EDCP489/HONR349K – Global Experience to Morocco

Spring 2011

Alternating Fridays, 3:30 – 5:00 PM
South Campus Commons 1 Seminar Room & 2101 Annapolis Hall

This is a 1-credit class required of all students participating in the University of Maryland 2011 Global Experience to Morocco, an international travel experience being offered jointly through the Department of Resident Life and the Honors Humanities Living Learning Program. Student participants are from Honors, Honors Humanities, and student leadership positions in the Department of Resident Life.

The purpose of this class is to engage in academic and scholarly study about Moroccan history, society, and culture, and to prepare individual students and the group for the international travel experience.

Professors

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Class Description

This is a one-credit required class designed to prepare students who were selected to participate in the 2011 Global Experience to Morocco for international travel. This is a unique program being offered jointly through the Department of Resident Life and the Honors Humanities Living and Learning Program at the University of Maryland for the purpose of providing students with an opportunity to gain learning and understanding about culture, history, societal and geopolitical issues, and the contemporary college student experience in Morocco.

This class will be followed by a two-week trip to Morocco that will occur from May 20 through June 5, 2011. Trip participants will include students from Department of Resident Life leadership positions, the Honors Humanities Living Learning Program, and the Honors Program.

In Morocco, students will spend their first week at the International Institute for Languages and Cultures (INLAC) in the northern city of Fez, the center of cultural and religious life in Morocco known for its rich historical monuments, beautiful gardens, and dynamic civic life. From Fez, students will travel south to spend a second week with the Dar Si Hmad program in Ifni, Morocco where they will gain exposure to a
rural region of Morocco also rooted in rich cultural tradition. Both locations will incorporate seminars, visits to cultural sites, interactive field projects, service learning, and interdisciplinary approaches that will emphasize learning about Arabic, Islam, Moroccan history, gender issues, culture, media, and geopolitical issues unique to the region. The trip will also include visits to Casablanca, Agadir, and Rabat, the capital of Morocco.

An additional emphasis of this experience will include opportunities to engage in dialogues about contemporary societal issues structured through the framework of the Department of Resident Life’s Common Ground Multicultural Dialogue Program. Students will learn about and consider both U.S. and Moroccan perspectives on the issues.

A working knowledge of Arabic and/or French is recommended but not required for this experience.

**Class Objectives**

- Students will gain an understanding of culture, history, geopolitical issues, and contemporary societal issues in Morocco.

- Individual students and the group will be prepared for successful departure for the trip at the end of the semester.

**Required Readings**

**Texts to Purchase:**


**Selected Readings (placed on Blackboard)**


Class Requirements

1. Attendance, Preparation, and Participation

Class attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire class session. Campus policy requires that students who are absent due to illness or injury must provide documentation. All other absences must also be excused in advance. Any unexcused absence may endanger your final grade.

2. Reading and Assignments

Students are expected to complete all reading assignments, homework, and papers prior to the class session for which they are assigned. Readings and assignments (in addition to the texts) will be posted on Blackboard; students are responsible for downloading them in advance and bringing them to the assigned class. Students who frequently demonstrate a lack of participation or preparation will endanger their final grade for attendance, preparation, and participation.

3. E-Mail Reflections

Each student is expected to write at least three e-mail reflections over the course of the semester. Due dates are noted on the syllabus. Specific topics for the e-mail reflections will be discussed in class.

Assignments and Grading

In addition to the assigned readings, the following are required:

1. E-mail Journal Reflections (Three during the semester, due dates noted on syllabus) 20%
2. Common Ground Dialogue (TBD) or Group Project and Presentation (In class 4/29) 25%
3. Paper – In-Depth Exploration of a Contemporary Societal Issue in Morocco (Due 4/29) 30%
4. Attendance, Preparation, and Participation 25%

Grading Criteria:

In assigning grades, the following will be considered:

- **Understanding of the class material:** The degree to which the student indicates recall and understanding of the material and concepts covered in the class.

- **Contribution and participation:** The extent to which the student makes active and relevant contributions to class activities, discussions, and dialogues.

- **Form:** The care and clarity with which the student completes papers, written work, and presentations. Written assignments must be of very high quality. Papers are expected to be excellent in form and appearance. Grammar, syntax, punctuation, and structure of written assignments should support and enhance the concepts the student intends to convey. Papers must clearly adhere to a specific style guideline; the style may be based on the student’s major or field. Guidelines will be discussed in class.
- **Introspection**: The degree to which the student is thoughtful, insightful, innovative, and self-aware in the application of class concepts to his or her individual learning and experiences.

- **Elaboration**: The degree to which the student provides detail, depth, and development in written work. Specifically, we will be looking for the student’s ability to reason and provide rationales for conclusions, demonstrate critical thinking, and develop relevant examples and analogies.

- **Synthesis**: The degree to which the student “brings it all together” and incorporates class material into the creation of new insights, unique products, and/or creative solutions to hypothetical or actual issues studied in class.

**Academic Integrity**

The University of Maryland has a student-administered *Code of Academic Integrity* and *Honor Pledge*. The *Code* prohibits students from cheating on exams, plagiarizing, giving or receiving unauthorized assistance on academic assignments or exams, submitting the same paper for credit in two classes without authorization, buying papers, submitting fraudulent documents, forging signatures, and other forms of academic dishonesty.

We will not tolerate any form of academic dishonesty in this class and will actively investigate any alleged or apparent incident. Consistent with the spirit and intent of the *University of Maryland Honor Pledge*, students in this class will be asked to write the following signed statement on each assignment and exam: “I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment/examination.” Compliance with the *Code of Academic Integrity* at the University of Maryland is administered by the Student Honor Council. For additional information about the *Code*, the Honor Council, or the *Honor Pledge*, see the Office of Student Conduct’s website at www.studentconduct.umd.edu.

**Religious Observances**

The University System of Maryland policy on religious observances provides that students should not be penalized in any way for participation in religious observances and that, whenever feasible, they be allowed to make up academic assignments that have been missed due to such absences. The policy requires that the student must personally provide instructors with written notification of the projected conflict within two weeks of the start of the semester. For more information, please refer to the Online Undergraduate Catalog Policy on Religious Observance.

If you experience any conflict in this class due to your personal religious observances, please consult with us so we can give careful consideration to your needs.

**Students with Disabilities**

Students with physical, psychological, emotional, and/or learning disabilities are encouraged to contact us if reasonable accommodations can be made to assist your learning and/or evaluation in this class. If you have such a disability and anticipate requesting accommodations, University policy requires that you inform instructors at the beginning of the semester.

We will make every effort to accommodate students who are registered with the Disability Support Services (DSS) Office and who provide us with a University of Maryland DSS Accommodation form.

Disability Support Services on campus provides a variety of services to students with disabilities; staff members are available to consult with students at any time. Students are encouraged to take advantage of this resource if needed.
Class Cancellations/Delays

Check with 301-405-SNOW or the university website (www.umd.edu) for information about cancellations or delays due to inclement weather or emergencies. You may also sign up for the free university text messaging system, UMD Alerts (www.alert.umd.edu), to receive text messages about cancellations and delays.

CourseEvalUM

CourseEvalUM will be open for you to complete your evaluation of your Spring 2011 classes at the end of the semester. Go directly to the website (www.courseevalum.umd.edu) to complete your evaluation of this class. You are encouraged to participate in this evaluation system; your feedback on this class and others will help instructors and will contribute to the overall success of Maryland’s academic programs.

Class Schedule

Class 1  
**Introduction to the Class and the Experience**

| January 28 | Welcome and introductions |
| SCC 1 Seminar | Your interest in this experience |
| Room | Overview of class syllabus and requirements |
| | Global initiatives: The Department of Resident Life & Honors Humanities |
| | Overview of the trip: Goals, learning objectives and itinerary |
| | Things to begin thinking about now |
| | Additional questions for now – What do you need to know? |

Class 2  
**Individual Cultural Identity & Teambuilding,**

| February 11 | Concepts of Identity, Aspects of Your Identity that are Important to You |
| SCC 1 Seminar | Expectations for Travel Abroad |
| Room | Forms/Waivers |
| | Preparation for Common Ground Dialogue Option |

**Reading:**


E-MAIL JOURNAL 1 DUE (by midnight) – Your interest in this experience, your hopes/what you are most looking forward to, any questions you have, and areas of apprehension/uncertainty

Class 3  
**From French Protectorate 1912-1956 to The Kingdom of Morocco**

| February 25 | Reading: |
| Room | |
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**Class 4**  
*Les Années de plomb, The Lead Years (1963-1999)*

March 11  
SCC 1 Seminar Room  

**Reading:**  

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**SPRING BREAK**

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**Class 5**  
Morocco in the New Millennium: Women’s Issues

April 1  
2101 Annapolis  

**Reading:**  
- Orlando, Valérie. (2009). *Francophone Voices of the ’New Morocco’ in Film and Print* [Blackboard, excerpts]  
- Sadiqi, Fatima. Et al. (2010). *Women in the Middle East and North Africa: Agents of Change* [Blackboard, excerpts]  

**Read the novel:** *Mother Comes of Age* by Driss Chraïbi for 4/15

E-MAIL JOURNAL 2 DUE (By midnight) – Topic to be assigned

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**Class 6**  
Morocco: Arts, Film, Novels and Music

April 15  
2101 Annapolis  

**Discussion of:**  
- *Arts & Crafts of Morocco* by James Jereb  
- *Mother Comes of Age* by Driss Chraïbi

Before coming to class consult the following websites:  

**Film:** *Ali Zaoua: prince de la rue*

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**Class 7**  
Morocco in the New Millennium

April 29  
2101 Annapolis  

**Group Presentation(s)**  
**Individual Paper Presentations**  
**Common Ground Reflections**

**Reading:**  
- V. Orlando. *Voices of the New Morocco in Film and Print* [Blackboard]

**PAPER DUE:** CONTEMPORARY SOCIETAL ISSUE IN MOROCCO
### Class 8  |  Final Trip Preparations
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May 13 | Final Trip Preparations
2101 Annapolis | 

E-MAIL JOURNAL 3 DUE (By midnight) – Topic to be assigned

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**Friday, May 20:** Depart for Morocco .................................!
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Instructors’ Outline

Class 1 – Jan 28    Introduction to the Class and the Experience

Welcome and Introductions
Roster/Contact Info
Global Initiatives: The Department of Resident Life & Honors Humanities
Your interest in this experience – what do you hope to gain?
Overview of Class Syllabus and Requirements
Overview of the Trip: Goals, learning objectives and itinerary
Things to begin thinking about now
Additional questions – What do you need to know?

Additional agenda items:

Update on trip fees/billing
Health Center/immunizations
Passports – copies if needed
Morocco websites (INLAC, Jamila, etc.)
Special visa requirements – Uneeb
State Department/CDC Websites
Reminder about post-trip obligations

Next week:

Reading assignment for next meeting

Other:
Prior international travel experience?

Class 2 – Feb 11    Individual Cultural Identity & Teambuilding

Concepts of Identity, Aspects of Your Identity that are Important to You
Our Expectations for Travel Abroad
Forms/Waivers

Reading:
  • Readings here
Notes for agenda:
Two (2) passport-sized photos – can be purchased at Mailboxes, Etc. in the Union or FedEx, etc.
Beginning discussion – what to wear/bring
Word/phrase of the day!

Class 3 – Feb 25  TOPIC

TOPICS

Reading:
  • Readings here

Notes for agenda:
Money issues – cash in advance? Notifying credit cards/banks in advance
Confirm amount of money students should bring
Trip/itinerary updates
Word/phrase of the day!

Class 4 – March 11  TOPIC

Preparation for Common Ground Dialogue Option

Reading:
  • Readings here

Notes for agenda:
Trip/itinerary updates
International cell phones
Word/phrase of the day!

-----  SPRING BREAK  -----
Reading:
  • Readings here

Notes for agenda:
Trip/itinerary updates
Word/phrase of the day!

Class 7 – April 19  **TOPIC**

  Group Presentation(s)
  Common Ground Reflections

  Reading:
  • Readings here

Notes for agenda:
Trip/itinerary updates
Summer/fall meeting schedule?
Word/phrase of the day!

Class 8 – May 13  **FINAL TRIP PREPARATIONS**

Final Trip Preparations

Reading:
  • Readings here

Notes for class agenda:
Trip/itinerary updates
DRL departmental/university contact
Reminder: students will be responsible for all additional charges incurred
Final arrangements for transportation to the airport
Have in hand: Vaccination records, passport, cash
Pre-trip assessment
Word/phrase of the day!