

Meknès, Morocco

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Program: ISA Meknes, Morocco: Arabic Studies, International Relations and Language, Summer 2018

Majors: International Studies and History

Earning the Community Engagement Badge:



I took it upon myself to make sure that I was involving myself in the local community. I made Moroccan friends and went out with them to cafes in the evenings - which is a very popular activity during the month of Ramadan, which was while I was there. I also had the opportunity to visit a migrant ghetto in the heart of Meknes. Morocco is known as a transit

country for many migrants on their way to Europe, and being able to spend a day with these migrants and learn about their experiences was probably one of the most impactful experiences from my entire time abroad. Making Moroccan friends and visiting the migrants in Meknes, as well as living with a host family, allowed me to have a really unique and unobstructed view into what life in Morocco is like.

Earning the Language Immersion Badge:



I opted to live with a French-speaking family in Morocco as well as take a French class through my program. My host family spoke very little English, so it was critical that I step out of my comfort zone and use my French as much as I could. Even after just a few days in Morocco, I noticed that my French vocabulary was improving, and that I was better able to carry

on a conversation without getting tripped up over my words. For my French class, I had a Moroccan professor who was also an author. He taught almost entirely in French, and the small class size ensured that each person was able to improve their language skills in a positive and encouraging environment.

Transferable Skills:



I have thought about and integrated my study abroad experience many times since returning home. I have continued my French education at the university, and I found that I am much more sure in my language skills than I was before. I also think that my experience abroad has made me much more focused on what I want to do professionally, and also helped me break out of my shell. I am not

as hesitant to try new things, and that has in turn opened the door to numerous opportunities that will benefit me in college and beyond. The global perspective that my study abroad has given me is something that I will forever be grateful for.



“My time studying abroad in Morocco has given me a global perspective that will undoubtedly help me succeed in future academic and professional aspirations. But along with that, my experience abroad helped me prove to myself that I am capable of taking risks, and that those risks are worth it.”