Need to Know: Jordan

Objective of the "Need to Know" Document
The Need to Know document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student's decision to apply for an EAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA website, and reviewed by a student in the Program Self-Assessment. The best source of detailed program information is always the UCEAP Program Guide from the prior academic cycle. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or Need to Know document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Advisor Contact Information
For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/contact/advising

Choosing a Program
Students may choose one of three options in Amman: Arabic Language & Culture or Advanced Arabic Language at Princess Sumaya University for Technology (PSUT). Diplomacy & Policy Studies at Jordan Institute of Diplomacy (JID).

Application Materials
In addition to submitting an application to Berkeley Study Abroad, students must also complete an online application through CIEE. Students should note that the CIEE application will require items that may take additional time to prepare, including, but not limited to a letter of recommendation, transcripts and passport-size photos. Students should follow the application instructions provided by UCEAP very carefully.

Curriculum
Additional information on courses is available on the CIEE program website (click on hyperlinked program titles below).

Arabic Language & Culture
Students are required to take both modern standard Arabic and colloquial Jordanian Arabic. Two area studies courses must be taken which provide an overview of issues relevant to Jordan and the broader Middle East region. Students are encouraged to meet regularly with peer language tutoring partners from the Department of Arabic at the University of Jordan.

Advanced Arabic Language
Students take Advanced Modern Standard Arabic language courses and one subject course. All subject courses are taught in Arabic.

Diplomacy & Policy Studies
Modern Standard Arabic and Colloquial Jordanian Arabic courses at the appropriate level, a CIEE core course, Jordan: A Case Study in Diplomacy and Development, and two electives.

Internships and Research
Diplomacy & Policy Studies: Students may participate in an internship with a government agency, or a pre-screened local international development agency. An internship course is required and counts as one of the two elective courses. Internships, research, and independent study are not possible with the Advanced and regular Arabic Language & Culture Programs.

Program Extensions
For Fall EAP Students: UCEAP encourages you to consider extending your study abroad experience. If you are interested in this possibility, submit a Departmental Pre-Approval to Extend Form (DPA). Check YES on the DPA and have it signed by your Academic Counselor/Advisor. Submitting a DPA signed by your advisors does not commit you to extending; it simply makes it much easier to extend should you decide to do so at a later date.

Advanced Arabic Language
From Fall to Year. Extension can be to the same track OR to the Diplomacy track or the L&C track. Other combinations are not possible.
Arabic Language & Culture
From Fall to Spring but ONLY to another track, either the Diplomacy track or the Advanced Arabic track. Other combinations are not possible.

Diplomacy & Policy Studies
From Fall to Spring, but ONLY to another track, either the Advanced Arabic track or the L&C track. Other combinations are not possible.

Housing
Arabic Language & Culture
Students have the option of living in an apartment with other program participants or in a homestay with a Jordanian family.

Advanced Arabic Language
All students are required to participate in homestays with host families.

Diplomacy & Policy Studies
All students will live in pre-arranged apartments with fellow program participants. Local Jordanian families also live in the apartment buildings.

Special Demands of the Program
Health and safety remain primary issues of concern for study in Jordan, particularly security and motor traffic. Students must be prepared to follow all safety and security regulations and guidelines established by UCEAP, the partner institution, and the U.S. Department of State. Students should review the CIEE Program Guide to familiarize themselves with risks associated with participation on the program.

Students should familiarize themselves with the role of race, gender, sexuality, and religion while studying in Jordan, and develop appropriate expectations according to personal backgrounds and self-identification. Students should be prepared for the local environment and immediate impact of different gender relationships, especially on female students. LGBTIQ students are invited to reference the UCEAP LGBTIQ Community Resource Page to learn about host country laws and norms.

Given the special demands of the program, it is highly recommended that applicants meet with the BSA Adviser prior to submitting an application.