

## Summer Study Abroad 2009



# Jordan and the Middle East

JULY 3–AUGUST 14, 2009

### Application Deadline

March 4, 2009

Language Prerequisite:  
None

### Cost

Approximately \$4,950  
plus airfare

### Payment Schedule

- Non-refundable \$150 deposit due March 4, 2009 (make check payable to the University of Richmond, designated Jordan Summer Study Abroad Program, and submit with your application)
- 1st payment due March 16
- Final payment due April 17

## Jordan

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is in many respects a purely European construct. It started out in 1923 as the Emirate of Transjordan, ruled under British supervision. It became independent only in 1945. After the Six Days War in 1969, it lost the West Bank and Eastern Jerusalem.

Jordan neither possesses any noteworthy natural resources nor is its location of outstanding strategic importance. Instead, it is located between Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq and thus right in the focal point of the Middle East conflict revolving around Israel and Palestine. Indeed, more than 50 percent of its population are Palestinians. It has been King Hussein II's amazing achievement to keep his country stable—and arguably safer, more liberal and more democratic than most of its neighbors.

This makes Jordan an excellent location to take a closer look at the Middle East conflict. We will do so from the northern Jordanian city of Irbid with the second-largest and one of the most renowned universities of Jordan. Unlike Amman, Irbid is not exposed to many foreigners; it is neither the site of international corporations nor of specific tourist attractions. Hence, its society has retained a very Muslim-Arab flair, and English is not often heard on the streets.

## Program

During the summer, students will participate in classes, lectures, discussions, cultural events, tours, and various trips to help them experience first-hand the culture and social reality of the Middle East. The excursions will be within Jordan to Amman (1 day); Umm Qais, Jerash, and Ajloun in the north (1 day); Petra, Wadi Rum, the Red Sea, and the Dead Sea (4 days); as well as outside of Jordan to Damascus in Syria (4 days); Jerusalem in Israel (4 days); Cairo in Egypt (6 days). Wherever possible, there will be meetings with academics and politicians.

## Courses

Program participants from the University of Richmond will be able to receive up to 2¼ units of academic credit. The courses offered are:

The Levant after the Fall of the Ottoman Empire

- 1½ hours of classroom instruction per day, five days a week
- No prerequisite

Program Director:  
Martin Sulzer-Reichel

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## Courses (cont)

Political Realities in the Levant: Peace on Paper Versus its Popular Perception

- 1½ hours of classroom instruction per day, five days a week
- No prerequisite

Introduction to colloquial Arabic

- One hour of classroom instruction per day, five days a week
- No prerequisite

## Housing and Meals

Program participants will be housed in dormitories on the campus of Yarmouk University, in double occupancy rooms. Meals are available at the university's dining facilities as well as in many different small and medium-sized restaurants around the campus.

## What's Included

- Up to 2¼ units
- Weekend excursions to the Dead and Red Seas, Umm Qais, Jerash, Ajloun, Amman, Damascus, Jerusalem, and Cairo
- Pick-up service from and to the airport
- On-site orientation
- Welcome and farewell dinners
- On-site supervision as well as accompaniment on the trips by program director

## What's Not Included

- Food at approximately \$15 a day, depending on individual eating habits
- Participants are responsible for arranging and purchasing their own international transportation to and from Amman. Airfare is not included in the program fee. However, there will be seats reserved on a flight from New York to Amman that may be booked by the participants. In case of individual arrangements, participants should plan to arrive in Amman no later than Friday, July 3. Departure will be on Friday, August 14, 2009.

## Orientation

There will be an on-campus orientation for Richmond students participating in the summer program. There will also be an on-site orientation after the students arrive in Irbid.

*All dates and costs are approximate and subject to change as are program details. The University of Richmond reserves the right to alter the program costs as a result of fluctuations of international currency.*