



Talia Duniyak in Jordan

In May of 2014, I packed my bags to head out on a seven-month study abroad experience. I started by doing a language intensive program followed by an internship in Bonn, Germany. In Germany, I focused on improving my language skills for my German major, both by writing and by working for a local radio station.

After living in Germany for more than three months, I flew a few more time zones away to Amman, Jordan. While in Amman, I studied with the CIEE Language + Culture program, focusing on Arabic Language and English Literature. It was a fascinating experience getting to read and examine post-colonial literatures written throughout the Arab world. During my time in Jordan, some of the most memorable moments were attending a lecture series given by native women from all over the country. Listening to these women and female authors discuss what it's like being an empowered woman in the Middle East was a once in a lifetime experience.

By studying abroad in both a traditional and non-traditional location, I gained a level of understanding of other cultures that I never would have gotten if I had stayed on Lehigh's campus for my whole four years. I would recommend studying abroad for every English major because it opens your eyes not only to the other literatures and lifestyles around the world but also to other cultures and people.

Talia Duniyak '16