

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 a UCEAP 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](#) websites. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website or in the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Adviser Contact Information

The Berkeley Study Abroad Adviser for this program is Michelle Ayazi (mayazi@berkeley.edu). Please feel free to email Michelle with any questions and/or concerns you have about the program or your participation. You can make an advising appointment with Michelle [here](#).

Note about UCEAP's Program in Morocco:

This UCEAP program is administered by the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) and takes place at the CIEE Study Center in Rabat. For the most complete information, we recommend that you study these links together:

[Visit the UCEAP Arabic Language and Culture, Rabat program page](#)
[Visit the CIEE Arabic Language and Culture, Rabat program page](#)

As a UCEAP participant, you should be referring to the UCEAP Arabic Language and Culture, Rabat program page for eligibility, academic and program cost information.

Fall Semester Program

The UCEAP *Arabic Language and Culture, Rabat Program* is only available in the FALL semester.

Exclusivity Clause

UC students are only allowed to participate in this program via UCEAP. UC students cannot apply to this program independently.

Application Process

All UCEAP students must initiate their application through the Berkeley Study Abroad 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 submit an application to CIEE using instructions specific to UCEAP participants. Please take care to follow the provided instructions!

Competitiveness of the Program

Students who meet and maintain the minimum eligibility requirements and submit a complete and well-prepared application with an articulate Statement of Purpose by the Berkeley Study Abroad application deadline will have a very good chance of being selected.

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.

All UCEAP students are encouraged to apply for a UCEAP Scholarship, which offers a \$2000 award for semester programs. For more information, visit the [UCEAP Scholarships](#) page.

US Citizen Pell Grant recipients are encouraged to apply for the Gilman Scholarship, which offers a possible award of up to \$5000. For more information, visit gilmanscholarship.org.

More information on financial aid and scholarships can be found on our website: <http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/finances>

Financial aid students can request a financial aid estimate for the program here: <https://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/finances/financial-aid-advising>

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, internship and research opportunities.

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.

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 security and motor traffic. Students must be prepared to follow all safety and security regulations and guidelines established by UCEAP, the partner institution, and the U.S. Department of State. Students should review the [US Department of State Morocco country page](#) as well as the UCEAP and CIEE Program Guides to familiarize themselves with risks associated with visiting Morocco. 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.