquial moroccan arabic language / modern standard arabic language / moroccan studies



program snapshot

- Learn Arabic at your level, and learn the local dialect through the elective Colloquial Moroccan Arabic course
- Focus on Moroccan society and culture in an innovative elective course
- Live with a local family and immerse yourself in Moroccan culture
- Visit museums, festivals, the Medina, and Kasbah, and take field trips to the ancient ruins of Chellah and the Andalucian Gardens; explore another Moroccan city on a multi-day stay

what you'll learn

The Language and Culture summer program is designed to help students develop an understanding of contemporary Morocco, gain insight into Morocco's role in the Arab world and its ties to Europe, and develop Arabic language skills—no matter what their level—beginner through advanced. To meet these goals, the program provides innovative coursework and a variety of community engagement opportunities.

thoughts from abroad

A long-time symbol of tolerance, Morocco established a precedence of openness and cooperation to the Western world when it became the first country to recognize the United States in 1777. As a strategic gateway between Europe, Africa, and the Arab world, Morocco has a rich identity forged by a complicated history of cross-cultural interactions. The result is a multicultural and multilingual society full of contrasts and harmony. These differences and harmonies are highlighted throughout the program and lie at the heart of the student experience. Through cultural excursions to places such as the Sahara Desert, Atlas Mountains, and Atlantic and Mediterranean coast, students are also exposed to Morocco's geographical diversity, experiencing firsthand how the locals make use of the landscape in their everyday lives.

Morocco is continually looking for ways to preserve its traditions while acclimatizing to the rapid growth and progress that the nation is experiencing. Students find themselves at the center of these dynamic forces as Morocco aspires to become a model and leader for the other countries in its region. Our program not only provides a multitude of opportunities for the exploration and the discovery of these issues, but it also offers the perfect setting by which students can reflect upon the diversity that they encounter at every turn.

— Madiha DeRosa, Resident Director

About the Resident Director

Madiha DeRosa received her M.A. in International Education and Development from George Washington University and a B.A. in International Relations from Boston University. Bicultural and multilingual, Madiha has worked in the U.S. and in Morocco with various university student and faculty groups. She brings a strong background in student services, teaching, and intercultural project coordination.

About the Academic Director

Professor Abdellatif Zaki is responsible for overseeing the academic program and coordinating the core course Contemporary Moroccan Society and Culture. Professor Zaki is a co-founder and senior faculty member at the Ecole Supérieure de Direction et de Gestion. He is also a senior faculty member at the Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II.

about rabat

Rabat, Morocco's capital and second largest city, has a population of 3,000,000. Rabat hosts Morocco's most prestigious universities, as well as many international governmental and non-governmental institutions such as UNESCO and the World Bank. The city offers a combination of modern and traditional, and provides a wide range of opportunities for students to experience its culture through art exhibits, music, and theater. Central Rabat has a modern infrastructure with large office buildings, palm tree-lined boulevards, cafés, restaurants, and shopping centers.

academics

Academic Program

Established in 2008, the Language and Culture summer program gives students the opportunity to take Arabic language courses taught by Arabic language specialists at the at the Qalam wa Lawh Center for Arabic Studies (Qalam Center) and take the CIEE Contemporary Moroccan Society and Culture course taught by faculty from the Université Mohammed V-Souissi campus.

The program is designed to provide students intensive Arabic language training along with a multifaceted academic analysis of Moroccan culture and history. In addition to the courses offered, students can engage themselves locally through volunteer opportunities. Students wishing to focus a larger percentage of their studies on Arabic language may choose to take an elective language course in Colloquial Moroccan Arabic.

The program is suitable for students with a strong interest in Arabic language and in French, as well as a variety of academic disciplines, including Moroccan studies, religion, business and economics, and literature.

Academic Culture

Teaching methods involve a combination of lectures, tutorials, seminars, and fieldwork. Guest lectures, field trips, and excursions are also an important component of the academic curriculum.

Nature of Classes

Participants take classes with other CIEE students only.

Grading System

All courses utilize a continuous assessment model and may include quizzes, exams, individual and group presentations, research projects, and papers. Courses are designed to follow a standard U.S. grading scale from A–F.



where you'll study

The CIEE Study Center is located on the Université Mohamed V, Souissi (UM5-S), Faculté des Sciences de l'Éducation campus. The campus is situated in the student center of Rabat referred to as Madinat Al Irfane and is conveniently reached by taxi, bus, or the new tramway system. Area studies courses are held on this campus. All CIEE Arabic language courses are held at the Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center. See additional information on the next page

living**Housing and Meals**

Students live with Moroccan families in modern or traditional homes in various neighborhoods throughout Rabat. Families are carefully selected by local CIEE staff. Most homes combine western and traditional Moroccan elements and families are typically multilingual. Host families provide breakfast and dinner on weekdays and additional meals on the weekend.

Orientation

The mandatory two-day orientation conducted in Rabat at the beginning of the program introduces students to the city, the culture, and the academic program, as well as provides practical information about living in Morocco. Ongoing orientation discussions and a re-entry workshop at the end of the semester are designed to help students with cross-cultural adjustment and adaptation.

Internet

Students have access to the Internet at as well as at Internet cafés throughout the city. Some of the homestays also offer Internet access. Students are encouraged to bring wireless-enabled laptops.

**host institutions**

Université Mohamed V, Souissi offers undergraduate and graduate degrees as well as several non-degree opportunities, such as the Arabic for Speakers of Other Languages program. This program attracts study abroad students from Africa, Asia, and the Middle East contributing to the internationalization of the student body. CIEE students have access to facilities and services available to UM5-S students, including all student activities, a cafeteria, and library facilities.

All CIEE language courses are held at the Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center (Qalam Center). The Qalam Center provides programs for the study of Arabic as a Foreign Language to students from around the world. It is conveniently located in Rabat's prestigious neighborhood of Souissi within minutes from downtown. The campus features 12 large, air-conditioned classrooms, an on-site cafeteria serving Moroccan dishes, a library, and a large garden open space for study and relaxation. CIEE students have full access to all Qalam Center facilities and language activities.

culture**Cultural Activities and Field Trips**

The program includes a series of required and optional cultural activities and field trips in and around Rabat, including concerts and festivals, as well as visits to the ancient ruins of Chellah, the Andalusian Gardens, local elementary schools, and government agencies. Group activities are also held in the Medina and Kasbah. As part of the language courses, students may visit local markets and attend music and theater performances that provide practical language training opportunities. Students also enjoy a multi-day stay in another Moroccan city such as Fez or Marrakech.

engagement**Community Engagement and Field Studies**

Students may choose from a variety of volunteer activities with local NGOs, schools, and other organizations. In the past, CIEE participants have worked with blind students, youth with disabilities, women's groups, Berber groups, the World Health Organization, and the World Bank.

costs**CIEE Fees**

Summer 2011: \$6,400
Summer 2012: available 12/15/11

The CIEE program fees for 2012 include an optional on-site airport meet and greet, full-time leadership and support, tuition, housing and most meals, orientation, cultural activities, local excursions, pre-departure advising, most course materials, and a CIEE iNext travel card which provides insurance and other travel benefits.

Estimated Additional Costs (Summer 2011)

Transportation (round-trip based on U.S. East Coast departure)	\$ 1,800
Personal Expenses	\$ 600
Additional Meals	\$ 350
Books and Supplies	\$ 60
Local Transportation	\$ 150
Total Estimated Additional Costs	\$ 2,960

Check our website for current fees.

eligibility

- Overall GPA 2.75
- 2 semesters of college-level French or Arabic or equivalent

duration

6 weeks: early June–mid-July

coursework

Program Requirements

All students enroll in Modern Standard Arabic Language at the appropriate level. Students who want to focus entirely on Arabic language also take Colloquial Moroccan Arabic, while other students take Contemporary Moroccan Culture and Society.

Credit

Total recommended credit for the summer is 7 semester/10.5 quarter hours.

Modern Standard Arabic has 60 contact hours with recommended credit of 4 semester/6 quarter hours. Contemporary Moroccan Culture and Society and Colloquial Moroccan Arabic have 45 contact hours with recommended credit of 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

Languages of Instruction

Arabic, English

Faculty

The Arabic language courses are taught by faculty from the Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center. The Contemporary Moroccan Culture and Society course is coordinated by the CIEE Academic Director.

courses

Required CIEE Language Courses

ARAB 1001 MORU, Beginning Modern Standard Arabic

ARAB 2001 MORU, Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic

These intensive courses are offered for students from beginner through intermediate levels. The focus of each course is on functional reading and writing for academic and professional communication purposes. The primary objectives are to help students learn the writing and phonetic systems of the Arabic language, and to develop a solid understanding of the academic functions of Modern Standard Arabic. Each course adopts an interactive and participatory methodology using various materials. Students are assessed on in-class work, homework, and a final examination.

CIEE Elective Courses

AFST 3001 MORU

Contemporary Moroccan Society and Culture

This course, taught in English, introduces students to various aspects of Morocco's multifaceted culture and contemporary society. It includes discussion of Moroccan history, politics, development, economics, education, gender issues, and popular culture. It also examines Morocco's role in the Arab world and ties to Europe. In addition, the course includes a multi-day module in a different Moroccan city, such as Fez or Marrakech, which gives students the opportunity to gain additional insight into Moroccan society.

ARAB 1002 MORU

Colloquial Moroccan Arabic

This course is designed to help students gain beginning proficiency in the local Moroccan dialect and assist them with their transition into Moroccan society.

