MCC International Fellowship Study Abroad Application Information

Morocco – Due 5/1/17

To Apply:
www.middlesex.mass.edu/fellowships

Global Education

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Middlesex Community College is committed to educating students about global issues and broadening their perspective of the world community. In this interdependent global economy, the College recognizes that our students need to understand other cultures and appreciate global relationships so that they can enhance their capacity to participate in a global marketplace.

The MCC International Fellowship Study Abroad courses are academic opportunities for students to study about the culture, history, and language of a particular country. Students who are accepted for a Fellowship enroll and actively participate in a three credit course which may be used as either a Humanities or a Social Science elective, and in one fellowship a science elective.

2017-2018 INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

Morocco Experience: This course is an on-campus and study abroad experience in Morocco that will focus on traditional and contemporary Moroccan culture. Academic and study tour cultural components place an emphasis on situating contemporary Morocco in a historical, economic, and social context, including an in-country Service Learning project. As with all International studies programs at MCC, students are expected to share what they have learned with the college community upon completion of the course. This course can be used to satisfy a HUM/SOC/BUS elective as well as the following ISLOs: Multicultural and Global Literacy, Written and Oral Communication, Critical Thinking, and Personal and Professional Development.

Students are expected to:

- attend all classes and meetings
- complete requirements of the course, including readings and essays
- participate in team building exercises led by International/Multicultural Affairs staff
- travel in-country
- complete a multi-media reflective e-portfolio
- share what they have learned with the college community after the course

Costs to participants:

- non-refundable program fee of $500
- payment is the responsibility of the student
- all payments must be submitted before traveling overseas
- participant is responsible for his/her passport, visa if needed, medical shots, additional health insurance, course materials, optional excursions, and personal expenses (approximately $600). Note: visa application includes background check
Costs covered:

- roundtrip airfare, in-country transportation, accommodations, most meals, and tuition for the course

The Application Process:

Spaces for Fellowship programs are extremely limited (20+ spots). Students who apply must meet the following requirements:

- be currently enrolled in a degree program at MCC for the spring 2017 semester
- complete at least 12 credits of course work at MCC by June 1, 2017
- be at least 18-years-old
- have a minimum G.P.A. of 3.0
- submit a completed application

Applicants Must Submit the Following:

- application and 500-700 word Fellowship essay by due date
- unofficial transcript of grades (not Degree Works copy)
- confirm two (2) recommendations have been submitted by due date
  - at least one (1) of the recommendations must be from a MCC faculty

Please direct questions regarding the MCC International Fellowships to:

Dona Cady, Dean of Global Education, cadyd@middlesex.mass.edu or visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/globaleducation/fellowships.aspx

Essay Guidelines

Please respond to the fellowship questions in a statement of purpose essay of 500-700 words. It is important to address the impact that the Fellowship study abroad will have on your academic, professional, and personal goals. You should also address the impact that receiving the Fellowship would have on your achievement of these goals. Some key points to keep in mind are:

1. Why do you wish to study abroad and what factors led you to this decision? What do you hope to gain from and what do you anticipate will be the impact of your experience abroad?

2. Why have you chosen this specific Fellowship to apply for? What specific interest led you to select this particular Fellowship?

3. How will this study abroad and the coursework you take, impact your academic and future professional goals?
4. Describe yourself, including what challenges, if any, did you face in your decision to apply for the study abroad Fellowship? How did you meet these challenges and what impact do you foresee them having on your experience abroad?

5. To help expand the impact of the Fellowship study abroad, all selected applicants are required to keep a reflective multi-media e-portfolio and upon their return from abroad help to promote international education and the Fellowships. How will you integrate the impact of your experiences abroad into your e-portfolio and what, if any, campus departments, student organizations, and/or community organizations will you collaborate with in promoting international education? Have you already made contact with these groups?

The Selection Process

Candidates are chosen by a Selection Committee. Committee members read each student application and rate it independently. Committee members rate the applicants on a basis of 1 to 10 on each of the following factors:

1. **Academic Excellence**: How capable is the student academically? Has the student taken academically rigorous courses that would demonstrate he/she is able to complete the Fellowship course and requirements?

2. **Ability to contribute to the college after the Fellowship**: How is the applicant able to contribute to and represent the College after the Fellowship experience?

3. **Connection of the Fellowship opportunity to current field of study**: Does the applicant express a sincere interest in participating in the program? In what ways will the Fellowship further the applicant’s program of study?

4. **Level of emotional maturity, responsibility, and ability to function effectively in a group setting**: How do the recommendations, student’s application, and possible interview underscore these qualities?

5. **Overall quality of the application**: Based on all aspects of the application, what is the quality of this application?

The Interview:

Every effort will be made to interview students who rank in the upper 30% of the candidates’ pool based on the scores of Committee members during the process of the application review. Those students who are asked to meet Committee members for an interview will be rated on a scale of 1 to 10 based on the following factors:
1. **Academic Excellence and connection of program of study to Fellowship:** How will this study abroad and the coursework impact the applicant’s academic and future professional goals?

2. **Evidence of effective communication and ability to serve as a responsible representative of the college community:** Can the applicant communicate effectively? Can the applicant effectively represent the college in a foreign country and upon return home?

3. **Interest in the Fellowship program:** Why does the applicant wish to study abroad and what factors have led him/her to this decision? What does the applicant hope to gain from and what does the applicant anticipate will be the impact of the experience abroad?

4. **Ability to contribute to the group experience:** Does the applicant, based on the interview, have the experience and background necessary to enhance the group experience and function in a group setting? Does the applicant, based on the interview, appear to be flexible, emotionally mature, and able to function effectively in a group setting?

5. **Overall quality of the applicant:** Based on the interview, would the applicant be a good choice for the Fellowship study abroad?

The top candidates, based on the applications and interviews, will be selected, and individual scores will not be disclosed.

Selected applicants should be aware that the Committee reserves the right to withdraw an offer of acceptance for the Fellowship study abroad at any time prior to the trip itself if the Committee learns additional information about the candidate which might adversely affect the committee’s perception of the candidate’s ability to function effectively in the program.