

STUDY ABROAD EVALUATION

Evaluating your period of study abroad is one of the most valuable services you can render Middlebury College and future students wishing to study abroad, and it is one of the most important ways you can help us maintain the highest possible standards. For this reason, until this form is submitted to Off-Campus Study, transfer credit for students who participated on non-Middlebury programs will not be processed, and a hold will be placed on official Middlebury transcript requests for *Middlebury College* students who participated on Middlebury Schools Abroad. *Please note: If you studied abroad for two semesters on two different programs, you must submit two separate evaluations.*

The staff of Off-Campus Study would welcome the opportunity to hear about your experiences abroad; please feel free to stop by or call and talk with us!

Please complete and return this as an e-mail attachment to the Office of Off-Campus Study: OffCampusStudy@middlebury.edu
Handwritten evaluations will not be accepted.

Home institution _____ Middlebury College _____ Class ____ 2009

Major(s) _____ Theatre _____

Country in which you studied _____ Egypt _____

Host University (?) _____ Middlebury College; University of Alexandria _____ City _____ Alexandria _____

US sponsor (if different from host university) _____

Period of study abroad: From September ____ To May ____ Year ____ 2007/2008 _____

Evaluation of personal learning

Given that overseas educational systems differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on how you learned, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

(Note: All boxes will expand as necessary.)

It was difficult at first to adjust to the learning situation in the Middlebury program in Alexandria, because we were only 7 students at highly varied levels of competency in Arabic in a new program with teachers who had never before worked with Middlebury students (or students used to a Middlebury-style education). I spent the summer before going to Egypt at the Middlebury Arabic Language School, and was accustomed to a very rigorous and challenging course load, which added to my initial frustration at the slow pace with which we began the semester. I was very aware, however, that this adjustment period was necessary, both for students and teachers, and after a month or so of adapting, we found a pace and style that worked for everyone. The experience on the whole was very unique, I feel, in that most of my classes were comprised of only three students – seven at the most, and for two classes I was the only one – so the learning situation was inescapably more personal than any I had experienced in recent years. I personally enjoy this kind of learning, as I spent the first fourteen years of my educational career in a Montessori school where class sizes rarely exceeded twenty and we only had one or two teachers who stayed with us throughout the course of the school day. The personal nature of the classroom in Egypt was further intensified by the much more personal interactions present in Egyptian culture. At times, it was difficult to keep personal and professional relationships distinct as is the American custom (although I personally am not particularly bothered by the blurring of those lines in most academic settings), but by and large my relationships with my teachers and their respective styles of teaching only augmented my own love for the language and my desire to learn more. It was an incredibly positive experience, and I recommend it to anyone with a love for learning or a love for language.

How has study abroad influenced your understanding of your host culture? In what ways has it influenced your perceptions of American culture?

I had little to no awareness of Egyptian culture before arriving in Egypt. I had watched some Egyptian movies during the course of my Arabic studies, and I had taken Egyptian Colloquial at the Middlebury summer school, but I was largely unprejudiced in my approach to Egypt and its culture. Clearly, study abroad has greatly influenced my understanding of my host culture. I'm not entirely sure how to answer this question, as the influence is so broad and far-reaching that I cannot succinctly describe how my world view has been changed. At risk of sounding sappy, and acknowledging that at least half of what I've taken from this culture has been a result of my personal lens and understanding, I will say that the time I spent in Egypt reawakened me to the beauty of the human experience and the central importance of human interaction. After spending all of my life with American ideas like privacy and personal space playing central roles in my understanding of "how it's supposed to be," and after years of despairing without really knowing why, my relationship with Egypt and the people I met and loved there reminded me of something I didn't remember ever losing, though I know that I sometime knew – that we are not meant to be alone, that the beauty and light of an individual is only intensified by the presence of others, and that people are the reason I should get up in the morning – not work, not success, not the continuance of some huge societal machine (I know this sounds grandiose, but you asked a broad question). I felt that in Egyptians I found an awareness of some other source of human worth than achievement – though achievement is greatly admired. To love a person simply because they are, and to think them worthy on those terms, was huge. Through this newfound understanding of human interaction and of love (bear with me), I was able to find a way to solidify my own sense of self worth and self esteem, freeing me from the near psychotic fear of failure and shame that has haunted me for the majority of my life. In Egypt I truly learned to face the world. It helped, I'm sure, that to walk down the street was a test in self confidence – as every pair of eyes is turned towards even the slightest hint of blond hair or light eyes, which bear with them all the connotations of an overly sexualized Western media.

However, the same lack of emphasis placed on success and achievement that helped me see what being human is really about also taught me how noble and rare the American work ethic truly is, and how present still are the revolutionary ideals on which this country was built, in our culture, in our way of thinking and in our understanding of morality. I imagine this realization could have happened anywhere for me – I don't know what I am until I'm somewhere that's not me – but it happened in Egypt, so my awareness of it has a decidedly Egyptian flavor. What does that mean? I have no idea.

In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What were the personal qualities you found most useful during your time abroad?

I learned that I rise to the challenge, even when I'm not sure that I can. I've learned that when the situation calls for it, I am willing and able to take the lead, and that I make a capable leader – although I prefer to work as a team. I love travel, and meeting new people (I used to be too self-conscious to know these things about myself). I am very passionate, to the point of being melodramatic, and that's okay. I'm also generally accepting of others. See above for more.

How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

I now know that I want to travel extensively before I settle down into a grounded career of any kind. I now speak Arabic and know what it takes to learn a language, and I know that I can do it, which opens a multitude of doors. I've also gained the courage to take risks, which in addition to its relevance to my desires to travel, also ties back to my theater major – as pursuit of theater requires a certain intrepidity. I'm not certain which path I'm going to take at this point, but my time spent learning Arabic has opened up a whole other world of possibilities, previously unconsidered.

Evaluation of level of integration

Please comment on how successful you were in integrating into your host culture with regard to the following (please give details; e.g., what type of housing situation you chose, in what activities you participated, etc.). Also comment on which was most valuable in helping you to integrate into your host culture and why, and what strategies worked best in helping you to integrate. Please comment as well on what you did that may have worked against your integration into your host culture.

a) classes:

Classes were only with other American students, so while learning about the culture and the language was immensely helpful for my communication skills, it did not directly help me to integrate into the culture.

b) housing:

I was originally going to live with a Coptic girl in an apartment, but the situation got a bit stressful and she ended up moving out after about a week or so. After that, I lived alone for a while, which was lonely but necessary for me, I think, and then a Sudanese-British girl who was in a different program in the same center as me moved in – this helped me integrate to a very large extent, because through her I was able to really get to know the other foreign students at the center and thus benefiting from the contacts they were making in the community, in addition to my own. As Egypt is a Muslim country, and women are a bit more restricted in their privileges and mobility (to an extent), it was somewhat difficult for us to make friends with any Egyptian girls, and for foreign girls to meet Egyptian guys was potentially quite sketchy, so having foreign friends that were male was a great way to find positive relationships with the Egyptian youth.

c) extra-curricular activities (please list):

I did not participate in any extracurricular activities that helped me to meet Egyptian peers, although through the Middlebury program we learned to cook several Egyptian dishes, and we watched movies in Egyptian and listened to music and danced – all of which was really fun and helped familiarize us with the cultural references that language classes don't always offer. Some of the boys from the other programs also joined the Alexandria rugby team, and through their friends we were able to make a lot of Egyptian friends, which was really the key to my feeling at home in Egypt.

d) other (e.g., internship, independent projects, work, etc.):

As I've said, my involvement in the community was largely informal. In retrospect, I would have liked to have spent some time volunteering somewhere, or getting more involved in the American cultural centers, or something to that extent.

Evaluation of language learning (if on a program in a non-English speaking country)

What was the language of the host culture? Arabic

What kind of progress did you make in the different components of language study (aural comprehension, reading, writing, and speaking)?

I feel that I attained an extremely high level of comprehension in all aspects of language. By the time I left, many of the people I conversed with assumed I was Egyptian despite my decidedly American appearance. I could read the newspaper, translate articles, write essays, and understand the news. I had several close friends with whom I only spoke in Egyptian, and I got to the point where I could go for days without noticing that I hadn't so much as thought a sentence in English.

Evaluation of program/university and study abroad experience overall

Did your host institution/program provide you with adequate information prior to departure, an appropriate orientation on arrival, and sufficient support while you were there? Was it accurately presented in its brochures and correspondence? Please comment.

Not really, but it was the first year in a new program. The orientation changed a lot by the second semester, and at this point I can't really say what was lacking and what wasn't – it was what it was.

Was the Resident Director/International Officer competent, effective, and helpful? Was s/he approachable and concerned about your general well-being and success? Please comment.

Yes, Nehad is incredibly passionate and willing to fight for the students. Naturally there were kinks to be worked out, but by and large she is a very caring woman and always ready to help out or solve any problem.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Yes No
Why or why not?

Because it was awesome.

What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Definitely do it. And understand that the first month or so will be rocky, but that if you can just push through it and stay open and positive, it can be the best experience of your life.

Did you see or experience any form of discrimination in your host country? What advice would you give future students regarding these issues?

Yes. Don't be afraid to stick to the buddy system, but also don't let the discomfort you might feel in the streets keep you from experiencing the culture.

Evaluation of academics

Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students? Are there any particular academic weaknesses that other students should also be aware of?

The teaching of Modern Standard Arabic was quite good, as was the Egyptian Colloquial, but the program doesn't extend much beyond that, or at least it didn't while I was there, and I don't know that it's intended to.

Please list the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar), and comment on each one (if you did an independent study project or internship, please describe):

Course Information	Comments
<p>1) Course title: Modern Standard Arabic</p> <p>Course level (intro/upper/seminar): Upper</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.): Homeworks, exams, oral presentations</p>	<p>Describe course content: Al Kitab (textbook) Classical poetry, novels, literature</p> <p>Evaluate course: It was what it was intended to be, and I learned a lot.</p>
<p>2) Course title: Egyptian Colloquial</p> <p>Course level (intro/upper/seminar): Intro/Intermediate</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.): Quizzes, exams, oral presentations</p>	<p>Describe course content: Day-to-day situational language Popular entertainment – movies, songs Field trips – to the market, to coffee shops, real life experience</p> <p>Evaluate course: Absolutely wonderful</p>

<p>3) Course title: Translation Course level (intro/upper/seminar): Upper</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.): Exams, take home translation projects</p>	<p>Describe course content: Translating newspapers (politics, sports, entertainment, current events, etc), novels, poetry, songs English – Modern Standard Modern Standard – English Modern Standard – Egyptian Egyptian – English English - Egyptian</p> <p>Evaluate course: Also wonderful</p>
<p>4) Course title: Media Course level (intro/upper/seminar): Upper</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.): Quizzes, tests, papers</p>	<p>Describe course content: Reading newspapers on all topics Reading magazines Watching the news, listening to the news</p> <p>Evaluate course: Great</p>
<p>5) Course title: History of the Middle East Course level (intro/upper/seminar):</p>	<p>Describe course content: A variety of historical topics related to the Middle East that were guided by conversations with the professor rather than a</p>

<p>One on one</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.):</p> <p>Oral exam</p>	<p>pre-established syllabus</p> <p>Evaluate course:</p> <p>It was good, if a bit unstructured</p>
<p>6) Course title:</p> <p>Theater in the Middle East</p> <p>Course level (intro/upper/seminar):</p> <p>Upper</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.):</p> <p>Oral exam, paper</p>	<p>Describe course content:</p> <p>The history of the development of theater in the Middle East</p> <p>Evaluate course:</p> <p>Very, very informative and interesting</p>
<p>(Please add additional space if necessary)</p>	

Evaluation of the Office of Off-Campus Study

Please comment on your interaction with the staff of the Middlebury (Vermont) Office of Off-Campus Study:

I haven't had much contact with them, although when I have had they have been very helpful.

Did you attend Middlebury's pre-departure orientation meeting(s)? Did you find the meetings and handouts useful? How would you recommend that we improve in this area?

Yes. The pre-departure meeting I attended wasn't all that helpful, but it was before the program had officially been established so it couldn't have been anything but vague.



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Home institution Middlebury College Class 2009
Major(s) International Studies-Middle East
Country in which you studied Egypt
Host University University of Alexandria City Alexandria
US sponsor (if different from Host University) _____
Period of study abroad: From September to May Year 2007-2008

Evaluation of personal learning

Given that overseas educational systems differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on how you learned, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

(Note: All boxes will expand as necessary.)

The Egyptian academic system is very different from any educational system that I have been a part of prior to my experience abroad. There is no real structure and it is very hands on and lecture based. I didn't have a difficult time adjusting; it actually helped me learn better. We took trips and put our new vocabulary to use and it was a very good way of putting everything we were learning into perspective.

How has study abroad influenced your understanding of your host culture? In what ways has it influenced your perceptions of American culture?

I loved Egypt and Egyptian culture. Again being there helped put all the history and language into perspective. In my time there I also learned to appreciate American culture so much more. There were times when I was home sick and missed the order and structure of America; things just aren't the same in Egypt.

In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What were the personal qualities you found most useful during your time abroad?

I am a very happy and friendly person and people noticed that and so it wasn't very difficult for me to make friends. Egyptians are very trusting and caring people and were always willing to help me with anything. In some ways, I learned to trust people more and believe that some people genuinely care for others.

How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

Studying abroad helped me realize that my future lies in the Middle East. I love Arabic and am very passionate about becoming a mediator for peace talks between America and the Middle East. I hope that with my experiences I can one day change the mind of many Americans about the Middle East.

Evaluation of level of integration

Please comment on how successful you were in integrating into your host culture with regard to the following (please give details; e.g., what type of housing situation you chose, in what activities you participated, etc.). Also comment on which was most valuable in helping you to integrate into your host culture and why, and what strategies worked best in helping you to integrate. Please comment as well on what you that may have worked against your integration into your host culture.

a) Classes:

I think my classes were great. I have no complaints besides the fact that we had to change professors several times but that is to be expected of the first year of the program.

b) Housing:

I loved my host family because they were very patient with me and taught me well. I was one of the fortunate ones with my host family. They treated me like I was a real member of their family.

c) Extra-curricular activities (please list):

We had several activities including a cooking club and movie club and belly dancing club.

d) Other (e.g., internship, independent projects, work, etc.):

Evaluation of language learning (if on a program in a non-English speaking country)

What was the language of the host culture? Arabic

What kind of progress did you make in the different components of language study (aural comprehension, reading, writing, and speaking)?

I am very surprised at how much I improved going abroad. Living with a host family really helped my aural comprehension skills and with time came my speaking skills. I was not that good prior to going there but I can now say that I am comfortable speaking the Egyptian dialect with a native speaker knowing that I will be understood. I was even more excited when some Egyptians confused me for being a native.

Evaluation of program/university and study abroad experience overall

Did your host institution/program provide you with adequate information prior to departure, an appropriate orientation on arrival, and sufficient support while you were there? Was it accurately presented in its brochures and correspondence? Please comment.

We did not have much information about the program because we were the first to go there. Our program director Nehad Heliel, however, was very supportive and available and provided the necessary support. She made me feel safe when I was unsure about anything.

Was the Resident Director/International Officer competent, effective, and helpful? Was s/he approachable and concerned about your general well-being and success? Please comment.

She was very competent, effective and helpful. Her only problem was not as organized as she needed to be sometimes. I got along with her very well. In fact, she was almost like a mother to me and was very supportive.

Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Yes No
Why or why not?

I loved the location and believe that Cairo will never do justice to my experience in Alexandria. I loved how caring the people could be, everyone wanted to help teach me. The professors were great and made me excited about learning their language.

What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

As a female student in the Middle East it is very important that women always stick together and do not travel anywhere alone. There is no real harm in Alexandria but it is better to be prepared than sorry. Harassment is real and there are way too many young men out in the street not really doing anything.

Did you see or experience any form of discrimination in your host country? What advice would you give future students regarding these issues?

I never felt racially discriminated against because I could sometimes pass as an Egyptian because of my skin color. I did, however, sometimes feel restricted by social standards because I was a woman. There are certain things women cant to like going out too late at night without a male friend or escort and more. I would tell students that they should take their time learning about the culture because there are hidden rules. There is time for everything in Egypt.

Evaluation of academics

Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students? Are there any particular academic weaknesses that other students should also be aware of?

I loved my Egyptian dialect class; it was my favorite class because it was the most useful! I also like my Media class because a lot of the vocabulary was very helpful when discussing politics.

Please list the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar), and comment on each one (if you did an independent study project or internship, please describe):

Course Information	Comments
<p>1) Course title: Modern Standard Arabic</p> <p>Course level (intro/upper/seminar): Intermediate</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.): Homework, exams and oral presentations.</p>	<p>Describe course content: We used Al-Kitaab and some outside sources.</p> <p>Evaluate course: We had some problems with this class because we were all at different levels coming in and we could not find a good teacher. After a while we found a good teacher but did not get too far in the book.</p>
<p>2) Course title: Media Studies</p>	<p>Describe course content:</p>

Course level (intro/upper/seminar):
Intermediate

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.):

In class exercises, homework and exams.

We read the newspaper in class and learned useful vocabulary to help us in political discussions.

Evaluate course:

I really liked it because it was practical and helped me understand the news.

3) Course title: One on One

Course level (intro/upper/seminar):
Seminar

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.):

Papers and exams

Describe course content:

I took an Egyptology seminar first semester and second semester took a seminar on the Ottoman Empire.

Evaluate course:

My professor's were great and very patient with my in the beginning. I learned a lot.

4) Course title: Colloquial

Course level (intro/upper/seminar):
Seminar

Describe course content:

We had classroom lessons and also took many of our lessons outside of the classroom to put our new vocabulary to use.

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.):
Oral presentations and homework.

Evaluate course:

LOVED IT!!!! Dr. Heba is a great teacher. I had a lot of fun and learned the most from this class.

5) Course title: Translation

Course level (intro/upper/seminar):
Intermediate

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.):
Homework and exams.

Describe course content:

We learned about translation techniques. We translated several popular texts such as pieces from the Yacobian building.

Evaluate course:

It was a good class.

Evaluation of the Office of Off-Campus Study

Please comment on your interaction with the staff of the Middlebury (Vermont) Office of Off-Campus Study:

They are all very nice, helpful and supportive. All students should go and speak to them if they have any concerns regarding their trip.

Did you attend Middlebury's pre-departure orientation meeting(s)? Did you find the meetings and handouts useful? How would you recommend that we improve in this area?

Because this was the first year the program was running, there was no useful information given to me prior to my departure. There had been no students there before my group.

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Handwritten evaluations will not be accepted.**

Home institution Middlebury College

Class 2009

Major(s) Theatre

Country in which you studied Egypt

Host University Alexandria University

City Alexadria

US sponsor (if different from host university)

Period of study abroad: From September 3rd To December 20th_ Year 2007

Evaluation of personal learning

Given that overseas educational systems differ significantly from ours, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

(Note: All boxes will expand as necessary.)

Alexandria University was a unique academic experience because although I went to a college campus every day, I did not go to classes with native speakers, but with other westerners learning Arabic at the TAFL Center. Nonetheless, cultural differences played a major role in my educational environment. For instance, the director of our program, Nihad, was more like a mother or sister than a director. She was sensitive to our needs and sweet but at the same time we would become frustrated with her for what we considered a lack of professionalism. Similarly, our teachers not only played a role in our academic lives, but in our personal lives as well. If one was absent his teacher would feel personally offended. If we got in trouble outside of school for something unrelated to our studies, our teachers would scold us. I don't want this to sound like negative feedback, it was just different and took getting used to. I loved my teachers for the most part, but they were unlike any teachers I've experienced before.

How has study abroad influenced your understanding of your host culture? In what ways has it influenced your perceptions of American culture?

I've gotten a much more comprehensive perception of what it America connotes in the Middle East. I've learned how to live in a country I thought was against my "freedom" to express myself through clothing. I've felt like an outsider. I've felt like an insider. I've hated Egyptian culture. I've loved Egyptian culture. Ultimately, what I can say in response to this question is that I never felt a more solid sense of self-orientation

than when I got back from Egypt. I can sincerely say that I take nothing for granted and I can live in places I never thought I could. I learned a lot about Egyptian culture, and through that learning, more about American culture. But most of all, I've learned about myself.

In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What were the personal qualities you found most useful during your time abroad?

The most important thing I learned about myself in Egypt was that I was resourceful. I traveled the country with only a backpack, organized trips, survived roadside bathrooms, and climbed Mount Sinai, all things I never imagined myself doing alone. I was extremely lonely but found ways to cope, by meeting wonderful people and traveling with them.

How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

Academically, I want to declare Arabic as a minor. I am not interested in pursuing a career using Arabic, though I am considering translating. Personally, I decided to study Arabic because my family speaks. My goal was to be able to communicate with them more meaningfully. I believe I have already reached part of that goal, but would like to become even more fluent.

Evaluation of level of integration

Please comment on how successful you were in integrating into your host culture with regard to the following (please give details; e.g., what type of housing situation you chose, in what activities you participated, etc.). Also comment on which was most valuable in helping you to integrate into your host culture and why, and what strategies worked best in helping you to integrate.

a) classes:

After firing a couple of teachers, all our teachers were awesome and I really enjoyed classes. The most important thing that should be changed is the structure of learning vocabulary: we needed vocab lists! Tests were nightmares because we never knew what we were supposed to study and what words we were expected to know.

b) housing:

I loved living with my roommate, another American girl, because I immediately felt safer and less lonely. We looked out for each other. I also loved our host family, who were remarkably open minded and allowed us to go out on our own the entire time we stayed with them. However, our family would not approve if we bought our own groceries and we weren't too crazy about their food. We also felt like we couldn't fully settle in to our apartment, which didn't have hot water. There are pros and cons to every living situation.

c) extra-curricular activities (please list):

I really enjoyed our cooking club and the bellydancing class we took. Other than that, I wasn't really interested in going to extra-curricular activities because I wanted to go out and experience the culture in which we were living.

d) other (e.g., internship, independent projects, work, etc.):

n/a

Evaluation of language learning (if on a program in a non-English speaking country)

What was the language of the host culture? Arabic

What kind of progress did you make in the different components of language study (aural comprehension, reading, writing, and speaking)?

I got vastly better in all components.

Evaluation of program/university and study abroad experience overall

Did your host institution/program provide you with adequate information prior to departure, an appropriate orientation on arrival, and sufficient support while you were there? Was it accurately presented in its brochures and correspondence? Please comment.

Orientation was a joke. But we did get plenty of support, especially from Nihad. I don't think I expected the program to be as disorganized as it was from the information I got about it beforehand.

Was the Resident Director/International Officer competent, effective, and helpful? Was s/he approachable and concerned about your general well-being and success? Please comment.

She was competent, effective, helpful, approachable, open minded, and a genuinely caring person. No one else I met in Egypt could've done her job.

**Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Yes No
Why or why not?**

Yes, or course, because it was the experience of a lifetime.

What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

In general, know that you will feel lonely but know that feeling will pass. In terms of the School in Alexandria, know that you will feel like you are ten times more organized and time conscious than any of your teachers, and know that respect for your elders is essential.

Did you see or experience any form of discrimination in your host country? What advice would you give future students regarding these issues?

I felt discriminated against because I looked Egyptian but dressed American. My advice to all women is to cover up everything except head, hands and feet.

Evaluation of academics

Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

My Fusha teacher was amazing.

Please list the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar), and comment on each one (if you did an independent study project or internship, please describe):

[Please keep in mind that overseas educational systems operate according to different systems of values than those that govern U.S. systems of education.]

Course Information	Comments
<p>1) Course title:Fusha</p> <p>Course level (intro/upper/seminar):Upper</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.):Homework, Oral Presentations, Exams</p>	<p>Describe course content: An intermediate course in Modern Standard Arabic.</p> <p>Evaluate course: Worthwhile and interesting. While exams were extremely difficult because the standards of evaluation were not clear, all in all the class was excellent and as long as you did all the work you knew you would not fail. She was the most engaging teacher we had.</p>
<p>2) Course title:Egyptian Colloquial</p> <p>Course level (intro/upper/seminar):Intro</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.): Homework, Oral Presentations, Exams</p>	<p>Describe course content:A beginner course in colloquial Egyptian</p> <p>Evaluate course: Fun but very disorganized. We never learned important grammatical topics, had classes on “restaurants” and “professions,” instead of on important verb conjugations and grammar.</p>
<p>3) Course title: Translation</p> <p>Course level (intro/upper/seminar):Upper</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.): Homework, Oral Presentations, Exams, Translations</p>	<p>Describe course content: Translating from English to Arabic and Arabic to English using various dictionary sources and our own language skills.</p> <p>Evaluate course: Awesome. I learned the most in this class about the difference between Arabic and English stylistically.</p>
<p>4) Course title: Media</p> <p>Course level (intro/upper/seminar): Upper</p> <p>Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.): Homework, Oral Presentations, Exams, Newspaper Article</p>	<p>Describe course content: Watching and reading news in Modern Standard Arabic.</p> <p>Evaluate course: Amazing. My reading got light years better from this course in particular. The teacher’s method of testing was confusing at first, but once she gave us organized vocabulary lists and told us what to study</p>

Discussions	before the exam, we succeeded.
5) Course title: History of Egyptian Theatre Course level (intro/upper/seminar): Seminar Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.): Papers, Homework, Oral Presentations,	Describe course content: History of the beginning of Egyptian Theatre Evaluate course: Quite interesting. This one-on-one course made me apply my knowledge of Arabic to a class that had nothing to do with the study of the Arabic language. It was hard to keep up at first, but then I marveled at the fact that I could understand so much about my major, theatre, in Arabic.

Evaluation of the Office of Off-Campus Study

Please comment on your interaction with the staff of the Middlebury (Vermont) Office of Off-Campus Study:

Everyone has been so friendly and generous, in particular Nicole Chance, who helped me from the very beginning.

Did you attend Middlebury’s pre-departure orientation meeting(s)? Did you find the meetings and handouts useful? How would you recommend that we improve in this area?

Yes. The meeting was very useful, mostly in soothing my nerves, but it can never compensate for a good orientation in an abroad program. Without the pre-departure meeting I would have freaked out in Egypt, but our orientation sucked and I think if it were better my transition into Egyptian life would have been much easier.

Would you like to make an appointment (in person or phone) with Off-Campus Study to discuss your study abroad experience? No

Would you be interested in volunteering your time to help with pre-departure orientations and/or other study abroad meetings or promotional activities? Yes

May we use your comments in future publications? No



Middlebury Schools Abroad Evaluation: 2007-2008

Evaluating your period of study abroad is one of the most valuable services you can render Middlebury College and future students planning to study abroad, and it is one of the most important ways you can help us maintain the highest possible standards. For this reason, until this form is submitted to International Programs and Off Campus Study a hold will be placed on official Middlebury transcript requests for Middlebury College students who studied at Middlebury Schools Abroad (this does not apply to non-Middlebury students). Please note: If you studied abroad for two semesters on two different programs, you must submit two separate evaluations.

The staff of the Middlebury Schools Abroad/International Programs and Off Campus Study welcomes the opportunity to hear about your experiences abroad; please feel free to stop by or call and talk with us!

This document contains respondents between 1 and 2 inclusive.

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

IPE

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

I had little interaction with the Egyptian system of education, as all of our classes were in small seminars in the TAFL centre, but I did have to adjust to less organization or planning from professors than is seen at classes at Middlebury.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

The high population, poverty and devoutness of the Egyptian people were all different than either where I grew up or Middlebury College.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

I learned to spend time alone by myself.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

It has changed the branch of government that I'm going to apply to join.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
 - Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
 - Apartment
 - Other (please describe)
-

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

Not at all - it was isolating

Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected

As helpful as I expected

Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected

Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

Our homestay was unsuccessful due to familial problems within our host family.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

Yes

No

14. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

Not helpful at all

Only slightly helpful

Somewhat helpful

helpful

Very helpful

15. Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

Our extra-curricular activities were only with our professors, middlebury students and a few program assistants. Therefore we were not able to meet other Egyptians.

16. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

17. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No
improvement

Little
improvement

Improved
somewhat

Improved

Very much
improved



20. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

It was less than i expected because of the difficulty of integrating into Egyptian culture, therefore I had few opportunities to practice Arabic.

21. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Small class sizes

22. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Disorganization in teaching

23. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

CHINA: Fall Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)

LATIN AMERICA: Cuaderno

MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Modern Standard Arabic

RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

24. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

Modern Standard Arabic Advanced 2

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Alexandria

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Homework, presentations, exams

Please describe the course content:

Modern Standard Arabic

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture and discussion

Other comments about this course:

.....

25. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Classical Chinese
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Egyptian Colloquial Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language II (Conversation/Speech Practice)

28. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

Colloquial Egyptian Arabic

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Alexandria

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

participation

Describe course content

Colloquial Egyptian Arabic

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

class discussions

Other comments about this course:

.....

29. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: One-on-One Tutorial (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: One-on-One Tutorial (Please describe in the boxes below)
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Russian Civilization and Culture

32. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Media Arabic

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Alexandria

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Exams

Describe course content

Media Arabic

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

vocabulary memorization and reading articles

Other comments about this course:

.....

33. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

34. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Elective #1
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Media Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Phonetics (or Russian Film for students in Irkutsk)

36. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

Translation

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Alexandria

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

translations

Describe course content

Translation

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

translating in class

Other comments about this course:

.....

37. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

38. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

39. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Elective #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Elective: Fall Semester: History of the Middle East
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Spetskurs (Please describe in the boxes below)

40. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

One on one-Economic/Political Geography

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Alexandria

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

participation

Describe course content

Economic/Political Geography

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

lecture

Other comments about this course:

.....

41. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

42. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

43. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

	Poor		Good		Excellent
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

44. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

45. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

46. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

47. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

Beyond dressing modestly there is nothing that can be done to stop harassment of women.

48. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

I did not feel it was a strong academic program

49. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Consider programs closely before studying abroad

50. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

Yes

No

51. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

Yes

No

N/A - Did not attend meetings

52. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

The information packet provided by Middlebury was useful

1. Home Institution

Middlebury College

Other Institution

If other than Middlebury, please indicate your home institution:

.....

2. Your academic program

Major

English and American Literatures

Month & Year of (expected) graduation

May 2009

3. What was the period of your study abroad?

fall semester

spring semester

academic year

spring semester followed by fall semester

4. Given that educational systems abroad differ significantly from our own, please reflect on your adjustment to your host country's educational environment. What effects did this different academic environment have on your learning, both inside and outside the classroom? In what ways did you benefit from being in a different academic environment?

The academic environment, though encouraging, was ultimately unhelpful-- except as a social hub. As members of the first year, the teachers were, for the most part, uncertain of what to do with us-- the upper years had trouble convincing the teachers that, yes, we understood everything that they were saying and required more challenging material. There was little evaluation of course material, and this proved extremely unhelpful toward academic learning and the acquisition of MSA, but useful in discussion: conversational Egyptian was very much used everywhere, as we constantly got off topic.

5. AFTER studying abroad, how do you now view the differences/similarities between the culture of your host country and that of your own?

	Identical	Very Similar	Mostly Similar	Somewhat Different	Very Different
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

6. Please Comment:

Perception and outlook. The Middle East is a different place, but not in the ways that everyone would like to think. Going abroad made me critical of being an American, but I think it also helped me to be a better one.

7. In what ways has study abroad contributed to your personal growth? What personal characteristics did you find most useful during your time abroad?

Resourcefulness-- things often didn't go the way planned, especially in governmental situations. Additionally, the use of a poker face was much needed: bargaining is the ever-cliche art of the Middle East, and one needs a "city face" of stone to prevent harassment on the street. You need to look like you know everything in order to be let alone: the poker face helps.

8. How has study abroad influenced your academic and career goals? How has it influenced your personal goals?

My life ambition is to own an ahwa.

9. What was your housing situation during your study abroad?

- Homestay
- Dormitory/Student Residence/Foyer
- Apartment
- Other (please describe)

10. Do you feel that your housing situation provided you with an opportunity to integrate into the host culture, and/or provided you a context for gaining insight into the host culture?

	Not at all - it was isolating	Somewhat helpful, but less than I expected	As helpful as I expected	Somewhat more helpful than I'd expected	Very helpful in terms of fostering insights and/or my integration
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Please comment on your response to the question above.

I experienced a unique housing situation: alone in an apartment. This was ideal, as I'm an outgoing male, but understandably not so for many. I hung out in cafes and talked with old men.

12. Did you take courses alongside students from the host country?

- Yes
- No

13. Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities or internships?

Yes

No

14. If you answered yes to the question above, were your extra-curricular activities helpful in assisting your integration into the host culture?

Not helpful at all

Only slightly helpful

Somewhat helpful

helpful

Very helpful

15. Please describe the extra-curricular activities or internship in which you participated, and make any additional comments about these activities that you think would be helpful to Middlebury staff or future students.

Smoking and playing backgammon. The more tobacco consumed, the more language was learned.

16. What kind of progress did you make in your listening comprehension of the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

17. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to read in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

18. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to write in the language?

No improvement

Little improvement

Improved somewhat

Improved

Very much improved

19. What kind of progress did you make in your ability to speak in the language?

No
improvement

Little
improvement

Improved
somewhat

Improved

Very much
improved

20. Please comment on the progress you made in your target language. Was it greater or less than you had expected? What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to your progress (or lack thereof), either on your own part or on the part of the program? Do you have any specific suggestions for the program and/or for future students that pertain to language learning?

Progress in ECA was amazing-- in fact, it was the focus. However, MSA was lacking; professors took the linguistic standpoint and were, at times, a little lazy with laying down the classical. This was fine: no one actually speaks classical, though. However, I would have liked to have seen more of an emphasis on translation theory and the acquisition of vocabulary.

21. Are there any particular academic strengths of your host university/program that you would recommend to other students?

Yes

No

Please explain:

There is nothing. The actual university is horrid.

22. Are there any particular academic weaknesses of which other students should also be aware?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Everything. Full professors are the worst: beware the egos and the French.

23. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

CHINA: Fall Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)

LATIN AMERICA: Cuaderno

MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Modern Standard Arabic

RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

24. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #1

.....

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Alexandria University

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Oral evaluation, some tests

Please describe the course content:

Some articles, work in one novel, and al-Kitaab

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Discussion

Other comments about this course:

Poorly taught and with no reinforcement.

25. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

26. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Classical Chinese
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Egyptian Colloquial Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Intensive Russian Language II (Conversation/Speech Practice)

28. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #2

.....

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Alexandria University

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Presentations

Describe course content

Lectures, some handouts

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lectures and discussions

Other comments about this course:

Effectively taught, but became a forum for vocabulary.

29. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: One-on-One Tutorial (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: One-on-One Tutorial (Please describe in the boxes below)
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Russian Civilization and Culture

32. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #3

Sufism

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Alexandria University

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Final Paper

Describe course content

Lectures, some reading

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lectures

Other comments about this course:

Highly effective lecturer and extremely knowledgeable on material, but little research or synthesis

33. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

34. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Elective #1
- MIDDLE EAST: Fall Semester: Media Arabic
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Phonetics (or Russian Film for students in Irkutsk)

36. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #4

.....

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Alexandria University

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Tests

Describe course content

Lectures, handouts, articles

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Discussion

Other comments about this course:

Effectively taught, but very loose structure. Repetitious

37. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

38. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

39. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Fall Semester: Elective #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Elective: Fall Semester: History of the Middle East
- RUSSIA: Fall Semester: Spetskurs (Please describe in the boxes below)

40. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #5

.....

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Alexandria University

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Final Exam

Describe course content

Lectures with some discussion

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

In a wishy-washy manner

Other comments about this course:

Instructor was more interested in writing our names in calligraphy on the board. No room for our own opinions.

41. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

42. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

43. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Speaking & Pronunciation (1 on 2)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Modern Standard Arabic
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Intensive Russian Language I (Grammar/Composition)

44. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #7

At which institution/university did you take this course?

University of Alexandria

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Exam

Describe course content

Novel, some al-Kitaab

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Discussion

Other comments about this course:

Poorly taught: one of professors quit, replaced by an even more ineffective one with little flexibility.

45. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

46. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

47. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Classical Chinese
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Egyptian Colloquial Arabic
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Intensive Russian Language II (Conversation/Speech Practice)

48. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #8

.....

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Alexandria University

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

See previous evaluation

Describe course content

See previous evaluation

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

See previous evaluation

Other comments about this course:

See previous evaluation

49. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

50. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

51. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: One-on-One Tutorial (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: One-on-One Tutorial (Please describe in the boxes below)
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Russian Civilization and Culture

52. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #9

Pre-Islamic Poetry

At which institution/university did you take this course?

Alexandria University

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

Final Paper

Describe course content

Nothing. Instructor trying to speak to me in French.

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

Lecture

Other comments about this course:

The instructor for this course was more interested in parading around his knowledge of Western literature than teaching me about pre-Islamic poetry. When he deigned to speak in Arabic, he usually just gave me a list of important people to refer to: no actual knowledge was actually conveyed.

53. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

54. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

55. Please select your course from the drop down menu, if applicable.

- CHINA: Spring Semester: Elective #2 (Please describe in the boxes below)
- MIDDLE EAST: Spring Semester: Elective: History of the Middle East
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Spetskurs #1 (Please describe in the boxes below) OR ...
- RUSSIA: Spring Semester: Mainstream Course (Please describe in the boxes below)

56. Please tell us about the courses you took, including what level (intro/upper/seminar.) If you did an independent study project or internship, please describe it.

Course Title #11

.....

At which institution/university did you take this course?

See previous evaluation

Means of assessment (e.g., papers, exams, homework, etc.)

See previous evaluation

Describe course content

See previous evaluation

Please describe the means by which the material/concepts for this course were conveyed, particularly if the teaching style was different from what you are used to.

See previous evaluation

Other comments about this course:

See previous evaluation

57. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"I learned a great deal in this course."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

58. Please indicate the extent of your agreement with the following statement:

"The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

59. Did Middlebury provide you with an appropriate orientation on arrival?

Poor

Good

Excellent

60. Did Middlebury provide you with sufficient support while you were abroad?

Poor

Good

Excellent

61. Were the on-site staff (Resident Director, Academic Director, Resident Coordinator, support staff, etc.) helpful to you during your study abroad?

Not helpful

Somewhat helpful

Very helpful

62. Did you see or experience any form of discrimination or harassment in your host country?

Yes

No

63. If you answered yes to the question above, what advice would you give to future students? Likewise, if you have advice for Middlebury staff, please share that as well.

Egyptians are racist toward foreigners. It happens. We are rich and many of them want to cheat us: often, this is officially endorsed. Read the prices outside the museums and the Pyramids: one side will be in English and charge a ton, another will be in Arabic and charge (no joke) ten percent of the tourist price. Prepare to be angry a lot and learn what it's like to be very, very, very different.

64. Would you recommend that other students attend this program or university? Why or why not?

Yes

No

Please explain:

Change your life. Go to the Middle East.

65. What advice would you give to other students considering study abroad in general, and this program or university in particular?

Bring less clothing than you actually packed, small presents, a travel belt, and a sleeping bag liner (for weekend trips: most cheap hotels have only one sheet). It rains a LOT in Alex, so a raincoat for the winter-- a coat-- would be extremely helpful.

66. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you attend Middlebury's on-campus pre-departure orientation meeting(s)?

- Yes
- No

67. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY: Did you find the pre-departure meetings and handouts useful?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Did not attend meetings

68. ALL STUDENTS: What aspects of the pre-departure process did you find particularly useful (or not), and how would you recommend that we improve the pre-departure meeting or supplemental materials?

Recommended reading list: books pertinent to the country (in English), recommended guidebooks and such.

69. Did your expectations of the program as advertised before you went abroad match the reality of your experience during your study abroad?

- Completely matched
- Was what I expected for the most part
- Was somewhat different from what I expected
- Was vastly different than what I'd expected

Comments

.....

70. Did you receive acceptance and pre-departure information in a timely fashion?

- Yes
- No

71. Did you find the mailings and online resources useful?

- Yes
- No

72. How would you recommend that we improve in this area?

No recommendations.