

**All participants are expected to read this Participation Contract in its entirety. Questions should be sent to [study.abroad@wku.edu](mailto:study.abroad@wku.edu).**

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**PROGRAM LEADERS**

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Dr. Rachid Abouabdellah

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**COURSES**

PS 365: Government and Politics of the Middle East (Colonnade Course)  
PS 407: Directed Studies in PS  
PS 450: Special Topics – Islam and Politics

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**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Morocco is a great location to learn about the diversity of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. It has been influenced by several European powers (Spain, France and Portugal), it is a North African state of the Maghreb, which has been the home of several medieval Islamic dynasties, it is a monarchy that while affected by the Arab spring has found ways to politically and socially adapt to the forces of modernization, political Islam and globalization. WKU students will be introduced to a geostrategically important state and region and will experience Arabic and North African culture and languages. Interactive learning with local public officials, students and educators, and focused excursions help enhance the program.

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**PROGRAM LEARNING OBJECTIVES****PS 365: Government and Politics of the Middle East**

- Describe the field of Middle East and North African politics.
- Define key individuals, institutions and regional and global processes affecting the states of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).
- Conduct basic comparative research, identifying internal and external independent and dependent variables as related to MENA politics utilizing relevant theory and concepts.
- Analyze the interconnectedness of domestic, regional and international processes, conditions, norms and institutions affecting MENA states and societies at both the micro and macro levels.
- Describe the effects of global processes including economic integration, transcultural diffusion, liberalization, and democratization on MENA state institutions and societies.

**PS 407: Directed Studies in PS**

- Students will understand the core concepts, themes, methodology and theories of the discipline/subfield.
- Students will demonstrate critical thinking in analyzing contemporary phenomena.
- Students will demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of at least one area of interest.

**PS 450: Islam and Politics**

- Identify the key issues confronting Muslim populations in different regions of the world, in particular North Africa
- Describe how Muslims identify themselves and their relations with their states and societies (in select majority- and minority-population Muslim countries), Morocco will serve as a critical case study
- Explain how various forms of identity affect political mobilization
- Explain the different strategies that states have taken in regards to diverse communities

- Describe how identity and politics are socially constructed via texts and images in the popular press, TV, cinema and popular culture

## PROGRAM DETAILS

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**LOCATION:** Morocco – Casablanca, Rabat, Tanger, Chefchaouen, Fes, Midlet, Marzouga, Tinghir, Ouarzazate, Agadir, Essaouira, Marrakech

**ACADEMIC TERM & PROGRAM DATES:** Summer 2023

**Course Dates:** May 11 to June 30, 2023

**Travel Dates:** May 25 to June 18, 2023

### ITINERARY (*subject to change*)

*May 11 to May 23 – USA 2 week instruction on Zoom and Blackboard*

*May 25 – Flight from Nashville to Casablanca*

*May 26 – Casablanca*

*May 27 – Rabat*

*May 28 – Rabat*

*May 29 – Tanger*

*May 30 – Tanger*

*May 31 – Tanger*

*June 1 – Chefchaouen*

*June 2 – Fes*

*June 3 – Fes*

*June 4 – Fes*

*June 5 – Midlet*

*June 6 – Marzouga*

*June 7 – Tinghir*

*June 8 – Ouarzazate*

*June 9 – Ouarzazate*

*June 10 – Agadir*

*June 11 – Agadir*

*June 12 – Agadir*

*June 13 – Essaouira*

*June 14 – Marrakech*

*June 15 – Marrakech*

*June 16 – Marrakech*

*June 17 – Casablanca*

*June 18 – Flight from Casablanca to Nashville*

*June 30 – Final assignments due*

The schedule is subject to change due to educational opportunities that may arise unexpectedly, the vagaries of weather, and other factors beyond the control of the course instructors and staff.

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**ELIGIBILITY**

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- **COVID-19 Vaccines:** All participants on this program are ***strongly*** recommended to be up-to-date on their COVID-19 vaccination prior to departure. "Up-to-Date" means receiving all primary doses of a CDC, FDA, or WHO authorized vaccine that is accepted in your host location and all boosters recommended for you, when eligible, at least 14 days prior to program departure.
  - COVID-19 vaccine entry & access requirements in your program's location(s) are subject to change. Participants are responsible for meeting vaccine requirements stated by the host destination. Participants who choose not to follow health recommendations or rules may be denied or have restricted access to transportation, events, venues or other essential aspects of participation in this program.
  - WKU has no responsibility for any financial consequences that may result from a participant being denied entry to the program location or denied access to transportation, venue, or other activity associated with the program because they chose not to meet health requirements or recommendations.
- Student must complete the Global Learning & International Affairs online application process.
- Permission of program leader(s) is required. Program leaders will review applications prior to acceptance decision.
- Student must be in good academic standing.
- Student must have a minimum GPA of 2.0.
- Current WKU students eligible to register for WKU courses may apply. Students from outside WKU may participate as [visiting students](#).
- Students must be 18 years of age or older at time of departure.
- Students must possess a passport valid for at least six (6) months after return date.
- Students must be free of active disciplinary sanctions as verified by the Office of Student Conduct.
  - Students who become ineligible to attend the program after applying due to disciplinary sanctions will be subject to standard program cost penalty rates. Students are responsible for notifying the Office of Global Learning & International Affairs when they become aware of this ineligibility.
- Students must complete all pre-departure orientations.
- Full payment is due prior to date of departure.

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**PROGRAM FEE**

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**Estimated Program Fee: \$5200**

**Included in Base Package**

- Undergraduate tuition for 3-6 credit hours
- Flights
- Lodging for duration of program
  - See exceptions below concerning medical quarantines
- Entrance fees for all required excursions
- Designated group meals
- Course-related ground transportation
- For international programs: insurance that covers accidents, medical treatment, and trip interruption

**Excluded from Base Package**

- [Travel Cancellation Insurance](#)- highly recommended
  - Most travel cancellation insurance policies require that insurance is purchased within a specific timeline after making a program deposit payment. See individual plan policies for more information.
- Medical costs not covered by WKU travel insurance and/or participant's personal insurance
  - Participants are responsible for additional costs related to COVID-19 or other illness, such as required COVID testing prior to, during, and after travel; costs related to mandatory quarantines while on-site that are in addition to the program cost, such as additional lodging, meals, and/or transportation costs caused by the quarantine or illness
- Items not explicitly listed as included

- Transportation between your departure airport and your home
- Independent travel expenses (voluntary travel not required for course completion)
- Personal expenses such as laundry, phone service, and Internet access
- Tips for guides and drivers not included in program-related activity
- Meals, services, and beverages not mentioned as designated group meals
- Baggage fees and costs associated with flight / program logistical changes based on the student's preference (as possible)

**Faculty-Led Program fees are not eligible for employee tuition waivers or discounts.**

GLIA does its best to include all anticipated costs and contingencies in this Participation Contract. On occasion, the terms of this contract may change due to significant changes in programming or pricing.

#### LOGISTICAL REQUIREMENTS & CONSIDERATIONS

- **Travel ID Requirements** - Each participant must have a passport that includes an expiration date which is 6 months beyond the last date of the program. **Please begin application process no later than 4 months prior to departure.** / Each participant must have a valid ID for air travel within the United States prior to program departure.
- **COVID-19 Social Distancing Requirements-**
  - Participants should expect social distancing measures and regulations, including the wearing of masks, to be in place for the duration of their program. All participants must follow social distancing regulations put into place by the program, host locations, and/or airports/airlines.
  - It is highly encouraged for all program participants to practice social distancing measures for at least a week prior to program departure to limit the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. This includes wearing masks and where possible, staying at home.
- **Physical Considerations-** By embarking on this study abroad program, you may be required to participate in various activities such as but not limited to-- hikes, camel rides, desert walks, overnight stays in the desert, mule treks, a surf class and travel by land, air and sea. While we will be in an air-conditioned mini-bus for most of the ground travel, some of our accommodations may not have air conditioning. Temperatures vary but can exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit. The physical activity on this trip can be characterized as moderate-heavy. All trip and program activities that are required must be completed during the trip.

## PAYMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

<p><b>Payment &amp; Billing Schedule</b></p> <p><b>March 15</b> – Priority Application &amp; Non-refundable Program Deposit (\$250) Payment* Deadline</p> <p>Program Fee will be invoiced to student's TopNet account (minus \$250 non-refundable deposit*). Balance must be paid by payment deadline. Students applying after this date will be billed on a rolling basis.</p> <p><b>May 1, 2023</b> - Program balance payment deadline**.</p> <p>* Deposit paid by student directly with a credit/debit card at time of application acceptance– NOT billed to student account. <b>Deposit required to confirm space on program roster.</b></p> <p>**Students may provide an award notification for financial aid from WKU's Student Financial Assistance office that verifies financial aid amount and disbursement date if after payment deadline.</p>	<p><b>Withdrawal Penalty &amp; Non-Payment Policy:</b></p> <p><b>Deposit Non-Refundable</b></p> <p><b>After March 15:</b> 50% of program cost remains billable  <b>After April 1:</b> 75% of program cost remains billable  <b>After May 1:</b> 100% of program cost remains billable/No refund</p> <p><b>If a balance remains after the payment due date, a transcript and registration hold will be placed on the student's account by the WKU Bursar's Office.</b></p> <p><b>Withdrawal Process:</b> The student <b>must inform Global Learning &amp; International Affairs directly and in writing</b> (email accepted, <a href="mailto:study.abroad@wku.edu">study.abroad@wku.edu</a>) if he or she chooses to withdraw from a program. No other statements of withdrawal will be considered as notification of withdrawal, therefore, the student will still be considered a program participant until this written notification is received. Withdrawal penalties will be based on the notification date as listed in the Payment Terms and Conditions section of this Participation Contract (see above) and are in effect regardless of when program deposit is paid.</p>
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**Program Cost Invoicing:** Your program balance will be invoiced to your TopNet account for the term in which the program takes place. When making payments for your program balance, please let the WKU Cashier's Office know that your payment is for your faculty-led program balance. The total amount due in your semester bill may reflect the combined charges for multiple terms (i.e. Fall and Winter or Spring and Summer) and includes program fees for your Faculty-Led program. Please see your TopNet account for a breakdown of amounts due per term. If you have any questions, please email [study.abroad@wku.edu](mailto:study.abroad@wku.edu).

**Financial Aid:** Students are reminded and encouraged to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) even if you have not received financial aid in the past (must be a U.S. Citizen or eligible noncitizen to complete FAFSA) . You must have a FAFSA on file if you plan to use federal financial aid to help cover the cost of the program. If your financial aid will disburse after the program balance payment deadline, you may provide an award notification for financial aid from WKU's Student Financial Assistance office that verifies financial aid amount and disbursement date. Please reach out to Andrew Hartley ([andrew.hartley@wku.edu](mailto:andrew.hartley@wku.edu)) in the Student Financial Assistance office for questions on financial aid.

## STUDENT DISABILITY SERVICES

In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center (SARC) on the first floor of Downing Student Union. Contact SARC at 270.745.5004. Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor, instructor, or Office of Global Learning & International Affairs without a letter of accommodation from the Student Accessibility Resource Center.

## LIABILITY DISCLAIMER

*Western Kentucky University and its associates are not responsible for any loss due to theft, personal injury, flight or weather delays, negligence, or default of suppliers, or suppliers changing of itineraries. They and their associates are not responsible for any loss due to*



*travel/flight delays or changes in travel plans due to Acts of Nature or other unforeseen circumstances, nor are we responsible for accidents and medical care. Tour services are furnished by independent contractors who are not agents or servants of Western Kentucky University. Refunds are not available for unused portions of the package.*

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