

Draft Syllabus – 7/15

Sustainable Development across Morocco Summer 2016

School of Sustainability, Arizona State University

Study Abroad Program Course Syllabus – 3 credits

May 15 – June 7, 2016

**Registration options (each student registers for 1 prefix, 3 credits):
SOS 494, SOS 598, GTD 598**

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Description and Course Objectives:

While students will register for different course prefixes, we will conduct the program as a single class, with students being able to individualize their research and written work. Morocco will be our classroom this summer as we explore issues of sustainable development in this North African country. This region provides an excellent context for us to learn about issues of socio-economic disparity, politics and sustainable energy challenges in varying environments. We start program in Morocco with a visit to Rabat to meet with relevant government officials, followed by a stay in Marrakesh to work with a non-governmental organization (NGO) that has projects in rural community sustainable development. Next we stay in the desert city of Ouarzazate where a major concentrating solar power (CSP) site is currently being built, and where we will visit villages in the vicinity that struggle with socioeconomic, including energy, issues. As we travel to the Sahara Desert we will experience areas with less reliable access to the energy grid, consider issues of sustainable development, followed by a transit of the Atlas Mountains to spend time working with an local association in the town of Boumia, near Midelt. In the three main sites of Marrakesh, Ouarzazate and Boumia, we will visit and work with the local NGOs on community needs assessments and projects for sustainable solutions to development issues, considering social, economic and environmental aspects.

The overall goal of the program is to provide a comprehensive introduction to the cultural, political and historical context of Morocco in order to develop the ability to assess current issues and solutions in sustainable development in local and national comparative contexts. We will experience and witness a wide range of human development throughout the trip, enabling a realistic and comparative context in which to analyze various issues and myriad of solutions. The learning modes will include a pre-departure course, a reading list, frequent faculty and

student led discussions while on the program, designed to coincide with site visits and meetings, and written assignments as detailed below. The academic requirements are designed and organized with the goals of meeting the learning objectives, allowing for individual learning, and a dispersing of the work to adequately allow everyone to fully participate and enjoy our experiences in Morocco. Learning will take place during official meetings and visits as well as when enjoying some free time during the trip and the main objectives can be summarized as:.

- Students will evaluate current solutions for sustainable development at the national policy level in Rabat, and at the local level in three specific locations, considering the multiple layers of policy and implementation at different scales.
- Measurement: Students will complete a team project report at each site.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of the complexity of some aspect of development and sustainability in Morocco. Measurement: Each student will submit a final research paper with appropriate historical background and political context on a particular aspect of sustainable development in Morocco.
- Students will apply cross cultural perspectives, gained from cultural immersion activities on the program, to concept of sustainable development in Morocco.
- Measurement: Students will have frequent meetings with faculty to debrief experiences of the day and follow up with pre-departure study of the dimensions of culture; they will also engage in a photo project where they take pictures of what they deem sustainable and not sustainable, and explore why they feel this way.

Course Requirements:

- Participation in all scheduled program events (this mean also being well rested alert, and attentive in all meetings)
- Participation in all group meetings and discussions
- Group projects – Written assessments and evaluations
- Sustainability project
- Adherence to student conduct and professional guidelines stated below
- Research paper – due June.... on BB site

Participation	100
Group Projects	150
Sustainability Project	50
Final Paper	100
Total points	350

Final Grades: To determine your final percentage, divide your final point total by the total points available in the class (300). Any final percentage total less than 65% will result in a final grade of E. Grades are calculated and assigned using the following plus/minus percentages. Final grades will not be rounded up or down.

A+	98%
A	95%
A-	92%

B+	88%
B	85%
B-	82%
C+	78%
C	70%
D	65%

Readings:

There is a selection of readings that are required for everyone to read, all of which are available as files or e-book links on the Required Reading page on the Blackboard site. These chapters and articles have been selected to provide a background in the history, politics and economics of the region. This is the very minimal amount of material that participants on the program must read. The Blackboard site has many more readings available, and everyone is encouraged to read as much as possible in order to make an informed analysis of what you observe and hear on the trip.

Elliot, J. (2009) *What is Sustainable Development? **An Introduction to Sustainable Development***

Miller, S.G. (2013) Chapters 5-9: 1930s to present, **A History of Modern Morocco**

Dawson, C. (2009) Chapter 4: *Relations between Morocco and the EU, **EU Integration with North Africa***

Sater, J. (2009) Introduction and Chapter 4: *The Challenges of Economic Development, **Morocco: Challenges to Tradition and Modernity***

Plus: two journal articles also on the Blackboard site: *The Changing Face of Morocco under Hassan II and the Preservation of Fez's Medina*

Participation:

Participation begins in Arizona with the required reading list! It is very important that you gain as much background knowledge as possible on the countries that we are going to visit. Participation also means attending the required orientation meetings, unless we are notified that you are not able to attend due to class or another obligation. During the trip participation refers to attending all program-related visits and meetings, as well as taking an active role in discussions, and attending all events dressed appropriately, well rested and prepared for learning.

Group Projects:

These will involve evaluation of sustainable solutions in each of the three main sites: Marrakesh, Ouarzazate, and Boumia. (This part of syllabus to be further developed, as details about each project and NGO emerges.....)

Research Paper:

The **final research paper** is due after the trip is finished, but before the deadline for summer session I grades, onat midnight Arizona time. By this time you'll have had feedback from your fellow students during your presentation, time to discuss your research with the faculty, and time to complete all of your research. While you may add additional secondary sources, the paper should reflect clearly on what you learned while on the ground in Morocco. On the trip you'll have the chance to explore your topic

in ways that simply aren't possible in the United States. You'll be able to observe some of the issues you researched for your outline first hand as well as have the opportunity to ask some of the Moroccan people you'll meet for information that is directly relevant to your project. This final paper should be submitted to the Blackboard site under Paper Assignment by the deadline.

Sustainability Project:

There are several key questions we should all be asking ourselves as we leave ASU and the U.S. for Morocco and Spain to study sustainable developmentWhat is sustainable development? What is development? Does everyone have the same definitions and concepts? How do the cultural and national contexts shape these perceptions? Related to these questions, this project should be fun and involves creativity: Take 3 photos or brief (1-2 minutes) film clips that record images that represent some element of sustainability and development in the context of the countries being visited, either Morocco or Spain. Each image should be accompanied by a brief (around 200 words each) explanation of the image and how it relates to one of the points below. If you do not have a camera, phone or ipad to take the image you can borrow one from the faculty or other students. A link will be set up for posting on the Blackboard site under Sustainability Project. We will also have discussion of some of these photos/videos throughout the trip, so you may also be asked to share and discuss some of your images.

Take 3 pictures or short video clips:

1. Something sustainable (in your view): A positive image, a sustainable image; sometimes older, traditional practices can be the most sustainable. It could also reflect a different concept of what you have assumed, or been taught about sustainability and sustainable development.
2. Something not sustainable (in your view): A negative image, a non-sustainable image; or, it could be mixed, positive and negative that is clearly explained in your short narrative
3. What is development? Show an image of 'development' within the cultural context of where the image was taken; does it challenge U.S. perspectives on development and sustainable development?

Working Itinerary 2016: This itinerary includes all MANDATORY course activities in which all participants are expected to actively participate. Time not scheduled for program events is free time.

This is a 'working itinerary' because many of the specific meetings with local officials and other people in Morocco are in the process of being confirmed. Some of the confirmed meetings can also change as well. Dates for locations and lodgings will not change. We will also have frequent class meetings to debrief and share ideas about the day, usually in the evenings. Breakfasts are included every day. Lunches and dinners not stated are not included, and time not accounted for is free time. You will be notified of any changes to our schedule, and the final itinerary will be posted on our Blackboard course site.

May 14 (Sat) - Arrive in Morocco
May 15 (Sun) – Rabat – tour – MENA Policy workshop
May 16 (Mon) – Rabat - Government meetings – sustainable development
May 17 (Tues) – Marrakesh – NGO: High Atlas Foundation – rural community development using organic agriculture
May 18 (Wed) – Marrakesh
May 19 (Thurs) – Marrakesh
May 20 (Fri) – Marrakesh
May 21 (Sat) – Marrakesh
May 22 (Sun) – Ouarzazate (Dar Taliba) – NGO: Tichka Foundation – local energy solutions – solar on houses – and education
May 23 (Mon) – Ouarzazate
May 24 (Tues) – Ouarzazate
May 25 (Wed) – Ouarzazate
May 26 (Thurs) – Ouarzazate
May 27 (Fri) - Ouarzazate
May 28 (Sat) – Boulman Dades
May 29 (Sun) – Merzouga – Desert Camp
May 30 (Mon) – Merzouga – Riad Nezha
May 31 (Tues) - Boumia - NGO: Midelt Apple Association – value added products from organic apple farming
June 1 (Wed) - Boumia
June 2 (Thurs) - Boumia
June 3 (Fri) - Boumia
June 4 (Sat) –Meknes – Azrou Community Development Center on the way
June 5 (Sun) – Fez – sustainable city
June 6 (Mon) - Rabat
June 7 (Tues) - Program over

Final Paper due June.....– Upload on Blackboard site by midnight

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**ASU and Morocco//Spain Program Policies:**

**Student Code of Conduct**

Students are required to adhere to the behavior standards listed below:

- Arizona Board of Regents Policy Manual Chapter V – Campus and Student Affairs: Code of Conduct <http://www.azregents.edu/policymanual/default.aspx>,
- ACD 125: Computer, Internet, and Electronic Communications <http://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acd125.htm>, and
- the ASU Student Academic Integrity Policy <http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/srr/index.htm>.

IN ADDITION, Arizona State University students abroad are representing the University as well as the U.S., and are expected as well as follow the laws and cultural norms of the host countries that we will visit. Furthermore, students on this study abroad program are expected to be on time for all meetings and group activities, and be prepared, including being well rested and well dressed. Some days we will have early morning departures for which one student being late could cause the entire group to miss out on a visit or activity. It is expected that all students will keep the needs of the group in mind and conduct themselves accordingly.

### **Dress Code:**

Business casual dress will be expected for all mandatory program visits and meetings. In our free time you should observe the local culture and dress more conservatively than you would in the U.S. This is especially true in Morocco where more conservative dress – avoiding sleeveless shirts and shorts – for both men and women is the norm. This will be covered extensively in the orientation meetings, and everyone is expected to make wise clothing choices.

### **Plagiarism:**

Academic integrity and honesty is expected of all students at Arizona State University, and is so stated in the ASU Student Code of Conduct (available at <http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/>). Plagiarism or cheating can result in the grade of "XE". The XE grade denotes failure through academic dishonesty. For more information on plagiarism and the ramifications of academic dishonesty see: [http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/academic\\_integrity.htm](http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/academic_integrity.htm). Students are responsible for understanding these policies and following proper academic research and citation protocol.

### **Title IX:**

Title IX is a federal law that provides that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited. An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at <http://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs/students>.

### **Establishing a Safe Environment:**

Learning takes place best when a safe environment is established on the program. Students enrolled in this course have a responsibility to support an environment that nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engaged, honest discussions. The success of the course rests on your ability to create a safe environment where everyone feels comfortable to share and explore ideas. We must also be willing to take risks and ask critical questions. Doing so will effectively contribute to our own and others intellectual and personal growth and development. We welcome disagreements in the spirit of critical academic exchange, but please remember to be respectful of others' viewpoints, whether you agree with them or not.

### **Harassment Prohibited:**

ASU policy prohibits discrimination, harassment or retaliation on the basis of race, sex, gender identity, age, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, and veteran status. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, including termination of employees or expulsion of students. Contact the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (480-965-6547) if you feel another student is harassing you based on any of the factors above; contact the Office of Equity and Inclusion (480-965-5057) if you feel an ASU employee is harassing you based on any of the factors above. Title IX is a federal law that provides that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited. An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at <http://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs/students>.

### **Drop and Add Dates/Withdrawals**

Please refer to the [academic calendar](#) on the deadlines to drop/withdraw from this course. Consult with your advisor and notify your instructor if you are going to drop/withdraw this course. If you are considering a withdrawal, review the following ASU policies: [Withdrawal from Classes](#), [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal](#). Please note that the ASU Academic Calendar only refers to withdrawal for the academic portion of your study abroad program. Please refer to the [Study Abroad Withdrawal Policies](#) for important dates regarding withdrawing from your Faculty Directed program.

### **Grade Appeals**

ASU has formal and informal channels to appeal a grade. If you wish to appeal any grading decisions, please see <http://catalog.asu.edu/appeal>.

### **Incompletes**

A mark of "I" (incomplete) is given by the instructor when you have completed most of the course and are otherwise doing acceptable work but are unable to complete the course because of illness or other conditions beyond your control. You are required to arrange with the instructor for the completion of the course requirements. The arrangement must be recorded on the [Request for Grade of Incomplete form](#) (<http://students.asu.edu/forms/incomplete-grade-request>).

### **Syllabus Disclaimer:**

The course syllabus is an educational contract between the instructor and students. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as deemed necessary. Students will be notified in a timely manner of any syllabus changes via email, or in the *Announcements* section on Blackboard.

### **Morocco Facebook Page:**

The Morocco ASU Facebook page has been created for participants in this program, and is to be used only for information and communication directly related to the program, including information and news about Morocco and the program.