



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Center for Middle Eastern Studies

**“Morocco: Bridging Cultures and Continents”
Fulbright-Hays Curriculum Development Project for Community College
Instructors and K-12 Educators**

Application Instructions

The University of Arizona Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) is pleased to announce a travel abroad program to Morocco for K-12 educators and community college faculty. The program is funded by a Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad (GPA) grant. Most of the costs – including air travel – will be covered (see below). The program is based on similar successful GPA programs organized in Arizona: most recently a summer 2018 program, in conjunction with New Mexico Highlands University, to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

Morocco Travel Seminar

This curriculum-building project will take K-14 educators on a 29-day program to Morocco, a lovely country located in North Africa. The travel abroad portion of the program will take place from May 31 (arriving in Morocco June 1) through June 29, 2019. The program will focus on the long history of cultural ties between Morocco and the Iberian Peninsula, a theme inspired by the particular interests of teachers in the U.S.-Mexico border region (although the program will be open to all eligible teachers nationwide). Program participants will then develop lessons so as to integrate area studies and language exposure into many segments of the high school/community college curriculum. Two personnel will lead the group. The program’s Scholar Escort is Hicham Assaoui, a PhD candidate in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching, specializing in Arabic language pedagogy. The educational coordinator is Dr. Lisa Adeli, the CMES Director of Educational Outreach, a history PhD and experienced high school teacher.

The program is designed to be academic, experiential, and practical. Participants will learn about the history, geography, cultures, languages, music, art/architecture, and politics of Morocco (focusing on its continuing interaction with southern Europe) – as well as receiving 40 hours of instruction in the Moroccan dialect of the Arabic language. Travel, visits to museums and cultural sites, talks by regional scholars, and interaction with local people will give participants experiences and insights that they can bring back to the classroom – along with photos and cultural artifacts purchased as part of the project. All participants will receive 90 hours of professional development/recertification credit. (Interested educators may receive graduate credit – but only if they want to pay UA tuition for the credits.)

Important Notes on Travel during this Program:

Although Morocco is considered a safe destination, problems could always arise, and you would be asked to exercise basic safety precautions. Morocco is a relatively easy place in which to travel – though there will be hours spent in buses on winding mountain roads. (We were told that the schedule is rather travel-heavy, but we didn't want to miss out on anything!) We will also do A LOT of walking, so be prepared for that. And it will be HOT outside – not as bad as in July, but still....

What Is Expected of Participants:

Financial: The Fulbright-Hays grant/CMES funds will cover overseas airline costs (round-trip flights from a near-by hub airport, housing in comfortable hotels, transportation within Morocco, most meals, tour guides, speakers, etc.) Participants are expected to provide a cost-share of \$1,200, payable in February. The payment is non-refundable except for the extremely unlikely event in which the trip itself has to be cancelled (as happened for our Teach Syria program planned for summer 2011).

Participation: Participants are expected to:

- participate in the online pre-travel programs
- attend and participate fully in the full abroad portion of the program
- create an extended lesson plan for a class that you teach (completed upon your return from the abroad program)
- contribute to the Arabic language-exposure modules, created by the group, that can be integrated in classrooms OR integrate language materials into your curricular material
- give a presentation at a teachers' workshop, districtwide PD program, or meeting of a community group

How to Apply

1. Determine your eligibility.

You are eligible to apply for the Morocco program if you are:

- a full-time K-12 teacher in either a public or private school who teaches social studies, foreign languages, English, or fine arts **OR**
- a full-time K-12 administrator or district administrator responsible for planning, conducting, or supervising a program in modern languages or area studies **OR**
- a full-time community college educator who teaches social studies, foreign languages, English, or fine arts
- **AND** you are a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- **AND** you expect to continue teaching until at least May 2021
- **AND** you are eligible to travel starting May 31, 2019 (We realize that in some parts of the country, the school year ends later than this, but there is no way to accommodate everyone.)

Note: People who have participated in a Fulbright-related program after summer 2017 or have previously participated in any previous CMES-sponsored Fulbright-Hays program are

not eligible to apply. **If you have any questions as to eligibility, contact us *before* applying.**

2. Complete the very short Application Form. Please TYPE your information. We ask that you provide the contact information (not letters of recommendation) for two people who we can contact in support of your application. Recommender #1 must be a superior (principal, department head, etc.). Recommender #2 should be a colleague or instructor familiar with your work, interests, and goals. Note: You do NOT need to provide actual letters of recommendation at this point.

3. Prepare a personal statement: approximately 2-4 pages in length.

An important part of your application will be the personal statement. Please address the following:

- Why are you interested in Morocco?
- How would you integrate material from the program into your teaching? Applicants should propose a curriculum project and explain how they would share it with their students and other teachers.
- What are your professional goals, and how might they be enhanced through this project? Please include any professional affiliations or experiences that demonstrate your commitment to sharing your knowledge with colleagues.
- What unique experiences or background do you think make you particularly qualified to join this group project?
- What aspects of this trip do you think might be challenging for you, and how do you anticipate overcoming such obstacles?

4. Submit a resume or CV that includes information on the courses you teach and/or plan to teach in the future.

5. Submit all materials (cover page, personal statement, CV) as email attachments to adeli@email.arizona.edu

ONLY COMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED

The selection committee will meet to choose applicants after the deadline. Chosen applicants must be approved by Fulbright-Hays and will be notified as early as possible. If you have questions about the curriculum-building trip, please contact: Lisa Adeli, CMES Director of Educational Outreach at adeli@email.arizona.edu or by phone at 520.621.7904

APPLICATION DEADLINE

December 2, 2018