

Press Release: July 19, 2010

This summer the Intelligence Community Center for Academic Excellence is sponsoring 10 students abroad. The IC-CAE has sent 2 students to study the Japanese language in Japan for 2 months, 2 students to study the Chinese language in China for 2 months and 6 students to Egypt to study Arabic for 2 months.

The Program coordinator, Nicole Kristol, for the center had the privilege of accompanying the students to Egypt for the first 2 weeks. For the 2 months, the students will not only be enrolled in rigorous language class but will also receive credit for cultural lectures and excursions. They will be attending cultural classes and have complete staff support while they are there from Amideast, a companies whose mission is as follows “Strengthening mutual understanding and cooperation between Americans and the peoples of the Middle East and North Africa.” Amideast runs many different programs and understands Egyptian culture very well and because of their vast knowledge and history in the country we trust their study abroad program will give the students invaluable lessons. The students will be taking Arabic class at Arab Academy, in which has trained over 23000 individuals, and works specially with schools, universities, corporations, and organizations on all different levels of Arabic.



Enjoying a Bedouin meal in Siwa Oasis



The Students outside a tomb in Siwa Oasis

While Nicki was in Egypt she was able to sit in on Orientation from the support staff for the students in Egypt, sit in on Arabic classes, travel to the pyramids and listen to the lectures, ride a camel from the pyramids to the sphinx, travel ten hours west to Siwa Oasis (right outside the Sahara Desert), just to name a few. Both programs went above and beyond her expectations and she has high hopes for the students this summer.

The students are in for a unique experience this summer. Although they have a very busy schedule, they are given the opportunity to study all aspects of Egyptian Culture, including the language. I am also sure the students in China and Japan are receiving a similar experience and will have many stories to share when they return.

When all the students return, they are required to turn in a written report on their experiences. We will include the highlights on our website so please check back.



Students listening to a lecture



Students enjoying their camel ride next to the Pyramids