

Ecole Supérieure de Direction et de Gestion

fall / spring / academic year ☀️ 🏠 👤 📱

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



program snapshot

- Arabic language training at all levels, from beginning through advanced
- Elective courses in English and French focusing on Moroccan and Arab studies
- CIEE core course with one-week integrated module in Fez and Marrakech
- Community engagement through local volunteer opportunities; for-credit internship in the second semester for academic year students
- Cultural activities, such as trips to local markets and performances at the National Theater; field trips, including a visit to the ancient ruins of Chellah

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 beginning or advanced level. These goals are met through coursework and through 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

Morocco today is at the center of global, Islamic, Pan-Arab, and Western influences and serves as an important engine for regional political and cultural discussions. It is a fascinating place in which to study and live, as you will be able to observe, firsthand, many changes taking place. The CIEE Study Center in Rabat provides a powerful academic and experiential learning opportunity that brings you as close as can be to the core of Islamic and Arab realities. By going inside the multicultural, multilingual, and multifold nature of Arab-Islamic communities, you will learn about the tolerance and openness that exist among people; examine the finest forms of art; and gain new understanding of the literature, philosophy, political and economic thinking, scientific achievements, and technological expressions that, throughout history, have characterized the rise and fall of Islamic and Arab communities. As you develop your Arabic and French language skills, you will connect with local Moroccans on many levels and acquire an insider's viewpoint on life in present-day Morocco.

We are committed to offering you the opportunity to be an active witness and participant in the making and assessment of ideas, arguments, attitudes, opinions, and policies that are currently shaping the face of global politics and cultures in Morocco—and throughout the world today.

— Abdellatif Zaki, Academic Director

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 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 the Resident Coordinator

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 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 classes taught by faculty from Ecole Supérieure de Direction et de Gestion (ESDG), Université Mohammed V, and Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (Institut Hassan II). Most classes are held at ESDG, with occasional class lectures and special events also held at Université Mohammed V and Institut Hassan II. 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 Ecole Supérieure de Direction et de Gestion 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 Ecole Supérieure de Direction et de Gestion (ESDG) is a private business and intercultural communication school with approximately 300 students. ESDG is accredited by the Ministry of Education in Morocco and France. The school was founded to provide a high quality education to local and foreign students, and many of the courses have an intercultural communication component. LangCom, the educational business partner of ESDG, is responsible for coordinating special programming such as the CIEE Study Center at ESDG.

living

Housing and Meals

Students have two housing options:

Homestays—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.

Student Residence Hall—Students share double rooms in a new residence hall located across the street from the campus of Institut Hassan II and a short bus ride to ESDG. All rooms have bathrooms, kitchenettes, and Internet access. Students receive a monthly meal stipend that is sufficient for two daily meals for use in local markets, restaurants, and cafés. A small cafeteria is located on campus. The residence hall is open to all students, though most of the residents are Moroccans. Students use public transportation to commute to and from their housing.

Orientation

The three-day orientation conducted in Rabat at the beginning of the program introduces students to the city, the culture, and the 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 ESDG and at Internet cafés throughout the city. Students living in the dormitory have Internet access in their rooms. Some of the homestays offer Internet access as well. Students are encouraged to bring wireless-enabled laptops.

internship

Internship

The Academic Director assists interested students in finding a suitable community service internship. Students must receive permission from their home institution to enroll in an internship for credit. Similarly, internships must be planned well in advance and prospective participants must have their proposals approved by CIEE and their home institution prior to the start of the program. More information on internship options can be found in the course listing. This option is only open to academic year students during the second semester.

duration

Fall

16 weeks: early September–late December

Spring

16 weeks: mid-January–early May

Academic Year

30 weeks: early September–early May

eligibility

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

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; group activities in the Medina and Kasbah; and visits to the ancient ruins of Chellah, to the Andalucian Gardens, to local elementary schools and government agencies, and to festivals. 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 stay in another Moroccan city, such as Fez or Marrakech.

Community Engagement and Field Studies

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

costs

CIEE Fees

Fall 2009: \$13,500

Spring 2010: available 8/15/09

Academic Year 2009–10: \$24,300

The CIEE fees for 2009–10 include an optional on-site airport meet and greet, full-time leadership and support, tuition, housing and most meals, orientation, cultural activities, local excursions, a one-week stay in another Moroccan city, a comprehensive student handbook, pre-departure advising, and a CIEE iNext travel card, which provides insurance and other travel benefits.

Estimated Additional Costs (Fall 2009)

Transportation (round-trip based on U.S. East Coast departure)	\$ 1,450
Personal Expenses	\$ 1,000
Additional Meals	\$ 500
Books and Supplies	\$ 100
Local Transportation	\$ 300
Total Estimated Additional Costs	\$ 3,350

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. With special permission, students may take one course at ESDG instead of a second CIEE elective course.

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 during their second semester. 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 Ecole Supérieure de Direction et de Gestion, the Université Mohammed V, and Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II. The Arabic language courses are taught by faculty from the Université Mohammed V Department of Foreign Languages.



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 Department of Foreign Languages at the Université Mohammed V. 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 of Arab countries, nation building, and economic development. 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 the role of women in Morocco. Gender issues in terms of how women are involved in politics, the media, and activism are discussed and researched. Students read texts by such pioneers as Fatima

Mernissi and Leila Abouzeid. Students also view videos, visit women's associations and shelters, talk to NGO activists, and exchange with Moroccan students.

INSH 3003 MORC

Organizational Internship

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

Students choose from a series of pre-screened internship opportunities with a nongovernmental organization involved with international and local community development, physically and mentally challenged children and adults, social welfare, women's rights and political participation, environmental protection, minority issues, and women's studies. Students record their experiences in a journal, which is evaluated weekly during the internship, and complete a 10-page research paper. Evaluation is by the internship supervisor and the Academic Director. Pre-approval must be obtained for participation from the Resident Director and the home institution advisor. Contact hours: 90. Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

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 approach and English readings to examine the canons of critical Arabic discourse from both an interpretive approach and an historical perspective. 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

[fall only]

Notions 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 different 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 use these notions of race and ethnicity. *Instructor: Hassan Rachik*

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*

