

Morocco

UCEAP Advising Notes

Objective of the Advising Notes Document

This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student's *decision to apply* for an EAP program. The document is *not* a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA website, and reviewed by a student in the Program Self-Assessment. The best source of detailed program information is always the [UCEAP Program Guide](#) from the prior academic cycle. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Advisor Contact Information

For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/advising>

Note about UCEAP's Programs in Morocco:

The Fall UCEAP Morocco program is administered by the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE). To get the most detailed and complete information regarding the program, we recommend that you use the UCEAP Program Page and the CIEE Program Page for Morocco in tandem:

UCEAP: http://eap.ucop.edu/OurPrograms/morocco/Pages/arabic_language_culture_rabat.aspx

CIEE: <https://www.ciee.org/go-abroad/college-study-abroad/programs/morocco/rabat/language-culture>

NOTICE: As a UCEAP participant, you should be referring to the UCEAP Program page for eligibility, academic and financial information.

Application Process

All UCEAP students must initiate their application through the Berkeley Study Abroad Applicant Portal to be considered for UCEAP participation: <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/uceap-how-apply>. The Berkeley Study Abroad application instructions for Morocco will prompt you to apply to CIEE using instructions specific to UCEAP participants. Please take care to follow the provided instructions!

Academic Overview

The Language and Culture program in Rabat gives students the opportunity to enroll in special area studies courses taught by prestigious faculty drawn from various local and international universities. Students also take Arabic language courses taught by qualified language instructors from local universities and other organizations such as the Peace Corps.

Area studies courses and language course are held at the CIEE Study Center in Rabat, not at a Moroccan university. 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. The program is suitable for students with a strong interest in Arabic and French languages, as well as a variety of academic disciplines, including Moroccan studies, religion, business and economics, and literature.

Community Involvement

Internships, research, and independent study for academic credit are not possible through this program. However, students can 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.

Housing

All students are required to participate in homestays with host families who are carefully matched with students based on a variety of factors including family makeup, language background and proximity to campus. Whether located downtown, the older part of the city, or in newer quarters, homestays provide clues to understanding Moroccan culture and a glimpse into the generosity, tolerance, and diversity of the Moroccan family. Most homes combine western and traditional Moroccan elements and families are typically multilingual. Study abroad 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.

Scholarships

CIEE offers scholarships and grants based on merit and financial need. Students will have access to the CIEE online scholarship application once they begin their CIEE online application.

US Citizen Pell Grant recipients are encouraged to apply for the Gilman Scholarship, which offers a possible award of up to \$8000. For more information, visit gilmanscholarship.org

All UCEAP students are encouraged to apply for the UCEAP Promise Award, which offers a \$2000 award for semester programs and \$1000 award for summer programs. For more information, visit <http://eap.ucop.edu/Scholarships/Pages/default.aspx?src=sp-nav-scholarships>

Visa and Entry Clearance

US citizens can enter Morocco without a visa. For stays of longer than 90 days, a resident permit is required and can be issued by the Police Department of your place of residence in Morocco. The CIEE resident staff will assist you in acquiring your resident permit in Rabat. Students of other nationalities who wish to study in Morocco should contact the Moroccan Embassy to learn whether or not they are required to have a visa to enter the country.

Special Demands of the Program

Health and safety remain primary issues of concern for study in Morocco, particularly crime/security and motor traffic. Students should familiarize themselves with the role of race, gender, sexuality, and religion while studying in Morocco and develop appropriate expectations according to personal backgrounds and self-identification. LGBTIQ students are invited to reference the [UCEAP LGBTIQ Community Resource Page](#) to learn about host country laws and norms.