



FACULTY-LED
STUDY ABROAD

KIIS Morocco, Summer 2021

ANTH 366: Topics: Peoples & Cultures of Mediterranean Africa

Instructor: Dr. Robert Phillips

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Instructor's Office Hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description: This seminar is an opportunity to engage critically with all aspects of your experience studying in Mediterranean Africa through an exploration of various issues of this region's culture and society. The beginning of the course will take into account the heterogeneity of African society, and keep in mind the continent's connection to its broader geographical context and aim to view Mediterranean Africa from both a local and a global perspective. We will then sharpen our focus and begin a more in-depth exploration of Morocco. Because of the depth and rich history of ethnographic research in Morocco, we will take this region as a case study, and explore several different anthropological themes. As we move through each of the themes, we will examine several cross-cutting topics such as gender, race, religious belief, state power, poverty, crime, and culture change. Please note that all of the readings are, for the most part, brief. The goal here is to read a little and to think, discuss, and explore a lot.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective

essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KISS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes: By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- discuss anthropological perspectives on the historical development and contemporary cultural diversity in Mediterranean Africa;
- analyze interdisciplinary approaches to come to a better understanding of current issues in contemporary Mediterranean Africa;
- critique the colonial project in Africa and describe its aftereffects on the cultures of Africa;
- discuss major issues of contemporary Moroccan society, culture and history;
- explain the various aspects of transformation of Morocco since independence.

4. Major Topics covered in the Course: historical overviews of Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Morocco, colonialism and post-colonialism, Arab Spring, popular culture/media

5. Required Readings and Materials: A collection of short articles and book chapters tailored for this course will be provided to students as PDF files.

6. Graded Assignments:

Preparation and Participation	200 pts
Reaction Papers	400 pts
<u>Oral Presentation</u>	<u>400 pts</u>
Total	1000 pts

Course Requirements:

Preparation and Participation:

Students will attend all class meetings (and excursions) and will have read the assigned reading before the beginning of class. You are encouraged to actively contribute to class discussions. You are encouraged to think out loud, say something and then take it back, and generally speak in a provisional manner, knowing that those around you will be patient, supportive, and slow to take offense. **(200 points)**

Reaction Papers: Each student will write two 500-word reaction papers on their experiences in Rabat. The first will be an anthropological analysis of riding the tram lines throughout various areas of the city. The second will be to compare and contrast cafés in Agdal and the Medina. Detailed instructions will be provided in class. **(400 points)**

Oral Presentation of Research Project: This presentation will be a fifteen-minute oral presentation, to be followed by questions and discussion. It should provide a summary of a research topic related to the peoples and cultures of Mediterranean Africa. This can be related to any topic discussed in class or encountered during excursions. Presenters will also be graded on their ability to handle questions and comments from the other participants. Detailed instructions will be provided in class. **(400 points)**

Grading Scale:

A	900-1000	pts
B	800-899	pts
C	700-799	pts
D	600-699	pts
F	<600	pts

7. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

8. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

9. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270-745-5398 / andrea.anderson@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eoo/brochure2019update.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.