CGIS: Intensive Language and Culture Studies in Amman, Jordan

Student Handbook Supplement

Winter 2018

University of Michigan
Center for Global and Intercultural Study
Congratulations on your admission to the Intensive Language and Cultures Studies program in Amman, Jordan! A very exciting and rewarding experience awaits you—one that surely will be among the most formative and memorable of your life. This handbook supplement is intended to complement the materials provided to you by CET, and to provide you with U-M-specific information about the program. Please read it carefully before you leave and take it with you to Jordan for future reference.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

As a University of Michigan student you will remain registered at U-M, and at the same time be enrolled in classes at CET.

While in Amman, you will be subject to the same academic requirements as all other participants. Course enrollments, housing, on-site orientation, and program activities will all be handled by the CET on-site faculty director and staff, while you will be responsible for making travel arrangements.

IMPORTANT DATES

The calendar is set by CET, and they will provide you with information about mandatory arrival dates and beginning / end dates of program. CET requires that students arrive on or before the start date of the program and that they remain until after their last scheduled exam. Late arrivals, early exams, or early departures are not permitted. As a U-M student participating in the program, you will be subject to these same requirements.

Details will be provided by CET in pre-departure materials.

Winter 2018: 01/24/18 – 05/11/18

ACADEMICS

CET Jordan is based at the University of Jordan in Amman. Found in 1962, the University is the oldest institution of higher learning in modern-day Jordan. It boasts a student population of over 35,000 and offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in over 20 colleges.

All students take the Arabic language course – Modern Standard Arabic. This fast-paced course is based on ACTFL standards. Students take an oral proficiency interview on site. 75 hours, 4 recommended credits.

All students take the Arabic language course – Jordanian Dialect. This front-loaded course targets the everyday language, essential for living in Jordan. 75 hours, 5 recommended credits.

In addition, all fall/winter term students take two content-based Arabic language courses. These are language courses, taught in Arabic, that examine specific topics or issues. Academic disciplines include: literature, business, history, religion, international relations. 45 total hours each, 3 recommended credits.

All students may take an independent study in lieu of one elective. Interested students should talk to CET about possible topics. 22 faculty-contact hours plus research time. 2 recommended credits.

Find syllabi here: http://cetacademicprograms.com/programs/jordan/arabic-language-jordan/academics/?nabe=4734407936573440:0,6662739536117760:0

ACADEMIC ARRANGEMENTS

You will remain registered at U-M while participating in the program. You will need to register for the 15 credits of STDABRD:
Intensive Language and Culture Studies in Irbid, Jordan: STDABRD 304

This is the only course you will be registered for while you are away, and it serves as a “place holder,” maintaining your status as a fully-enrolled student at U-M.

Once you have completed your program in Jordan, CET will provide CGIS with a transcript of your work there and CGIS in turn will update your Michigan academic record. Course titles, credits, and grades will all appear on your U-M transcript.

**LSA students** will receive in-residence credit for their coursework and the grades will factor into your overall U-M GPA.

**Non-LSA students** should check with their home schools to determine what type of credit they will receive for the program and whether the grades will factor in to your overall U-M GPA.

At the start of the program, all students will take a language placement exam. The exams are designed to be a guide for proper language class level placement. It is important to have met with a U-M general and/or concentration advisor prior to traveling to Jordan and made a preliminary selection of courses. If, based on the results of this placement test, course choices change from what you had originally discussed with your advisor, we strongly recommend that you contact your U-M advisor by email to let them know of these changes.

**PASS/FAIL**

CGIS students are allowed to take courses pass/fail on the program, according to LSA pass/fail guidelines ([http://www.lsa.umich.edu/advising/policies/passfraslfail](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/advising/policies/passfraslfail)), but please note that many departments will not allow you to apply pass/fail courses to major or minor requirements.

If you plan to take a course or courses on a pass/fail basis, submit the Pass/Fail form to your CGIS Advisor via email within 3 weeks of the start of classes for fall or winter term or 2 weeks after the start of summer term.

You can locate the form in your M-Compass account under “Documents” or here [https://umich.box.com/s/0zt02m1gtryd0xa85xt2](https://umich.box.com/s/0zt02m1gtryd0xa85xt2)

**HOUSING**

CET Jordan students share off-campus apartments with local roommates – typically one roommate for every one to three CET students. Each apartment offers a fully equipped kitchen, a television (great for Arabic practice), a washing machine, and air conditioning.

Apartments are typical of Jordanian life: they are comfortable, but do experience occasional water or wifi outages. Past students have found that patience and good humor are good antidotes.

For meals, some students cook for themselves. Others explore the city’s many inexpensive restaurants and eateries.

CET students share their apartments with Jordanian roommates, an arrangement that ensures an all-Arabic environment, even at home! Roommates are selected by CET for their enthusiasm and commitment to the Arabic-only language pledge. Local roommates help with all sorts of linguistic challenges, from a bargaining in a market to ordering in a restaurant. Many students and roommates become fast friends and explore Amman together – browsing in bookstores, checking out new movies, and chatting over a shared plate of baklava.
LANGUAGE PARTNERS
Each CET student is partnered with a local Arabic language partner from the University of Jordan. Language partners – part tutors, part friends – meet weekly with students for Jordanian dialect practice sessions. They help students navigate everything from the local accent to the local transportation system. They also help students get a handle on Arabic’s tricky diglossic code-switching – when to use Modern Standard Arabic and when to use dialect.

WHO TAKES CARE OF WHAT?
CET is responsible for students’ acceptance decisions, providing general instructions on obtaining a student visa, on-site orientation, program academics, and arranging housing. CGIS assists students in preparing to study in Amman, provides support services while they are abroad, and processes the academic results from study in Jordan for the students’ U-M academic records. Each student is responsible obtaining a passport, for making their own travel reservations and for returning required documents and forms to the appropriate office. The CET predeparture materials contain useful information about appropriate behavior and cultural expectations in Jordan, handling money while in Jordan, as well as suggestions about packing (and what to leave at home) and information about general and academic policies for the programs in Amman.

BEFORE YOU GO: TRAVEL, MONEY, AND VISAS

FLIGHT
CGIS does not make students’ travel arrangements or require that students take a group flight. It is your responsibility to make travel reservations to arrive at the CET program location in time for the program.

BILLING
You will pay CET directly for the Program Fee; CET will include payment instructions in their admissions materials.

The only charge that will come through your U-M student account is the CGIS $450 administrative fee for Summer. The Fall or Winter fee will be $900, or $1200 for the Academic Year.

This will appear in your U-M student account and be due according to regular U-M tuition deadlines: http://www.finance.umich.edu/finops/student/billing/duedates

Visa
U.S. citizens must obtain a study visa in the U.S. prior to departure. CET provides instructions and recommendations for US citizens on their website and in their pre-departure materials. You will be able to submit your completed visa application to CET and they will assist you in the visa application process.

Non-US citizens must contact the Jordanian Embassy nearest their permanent residence to determine their particular requirements for a student visa to enter Jordan.

MEDICAL COVERAGE FOR UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN STUDENTS: INSURANCE
All University of Michigan students will be automatically enrolled in the mandatory HTH Worldwide health insurance through U-M. For details of your coverage, please refer to the CGIS General Handbook, the UHS website: http://www.uhs.umich.edu/tai/ , and the HTH website: www.hthstudents.com.

A FINAL WORD

Enjoy your time abroad. You'll find you have more independence than at Michigan, and this can enable you to pursue interests and take advantage of opportunities that might not present themselves here. If there is anything our office can do to make your stay easier, please let us know.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EMERGENCIES

Contact your local program/on-site staff immediately if you are the victim of crime or need emergency assistance. Please also contact the University of Michigan to let us know of the situation as soon as you are able. The University of Michigan Department of Public Safety has a 24 hour number which is (734) 763-1131. They will then contact the necessary on-campus offices, including CGIS, to respond to your situation. You may provide this same 24 hour number to your parents should they experience an emergency and need to get a hold of you while you are abroad and are unable to contact you directly. To contact HTH Worldwide in the event of an emergency, call 1-800-257-4823 or globalhealth@htheworldwide.com