

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



## AMIDEAST Alumni Newsletter (Issue 4)

Marhaban from all of us at AMIDEAST! Whether you're attending graduate school, have returned to the Arab World, or are off on another work or study adventure we hope you are keeping warm in this chilly fall weather!

This issue of the AMIDEAST Alumni Newsletter features new career and internship resources, information on AMIDEAST's continuing Photo Contest, and exciting new summer programs and scholarships from AMIDEAST Education Abroad Programs in the Arab World.

### In this Issue:

1. Career Resources
2. Alumni Resources
3. Share Your Story
4. AMIDEAST Spring 2013 Photo Contest
5. What's New at AMIDEAST
6. Call for Alumni Updates for Newsletter
7. Tell Potential Students Your Opinion

### *Career Resources*

A [section](#) on the AMIDEAST Alumni Association web page features information on continuing your education in the Middle East and North Africa and is constantly updated with new resources. Links to language schools, scholarship and fellowship opportunities, and graduate schools are provided. For example, we encourage our alumni to apply for Boren Awards to return to the Middle East with us. We also link to scholarships for study abroad institutes in other Arab countries, such as the Qatar Scholarship Program.

### **EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES:**

Below you can find some great websites to search for jobs in all fields in the Middle East. For more suggestions visit our website.

1. [SimplyHired.com](#) - Search from a broad range of job listings by location with this helpful search engine.
2. [Peace Corps](#) - Consider returning to the Middle East or elsewhere in the developing world by

joining the Peace Corps!

3. [AmeriCorps](#) - To civically engage with your own community while reducing student loans, consider participating in an AmeriCorps program.

#### **CURRENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

AMIDEAST Headquarters in Washington, DC has an exciting opportunity for a Finance Assistant. This position will work with our Fulbright Foreign Student Program to support its administrative activities and requires a team player. Like your peers competing for this challenging opportunity, you will have a Bachelor's degree with 2+ years of relevant office experience. Must have excellent organizational skills, excellent written and oral communication skills, precise attention to detail as well as the ability to learn new software quickly and work under pressure. Experience using Microsoft Office is also desired. Ideal candidate will prepare weekly nonrecurring payments for allowable student expenses per program policies and grant awards, process university tuition invoices, assist with updating the financial database, record and liaise with finance staff regarding university/student refunds and respond to student tax and other financial inquiries and issues. Apply online [here](#).

#### **TEACH ENGLISH WITH AMIDEAST:**

In our last issue, we highlighted [AMIDEAST's new Professional Certificate in English Language Teaching \(PCELT\)](#). If you already have experience teaching English or just received your certification, there are opportunities to teach English in AMIDEAST field offices. General qualification and specific requirements for each field office can be found on the Alumni Website page: [Teach English with AMIDEAST](#).

#### **CURRENT INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:**

**The Middle East Institute in Washington, DC** is accepting applications for Summer 2013 internships in its **Leadership Development program**. "The Leadership Development Internship Program at the Middle East Institute is designed to provide students or recent graduates considering a career in a Middle East related field with hands-on experience in a Washington-based, nonprofit organization that focuses exclusively on the Middle East. Interns obtain guidance, experience, and exposure to the Washington policy and scholarly community while developing professional skills with interns from all over the world." The deadline for summer 2013 is March 4, 2013 - application details can be found on their website [here](#).

**AMIDEAST Headquarters in Washington, DC** is accepting applications for **Education Abroad Interns** for spring 2013. Education Abroad interns have important functions at HQ, assisting Education Abroad staff directly, coordinating online social networking outreach, and providing pre-departure support for incoming AMIDEAST students. Applications for spring 2013 internships are due December 10, 2012. Please submit a resume and cover letter to [syoshen@amideast.org](mailto:syoshen@amideast.org) and [clane@amideast.org](mailto:clane@amideast.org) with "Education Abroad Internship - Spring 2013" in the subject line.

## *Alumni Resources*

### **Alumni Association**

Please check out [the Alumni Association Website](#), which is updated weekly with new resources such as job opportunities, Middle Eastern activities, cultural events, and Arabic language activities. Since our last issue, we have been hard at work and much content has been added to website!

- New scholarship resources for returning to the Arab World
- Additional blogs in English and Arabic to further engage with the Middle East and North Africa, including Cairoobserver and BeAmman

## Mosaic: AMIDEAST's Collaborative Blog

[Mosaic](#), AMIDEAST's collaborative student blog project, is showcasing new blog posts from previous and current students. Additionally, Mosaic links to the Egypt, Jordan, and Morocco Blog Abroad Correspondents for each semester. Included below is an excerpt from a post by Fall 2012 Rabat, Morocco Blog Correspondent, Douglas Tatz.

### Not-So-Hidden Gem of Morocco

*"One of my Moroccan friends told me that sometimes foreigners don't know that Morocco is a country, but that they have heard of Casablanca. While most Americans may know about Morocco, I feel that there is also this emphasis on Casablanca in American culture. After all, who hasn't dreamed about spending an exciting night at Rick's Café Américain, talking with the big shots as you listen to Sam pound away on the piano? Needless to say, there is far more to Morocco than what most people hear and read about. I recently had the opportunity to experience one such gem that is often overlooked, especially by Moroccans themselves!*



*I have to be fair - I also didn't think about snow covered peaks when I thought of Morocco. However, my weekend spent hiking Mount Toubkal, the highest mountain in North Africa, has been one of the best weekends in Morocco so far. My five friends and I set out late Thursday evening after we finished our classes to arrive in Marrakech, where we spent the night. We got up at about six in the morning and took a petit taxi to the grand taxi stand (petit taxis take only three passengers and are for intra-city travel; grand taxis take six passengers and travel between cities and towns), to continue our (squashed) leg of the journey to the Berber town of Imlil. We climbed out of the taxi, asked for directions out of the town, and began our ascent. Along the way, we befriended a Liverpoolian who initially was very irritated after having been misdirected back down to Imlil. We set him straight and continued our way up the mountain. When we were sure of our bearings, we paused to eat breakfast, which consisted of bread, peanut butter, dried fruit, and nuts - what would more or less be our next*

*four meals as well. We finished our meal and continued our fairly uneventful hike up to the refuge on the side of the mountain, pausing fairly often to enjoy the scenery..."*

Please feel free to keep up with our correspondents as they reflect on their experience. Also, remember that we are always eager to hear reflections from your own time in the Arab World. Not only are your experiences an adventure to read, but they also serve as an important resource for current and prospective students.

Please consider submitting an article, reflection, old blog post, photos, or other artwork about your experience abroad to [edabroad@amideast.org](mailto:edabroad@amideast.org).

## Flickr

Education Abroad's Flickr group - [AMIDEAST Abroad](#) - is continuing to grow with lovely participant submissions. We encourage you to join and add photos to our group pool! Not only can you connect with other alumni, but you can also help give prospective students a feel for what it is like to live in the Arab World. Simply create a free Flickr account with your Yahoo or Google account, send AMIDEAST Abroad a message with your name, program, and term studied abroad, and add photos to our pool.

## Twitter

Education Abroad now tweets! Follow us [@AMIDEAST\\_Abroad](#), as we regularly tweet updates on our programs, interesting articles on study abroad and higher education, Arabic studying resources, and job opportunities.

## Share your AMIDEAST Story

If you are interested in joining the [Alumni Association Networking Forum](#), please fill out the AMIDEAST Alumni Membership Networking Form. Rest assured that AMIDEAST will not give your contact information to third parties, and e-mail addresses will only be provided to students who participated in an AMIDEAST program or prospective students who have questions about a particular program.



Also be sure to check out our most recent featured alumni, [Rebecca Carlson](#) and [Macarena Torres Girao](#).

Rebecca Carlson participated in AMIDEAST's Area & Arabic Language Studies program in Cairo, Egypt during the Fall 2010 semester. Recently, Rebecca has served as a Corps Member for Teach for America in Charlotte, NC and as an English Teacher at Camp Discovery in the West Bank.

Macarena Torres Girao participated in two AMIDEAST Area & Arabic Language Studies programs - one in Rabat, Morocco in the Spring of 2011 and one in Cairo, Egypt in the Spring of 2012. Additionally, she interned in the West Bank with AMIDEAST during the summer of 2012. After she completes her double-major at American University in the Spring of 2014, she hopes to return to the Middle East and work in the development sector.

If you are interested in being featured on the Alumni Association and AMIDEAST Website, please fill out the [alumni survey here](#).

## AMIDEAST Photo Contests

Congratulations to Abby Ewart, a participant in the Area & Arabic Language Studies program in Egypt during the Spring 2012, for her first-place submission of Egyptian friends and program participants boating on the Nile.



Elena Ruyter, a participant in the Rabat, Morocco Area & Arabic Language Studies program in the Fall of 2012, submitted the second place photo of students eating cactus fruit in the Rabat medina.



AMIDEAST plans to hold photo contests at the end of each semester. The more participation, the bigger the prize! Submit one to three photos from your semester abroad for the next contest.

### Spring 2013 Photo Contest Guidelines

#### Guidelines:

1. Photo submissions must be images taken during the time of the contestant's AMIDEAST Education Abroad Program and within the host country (i.e. a picture from a spring break trip to Turkey will not be accepted).
2. Each contestant may submit up to three photos.
3. Photos should represent meaningful and unique moments that occurred during the contestant's education abroad experience with AMIDEAST.
4. Photos should fall into one of the following categories:

**Adventure:** Photos could show AMIDEAST students on program excursions throughout the host country or visits to notable sites in the AMIDEAST host city.

Adventure photos demonstrate the off-the-beaten-path aspect of education abroad in the Arab world. These photos do not necessarily have to include students, but can instead focus on a work of art, architecture, ruin, or other striking aspect of the host country.

**Culture:** Photos should show AMIDEAST students interacting with their local community, host families, or new friends from the host country. Alternatively, culture photos could show traditions, rituals, rites, food, or cultural activities unique to the host culture.

**Challenge:** These photos show AMIDEAST students in unfamiliar environments or situations such as learning and using the Arabic language, interning with refugees, bargaining for goods, navigating a city, or rolling the perfect couscous balls.

### **Winning Photos:**

1. AMIDEAST staff in Washington D.C. will select a group of semi-finalists from the submitted photos. The semi-finalist photos will be posted on the AMIDEAST Facebook page (Study Abroad in the Arab World) for two weeks. The photo which receives the most 'Likes' will be selected as the AMIDEAST Spring 2013 Photo Contest Winner.

2. The winning photo will be:

- awarded a VISA gift card for \$75 (first place) and \$25 (second place)
- featured on the AMIDEAST Study Abroad in the Arab World Facebook Page as the cover photo.
- framed and hung in the AMIDEAST Washington D.C. Office.
- featured in the 2014 AMIDEAST catalog

### **Timeline:**

Deadline for Submission	March 29, 2013
Voting	April 1- April 15, 2013
Winner Announced	April 17, 2013

For more information on how to enter, please visit [our website.](#)

## *What's New at AMIDEAST Education Abroad Programs*

We are now accepting applications for the Summer 2013 semester! Feel free to participate in another AMIDEAST program, or direct any interested friends to our website.

Education Abroad is proud to be launching several inaugural programs during the summer of 2013.

**History of Engineering Program:** The History of Engineering Program is a 3-credit summer course offered jointly by AMIDEAST Education Abroad Programs in the Arab World and the Faculty of Engineering of Cairo University. Topics addressed during the program range from ancient engineering feats such as the temples and monuments of ancient Egypt to ancient and modern water resource management and irrigation. Preservation and restoration of historic sites, including ancient monuments, mosques, churches and synagogues will also be covered. These topics are addressed through lectures, discussions and numerous site visits and excursions.

**Contemporary Egyptian Politics Program:** The Contemporary Egyptian Politics program offers students a comprehensive understanding of the political and social scene in Egypt today. In addition

to the formal lectures and meetings, students will be introduced to the Egyptian Colloquial Arabic language, engage their Egyptian peers in dialogues, participate in numerous cultural activities, visit historical sites in and out of Cairo, and meet with representatives from Egyptian governmental and non-governmental organizations.

**Traditional Islamic Arts:** This is a 3-week course for art students focusing on production of traditional Islamic art forms in calligraphy, illumination, wood, gypsum plaster carving, zillij tile mosaics and miniature painting. The course introduces students to the study of traditional Islamic art in two interlocking modules. The first focuses on the basic concepts of the sacred geometry that is the basis of traditional Islamic art. The second consists of a project in one of six media -calligraphy, illumination, Persian miniature painting, gypsum carving, zillij (mosaic tile work), or wood working.

**Learn & Serve Oman:** This 6-week summer program in Oman offers students the chance to earn 6-credits in two 3-credit courses, Omani Cultural Anthropology in Context and Omani Colloquial Arabic, while also volunteering with Omani students at Sohar University.

If you would like to read more about these programs, we invite you to [visit our website](#).

## *Call for Alumni Updates for Newsletter*

Have you started a new job? Finished a degree? Started a family?  
Had an amazing travel experience? Received a fellowship?

AMIDEAST Alumni are always out exploring the world, working hard on graduate degrees, and working in unique careers. We are hoping that you will share some of your adventures with the AMIDEAST Alumni Network. Let us know where life has taken you and we'll include updates on the path of AMIDEAST Alumni in future newsletters. Email us with any updates at [DocsEdAbroad@amideast.org](mailto:DocsEdAbroad@amideast.org)

## *Tell Potential Students Your Opinion*

AMIDEAST Education Abroad has uploaded its programs to [www.abroad101.com](http://www.abroad101.com). This website is an important resource for students interested in studying abroad as it allows for former students to review our programs. Additionally, we welcome your brief evaluation on AMIDEAST listings on [Ratemystudyabroad.com](http://Ratemystudyabroad.com). As alumni, we value your feedback on your AMIDEAST program!

Sincerely,

The AMIDEAST Education Abroad Programs in the Arab World Team

Jerry Bookin-Weiner, Cara Lane-Toomey, Shino Yoshen, Lauren Kardos, and Liz Rauh

Contact Us

Stay Connected

AMIDEAST Education Abroad  
1730 M St., NW Suite 1100  
EdAbroad@amideast.org  
Washington, DC 20036



---

**[Forward this email](#)**



This email was sent to clane@amideast.org by [clane@amideast.org](mailto:clane@amideast.org) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe](#)™ | [Privacy Policy](#).



*Try it FREE today.*

AMIDEAST | 1730 M Street NW | Suite 1100 | Washington | DC | 20009