

MOROCCO

FIELD SCHOOL SPRING-SUMMER 2026



Morocco is rich in complexity, and anthropologists have long researched, theorized, and written about the people who traverse, work, claim, contest, negotiate, barter, marry, worship, migrate from and return to this place. This ethnographic field school will be in Fez Morocco, a 1200-year-old city that has experienced intense urban change, with a community development project in nearby Sefrou. Students will receive training in anthropology research methods and collaborate with Moroccan university students to identify and ethnographically research a social, political, cultural or environmental issue. Potential topics include gender, social customs and rituals; education, Sufism and spirituality; medicine and magic; multispecies relations; as well as youth and social movements. Students will spend two weeks contextualizing Fez by traveling around Morocco (a week in the south, and a week in the north), two weeks working on a group medical anthropology project, and eight weeks embedding themselves into a social context and collecting ethnographic data collaboratively in Fez. Students will also be introduced to historical and ethnographic studies of Morocco and attend guest lectures from scholars who do fieldwork in Morocco, focusing on anthropological representations of peoples, places, and phenomena. We will discuss how scholars have captured life in Moroccan communities and how the process of describing “Moroccans” and “Maghariba” (North Africans) contributes to anthropological theories of personhood, identity, gender, religion, illness, politics, and economics.

DATES

24 April - 17 July 2026 (approximate)

HOUSING

Students will live with local host families. Home stays are recommended, as it will facilitate the experience of cultural immersion and also provide students with a way to situate data conducted in their fieldwork.

COURSES

Students must register for 12 credit hours during the spring-summer semester from the following courses:

ANTHR 340—Peoples of the Middle East (3 credit hours)

ANTHR 370—Designing Community Based Interventions (3 credit hours)

ANTHR 495R—Ethnographic Field Project (6 credit hours) or 6 other internship credits

Students may not take any other courses on this program, including BYU Online courses, without approval by the program director and ISP.

COST

\$5,100 - 5,600

Includes Latter-day Saint undergraduate full tuition (increased cost for graduate and non-Latter-day Saint students), housing, meals, in-country excursions, and international health insurance.

Does not include airfare, prep course tuition, intra city transportation (taxis), mobile phone data, or personal expenses.

TRAVEL

Students are responsible for purchasing their own airfare to and from the program sites. Airfare reservations must be made through BYU Travel. Students should contact a BYU Travel agent.

BYU Travel | 280 HRCB | (801) 422-6293 | travel@byu.edu

PREPARATION

All anthropology students wanting to use the field school experience for thesis research must take ANTHR 442—Ethnographic Research Design and Methods prior to departure. All other students are strongly encouraged to take this course in order to develop their research proposal and learn principles of social science research.

Accepted students are also required to enroll in ANTHR 390R—Moroccan Culture and Language (3 credits) during the Winter 2026 semester. Part-time BYU students and non-BYU students will need to pay an additional tuition fee. Accompanying spouses need to be credit-bearing participants on the program. Spouses will also need to apply online and take the preparation course.

International study programs are physically, emotionally, and mentally taxing and you must be in good health to participate. These programs often take place in international locations that do not have the same level of safety and services in terms of transportation, living conditions, residential accommodations, food, public behavior, and policing that you may be used to on campus. If you have further questions or concerns on this, please see <https://kenedy.byu.edu/isp-travel-policy>

Students must meet all country- and program-specific COVID and health requirements for travel.

FUNDING SOURCES

Regular BYU tuition scholarships, Pell Grants, and Federal Insured Student Loans may be applied to study abroad programs. Students who submit the financial aid section of the ISP application and who have a current FAFSA form on file at the Financial Aid Office (A-41 ASB) will be considered for a Study Abroad scholarship. Academic departments and colleges may assist with scholarships and grants. Private grants and scholarships outside of BYU may also assist (see kenedy.byu.edu/scholarships).

Additional funding, such as department experiential learning funds, may be available and eligible students can apply for such funding based on either merit and/or demonstrated need. Please consult the director to discuss this and other possible funding options.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Students must be 18 years of age or older to participate. Complete the online application at kenedy.byu.edu/isp-apply. A nonrefundable \$35 application fee is required; applicants will be interviewed once the application is complete. Students will be notified via e-mail of their acceptance into the program. The first payment is due upon acceptance.

Priority Deadline: 30 September 2025

Application Deadline: 3 November 2025

FACULTY

Becky Schulthies is the faculty director for the field school. Professor Schulthies teaches courses in the Department of Anthropology and has led field schools in Morocco previously.

Becky Schulthies | 884 KMBL | becky_schulthies@byu.edu

SCHEDULE AND TIME COMMITMENT

Students should refrain from scheduling late arrivals and early departures.

INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT

International Study Programs

101 HRCB | (801) 422-3686 | isp@byu.edu | kenedy.byu.edu/isp

PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS

International Study Programs (ISP) reserves the right to cancel this program, revise its offerings, or make any adjustments to the preliminary cost. If it becomes necessary for ISP to cancel a program, all program payments made to BYU ISP will be refunded to the student's BYU financial account. ISP is the only office authorized to cancel any of its programs.