SPRING 2018 EXTENDED STUDY: 
MIST 253: Aspects of Contemporary Arab Societies

**Director:** Nady Abdal-Ghaffar and Shaemaa Essa

**On-campus course:** MIST 253: Aspects of Contemporary Arab Societies

**Tentative travel dates:** May 19th to June 9th, 2018

**Destinations:** Rabat, Morocco

**Course credit:** one credit (includes both on-campus and extended study)

**Prerequisites:** Two semesters of Arabic language by end of spring 2018 semester; just take Arabic during spring 2018 semester

**Applications available from:** www.colgate.edu/off-campus-study/extended-study

**Applications due:** October 27, 2017

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**Overview:**

This extended study course concentrates on giving students a sense of the many players and elements that make up contemporary Morocco – the land, the language and its people. This requires a sense of both history and language, as well as a wide-ranging (if eclectic) understanding of the lived experience of the people. Thus, the class studies cultural aspects such as food, music, historical issues, political issues, and language.

The course includes a three-week trip to Morocco, which exposes the students to the actual environment in which all these aspects come together. The three-week Morocco program will be based in Meknes, a medium-sized city in central Morocco, but will include trips to Rabat, the capital, Fez, the cultural and religious center, a rural village, and several other cultural sites. Our local partner in Morocco will be AALIM, the Arab-American Language Institute in Morocco. The schedule in Morocco will include lectures by local scholars, discussions led by the programs co-leaders, visits to cultural and historical sites, language instruction, and language partnerships with local Moroccan students that will include home visits. Because course readings will be in English and Arabic, and class discussion will be in Arabic, all students must have completed the equivalent of two semesters of Arabic by the end of the spring 2018 semester.