



Intercultural Studies

Travel Study
Saudi Arabia | Oman | United Arab Emirates

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Danube University Krems. Intercultural Studies.
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We live in a time of global flows of people, goods, services, and ideas. The emerging academic field of Intercultural Studies reflects the growing demand for expertise and skills in navigating an increasingly interconnected world and offers a framework for orientating oneself in the midst of these ongoing processes of change. Since 2003, the Intercultural Studies Program at Danube University Krems has been offering seminars abroad to provide a real-world setting within which to experience intercultural challenges and to apply intercultural knowledge and skills. These seminars, taught abroad by local experts and expatriates, give participants the opportunity to immerse themselves in a foreign culture within the structured environment of a guided experience.

This seminar will take place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and in various locations in Oman and the United Arab Emirates. It will give participants the opportunity to gain insights into the complexity of the multidimensional social and cultural layers of a region that is likely to undergo major changes in the near future.

Intercultural Studies at Danube University Krems

Objectives

- > To become familiar with recent political, economic, social and cultural changes in the region
- > To gain an understanding of the region's diversity, in particular as concerns the different spheres inhabited by men and women: local citizens, migrant professionals and laborers, rich and poor, urban and rural, young and old
- > To interact with local decision-makers, professors, students, entrepreneurs and expatriates
- > To experience and reflect on various life and work issues in this region

Methods

- > Examination of one's own stereotypes with regard to the region
- > Preparatory reading
- > Presentations (with discussions) in English at different universities
- > Meetings with Arab decision-makers and expatriates in their workplaces
- > On-site projects for small groups; guided tours and excursions to sites of political, economic, cultural and/or religious importance
- > Visits to sites and institutions of contemporary urban culture
- > Structured debriefing of the academic experience and personal impressions

Program content

- > Lectures on Arabic social structures, politics and economic policies at universities in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia), Muscat and Buraimi (Oman), Abu Dhabi and Dubai (UAE)
- > Learning about Arabic cultural traditions in the context of changes and challenges brought about by globalization
- > Exploration of living and working conditions for local citizens, expatriates and migrant workers in the Sultanate of Oman, with a special focus on gender relations
- > Guided self-study projects to learn about changes and challenges to Arab social structures and cultural traditions in the context of globalization



Facilitator

Prof. Dr. Johann Günther

A former Vice Chancellor of the University of Buraimi, Oman, Prof. Günther has spent his professional life in various positions in higher education and business, dividing his time about equally between Austria and locations abroad. In addition to being based in Oman, he has worked in China, Russia, Kosovo, Singapore and Paris.



Dress Code

While staying in Riyadh, women will be required to wear a head scarf and a long-sleeved dress or a long-sleeved top (worn over slacks or a long skirt). Men will need one formal outfit (jacket and tie). Casual sports clothes and comfortable shoes for walking are appropriate for all other locations on the itinerary.

Prerequisites

Participants should have good English language skills and be motivated by pursuing a serious interest in intercultural issues, particularly as they apply to this region. The ability to conform to regional religious regulations, especially while in Saudi Arabia, is a must.

Accommodation

All program participants will be offered a special rate for accommodations at comfortable 3- or 4-star hotels. Participants are also free to make their own arrangements at area hotels or hostels.

Travel

Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements: this includes booking their own flights and arranging for the necessary visas, immunizations and traveller's health insurance.

Program Fee

The program fee is **1,500 euros** .

This includes all program materials, lectures and project fees, group transportation within Saudi Arabia, Oman and the UAE, and all admission fees. It does not include costs for visas, flights, hotels or meals.





Danube University Krems is specialized in academic continuing education and offers exclusive master's programs and courses in the fields of • Medicine, Health and Social Services • Economics and Business Management • Law, Administration and International Affairs • Education, Media and Communication as well as • Arts, Culture and Building. With nearly 7,000 students and 14,000 alumni from 80 countries, Danube University Krems is one of the leading providers of structured courses throughout Europe. The university combines more than 15 years of experience in postgraduate education with innovation in research and teaching. Krems is located in the unique natural and cultural landscape of the Wachau Region, eighty kilometers outside of Vienna.

Danube University Krems
The University for Continuing Education



Information

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