Jordan
MAY 19–JULY 12, 2013

Irbid

Irbid, with its 500,000 inhabitants, is the second-largest city in Jordan, located in the north of the country, approximately 90 km (60 mi) from Amman. The surrounding hills of northern Jordan are responsible for its very temperate climate during the summer months when it is several degrees cooler than Amman and enjoys cool breezes.

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.

Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), where the program takes place, is located a few miles outside of Irbid itself, on the main highway from ar-Ramtha to Amman. It is one of the most prestigious universities in the entire Middle East and ranked number 1 in Jordan.

Even though Irbid does not possess historic sites of its own, it offers easy access to many of the important historical and archaeological sites of Jordan, such as Amman, Jerash, Umm Qais, the Dead Sea, the Jordan Valley, Petra, and Aqaba. Students will have ample opportunities to visit these and other places of interest during their stay.

The Language Center

One of the primary goals of this Program is to completely immerse the participants in the Arabic language. As mentioned above, Irbid provides an ideal setting for language immersion due to its Arab-Muslim society and due to the fact that there are only a minimal number of people who use English—or the Arabic-English mixture often encountered in Amman—but rather speak exclusively Arabic.

Program

The Summer Study Abroad program at Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) provides a combination of activities for the participants, joining intensive language instruction by native-speaking faculty of the university with Program-sponsored educational excursions as well as many opportunities to explore the country and its people on weekends or at the end of the program.
Courses
    Program participants from the University of Richmond will receive 2 units of academic credit dependent on placement and course. Course levels offered are:

Lower Intermediate
- Four hours of classroom instruction per day, five days a week

Upper Intermediate
- Four hours of classroom instruction per day, five days a week
- Jordanian Dialect/Conversation
- Media Arabic: Optional (See ADVANCED below.)
- Prerequisite: two years of college-level Arabic or the equivalent.

Advanced
- Four hours of classroom instruction per day, five days a week
- Jordanian Dialect/Conversation
- Media Arabic (radio, television, newspapers and magazines)
- Prerequisite: three years of college-level Arabic or the equivalent.

Classes
    Students may choose the following courses:
    - Beginning Arabic: ARAB 211
    - Beginning Arabic: ARAB 212
    - Intermediate Arabic: ARAB 311
    - Intermediate Arabic: ARAB 313

Housing and Meals
    Program participants will be housed on the campus of Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST). Family stays may be possible. Meals are available at the university’s dining facilities as well as in many different small and medium-sized restaurants in nearby Irbid or ar-Ramtha.

What’s Included
- 2 units
- Weekend excursions to the Dead and Red Seas, excursions to places of interest in the region such as Amman, Umm Qais, Jerash, Petra, Wadi Rum
- Pick-up service from and to the airport
- On-site orientation
- Welcome and farewell dinners
- On-site supervision by program directors

What’s Not Included
- Learning materials need to be purchased at approximately $30–40
- 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. Participants should plan to arrive in Amman no later than Saturday, May 18. Departure will be on Friday, July 12, 2013.

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 at JUST.