

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

fall / spring / academic year ☀️ 🗨️ 🏠 👤 🏢

business / colloquial moroccan arabic language / economics / internship / literature / modern standard arabic language / moroccan studies / political science  
religious studies



### program snapshot

- Choose an Arabic language course at your level, beginner through advanced
- Participate in elective courses taught in English and French focusing on Moroccan and Arab studies, and the CIEE core course with one week in Fez or Marrakech
- Engage the community through local volunteer opportunities
- Immerse in the culture through trips to local markets and performances at the National Theater and field trips including a visit to the ancient ruins of Chellah, and excursions to Chefchaouen and other popular Moroccan cities

### what you'll learn

The Language and Culture program is designed to help students develop an understanding of contemporary Morocco, to give them insight into Morocco's role in the Arab world and its ties to Europe, and to help them develop Arabic language skills, whether at a beginner or advanced level. These goals are met through coursework and a variety of community engagement and field-based research opportunities. Students with strong French language skills can also take elective courses in French, adding to the overall cultural and linguistic experience.

## 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 with both American and Moroccan 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, teaching an elective course and coordinating the core course, Contemporary Moroccan Society and Culture. Professor Zaki is 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 three million. Rabat hosts Morocco's most prestigious universities, as well as many international institutions such as UNESCO and the World Bank. The city offers a combination of the modern and the 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 program gives students the opportunity to enroll in special CIEE area studies courses taught by faculty from the Université Mohammed V and Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (Institut Hassan II). Students also take Arabic language courses taught by Arabic language specialists at the Qalam wa Lawh Center for Arabic Studies (Qalam Center).

Area studies courses are held at the Université Mohammed V-Souissi campus, while all language courses are taken at the Qalam Center. 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 internship and 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 lectures, tutorials, seminars, and fieldwork. Guest lectures, field trips, and excursions are an important part of the academic curriculum and add to the total number of official contact hours each week.

### Nature of Classes

Most courses are for CIEE students only. Local and other international students at may occasionally enroll in CIEE courses.

### Language Environment

As students gain proficiency in Arabic, Resident Staff encourage them to use their language skills in everyday settings. The more students participate, the more a community that contributes to Arabic language proficiency and understanding of Moroccan society develops.

### 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 of 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 CIEE Study Center office is conveniently reached by taxi, bus, or the brand new tramway system that runs through campus. CIEE Rabat area studies courses are held on this campus. CIEE Arabic language classes are held at the Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center. The Qalam Center provides specialized programs for the study of Arabic as a foreign language to students from around the world.

## 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. Students use public transportation to commute to and from their housing.

### Online Pre-Departure and On-Site Orientations

Students begin their study abroad experience in Rabat before leaving home—by participating in a CIEE Online Pre-Departure Orientation. Meeting with students online, the Resident Director shares information about the program and site, highlighting issues that alumni have said are important, and giving students time to ask questions before leaving home. The online orientation allows students to connect with others in the group, reflect on what they want to get out of the program, and learn what others in the group would like to accomplish. The CIEE goal for the pre-departure orientation is simple: to help students understand more about the program and site, as well as their goals for the program, so that they arrive to the program well-informed and return home having made significant progress toward their goals.

The three-day orientation conducted in Rabat at the beginning of the program introduces students to the city, culture, and academic program, and provides students with practical information about living in Morocco. Students begin the Intensive Modern Colloquial Arabic course during orientation. Ongoing 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 the Université Mohamed V, Souissi, the Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center, and at Internet cafés throughout the city. Some of the homestays offer Internet access. Students are encouraged to bring wireless-enabled laptops.

## eligibility

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

## engagement

Students may choose from a variety of volunteer activities with local NGOs, schools, and other organizations. Possible examples include projects with students who are visually impaired, mentally challenged youth, women's groups, Berber groups, the World Health Organization, and the World Bank.

## internship

CIEE Resident Staff assist interested academic year students in finding a suitable community internship. These internships must be planned well in advance and prospective participants must have their proposals approved by CIEE and their home institutions prior to the start of the program. More information on internship options can be found in the course listing.

## culture

### Cultural Activities and Field Trips

The program includes a series of required and optional cultural activities and field trips in and around Rabat. Examples of local cultural activities include concerts and festivals; group activities in the Medina and Kasbah; field trips to the ancient ruins of Chellah and the Andalucian Gardens, and visits to local elementary schools and government agencies. As part of the language courses, students may practice their newly acquired language skills by visiting local markets and attending music and theater performances. The program also includes a one-week study tour to either Fez or Marrakech.

## duration

- Fall**  
16 weeks: late August—mid-December
- Spring**  
16 weeks: mid-January—mid-May
- Academic Year**  
30 weeks: late August—mid-May

## host institutions

Université Mohamed V, Souissi not only offers undergraduate and graduate degrees but also provides 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 area studies courses and the core course are held at UM5-S.

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.

## costs

### CIEE Fees

Fall 2011: \$14,200  
Spring 2012: available 8/15/11  
Academic Year 2011–12: \$27,000

The CIEE program fees for 2011–12 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, and a CIEE iNext travel card which provides insurance and other travel benefits.

### Estimated Additional Costs (Fall 2011)

Transportation (round-trip based on U.S. East Coast departure)	\$ 2,200
Personal Expenses	\$ 1,600
Additional Meals	\$ 500
Books and Supplies	\$ 250
Local Transportation	\$ 300
<b>Total Estimated Additional Costs</b>	<b>\$ 4,850</b>

Check our website for current fees.



## coursework

### Program Requirements

Students enroll in intensive Moroccan Colloquial Arabic during the first two weeks of the program. During the regular academic session, all students enroll in Modern Standard Arabic and the CIEE core course, Contemporary Moroccan Society and Culture. In addition, students choose two CIEE elective courses. Students interested in furthering their language skills may also enroll in the optional Moroccan Colloquial Arabic course.

The majority of CIEE elective courses are taught in English, although at least one elective course is offered in French each semester.

Students participating in the academic year program are not required to take the CIEE core course during their second semester. These students take Modern Standard Arabic and three elective courses, one of which may be the organizational internship. They may also take the Moroccan Colloquial Arabic course.

### Credit

Total recommended credit for the semester is 16–17 semester/24–25.5 quarter hours and 32–34 semester/48–51 quarter hours for the academic year.

Course contact hours are 45 hours with recommended credit of 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours, unless otherwise indicated.

### Languages of Instruction

Arabic, French, English

### Faculty

Courses are taught by faculty from the Université Mohamed V, the Qalam wa Lawh Arabic Language Center, and Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II. Language courses are taught by faculty from the Qalam Center.



## courses

### Required CIEE Language Courses

#### ARAB 1101 MORC

##### Intensive Moroccan Colloquial Arabic

This course occurs during the first two weeks of the program. It is designed to help students adjust to the local Moroccan dialect and assist them with their transition into Moroccan society. The course adopts a communicative methodology and introduces local spoken Arabic in a variety of authentic life situations, helping students develop immediate survival conversational competence. Role plays and simulations, group work with native speakers, and field-based activities are used to increase the students' exposure to the target language. Contact hours: 50. Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

#### ARAB 1001 MORC, Beginning Modern Standard Arabic I

#### ARAB 1002 MORC, Beginning Modern Standard Arabic II

#### ARAB 2001 MORC, Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic I

#### ARAB 2002 MORC, Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic II

#### ARAB 3001 MORC, Advanced Modern Standard Arabic I

#### ARAB 3002 MORC, Advanced Modern Standard Arabic II

These courses are offered at all levels, from beginning through advanced. The focus of the courses 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. The courses adopt an interactive and participatory methodology using various materials in authentic academic and professional communicative situations. Students are assessed on in-class work, homework, and a final examination. All course levels are designed and taught by faculty of the Qalam Center. Contact hours: 60. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

### Required CIEE Core Course

#### AFST 3001 MORC

##### Contemporary Moroccan Society and Culture

This course introduces students to various aspects of Morocco's multifaceted culture and contemporary society. It includes discussions of Moroccan history, politics, development, economics, education, gender issues, and popular culture. The course also examines Morocco's role in the Arab world and ties to Europe, and includes a one-week module in a different Moroccan city, such as Fez or Marrakech, to help students gain additional insight into Moroccan society. *Coordinator: Abdellatif Zaki, CIEE Academic Director*

### Elective CIEE Language Course

#### ARAB 1003 MORC, Beginning Moroccan Colloquial Arabic

#### ARAB 2003 MORC, Intermediate Moroccan Colloquial Arabic

#### ARAB 3003 MORC, Advanced Moroccan Colloquial Arabic

This course is designed to provide students additional training in Moroccan Colloquial Arabic. It is based on the intensive colloquial course that students take during the first two weeks of the program and helps students gain additional proficiency in the local spoken dialect. Contact hours: 15. Recommended credit: 1 semester/1.5 quarter hours.

### Elective CIEE Courses—in English

#### BUSI 3001 MORC/ECON 3001 MORC

##### Business and Economic Issues in the Arab World

A vast geopolitical entity ranging from the Euphrates to the Atlantic Ocean, the "Arab World" hosts a wide range of population diversity at the religious, ethnic, and linguistic levels. In this course, students examine the roots and reasons that the Arab states have not been able to become a more productive group economically and have remained politically autocratic. The course focuses on the economy of the Arab countries prior to independence, post-independence economic development, and nation building. Specific attention is given to agrarian reforms, agricultural revolutions, and food shortages. Case studies are utilized to address such issues as industrialization performance and constraints, including a close look at oil, Arab investments around the world, debt in the Arab world, demography and unemployment, and both Euro-Arab and American-Arab economic relations.

#### GEND 3001 MORC

##### Gender Issues in Morocco

This course is designed to introduce students to questions related to gender in Morocco. It examines the roles that gender dynamics play in politics, education, the media as well as in

everyday life. Students explore and discuss the various issues through readings, fieldwork, observations and research. Students also watch movies/videos, visit associations, talk to NGO activists, and communicate with Moroccan students.

#### INSH 3003 MORC

##### Organizational Internship

*[The internship is available to academic year students in their second semester only.]*

With permission from their home institution, academic year students may undertake an internship for credit while in Rabat. Internships are typically arranged with local NGOs and private institutions in the areas of international and local community development, education, social welfare, women's rights and political participation, and environmental protection. Students must submit a clear statement of purpose, including specific areas of interest and a résumé. Upon receipt of the approved plan, the Resident Director explores internship placements and meets with the student and the organization director to work out specific details of the student's internship. Students meet regularly with an Internship Supervisor, maintain a journal, submit field reports and present a final research paper that uses their experience at the organization to make inferences about issues in the region.

#### LITT 3001 MORC

##### Modern Moroccan Literature: Reflections of Social, Economic, and Political Issues

This course invites students to reflect on the ways modern Moroccan literature engages with the changing socio-economic and political conditions of the country and constitutes an important site of struggle for its practitioners. It pays particular attention to the heterogeneity of this literature, as well as to its ideological underpinnings and the textual politics it entails. Special attention is given to the construction of the other; mysticism and religion; gender politics; identity politics; modernity; the politics of memory; Western presence; and the language question.

#### RELI 3001 MORC

##### The Koran

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the major issues in the study of the Koran. It uses a comparative and interpretive approach through English readings to examine the canons of critical Arabic discourse. Specific attention is given to the structure and language of the Koran; the historical environment that helped to create the Koran; comparisons of the Koran, the Torah, and the Bible; Koranic law; and women in the Koran.

### Elective CIEE Courses—in French

#### AFST 3002 MORC

##### Race and Ethnicity in Morocco

Ideas of race and ethnicity refer mainly to the classification of people and groups. Within the social sciences, anthropology especially, the concept of race seems to be discussed less and less, while questions of ethnicity are increasing. The Greeks were the first to distinguish between ethos and demos. The concept of ethnicity refers not only to the existence of ethnic groups, but also to the complex social relations between these groups, considered by others as culturally distinct. In this course, students approach the study of ethnicity by examining how ethnic groups define their differences and distinctions through contact with others. Students study important theories of race and ethnicity and analyze these theories through case studies. The course also examines how anthropologists, nationalists, intellectuals, and *amazighs* (Berber) in Morocco view race and ethnicity. *Instructor: Naima Chilhaoui*

#### LITT 3002 MORC

##### Modern Moroccan Literature: Reflections of Social, Economic, and Political Issues

This course invites students with advanced French skills to reflect on the ways modern Moroccan literature engages with the changing socio-economic and political conditions of the country and constitutes an important site of struggle for its practitioners. It pays particular attention to the heterogeneity of this literature, as well as to its ideological underpinnings and the textual politics it entails. Special attention is given to the construction of the other; mysticism and religion; gender politics; identity politics; modernity; the politics of memory; Western presence; and the language question. Students enrolled in LITT 3001 MORC may not take this course. *Instructor: Taeib Belghazi*

#### POLI 3001 MORC/HIST 3001 MORC

##### Morocco, Northern Africa, and France—Political and Historical Perspectives

This course takes a comprehensive approach to analysis of the historical relationships between Morocco, Northern Africa, and France. It examines the historical weaknesses inherent in Morocco's relationship with its neighbors and France and the stages of colonization in Northern Africa. The colonization and annexation of Algeria by France, imperialism in Northern Africa, and the unavoidable reality of Morocco's colonization are addressed in detail. Additional topics include Morocco's struggle for independence, national movements, and armed resistance. The course also includes discussion of the current issues impacting Morocco, other Northern Africa nations, and the West. *Instructor: Najib Mouhtadi*

#### POLI 3002 MORC/HIST 3002 MORC

##### Arab Political Thought: Contemporary Issues and Historic Milestones

*(spring only)*

This course provides a historical depth to the major issues of contemporary Arab thought and sheds light on such notions that are wrapped in religion and may be misunderstood in the West. This historical undertaking enables students to better understand the current political situation including such complex notions as Islamism, fundamentalism, and the shock of cultures. In the second part of the course, students explore the reality of today's Morocco and its ability to adapt successfully to modernity while keeping components of its traditions intact. Additional topics include the status of women, Sharia and democracy, Arabism, and the Moroccan political system.

