

**International Insurance** All program participants must purchase separate international travel insurance that will provide basic medical, medical evacuation and repatriation coverage (approximately \$200). The Global Education Center will make the actual purchase when all payments are in. Insurance will cover from day left to day returned. International Student Identification Cards are also available for purchase from NWC Global Education Center.

**Eligibility** Northwestern and non-Northwestern sophomores, juniors and seniors with a minimum GPA of 2.5 are eligible to apply.

**Application** The Oman Semester Program application is online and consists of a study abroad application form, three recommendations (two from faculty members, one from a resident director), and an academic transcript. Non-NWC students must fill out a guest application to NWC and be accepted before applying to Oman Semester. More information is available on [www.nwciowa.edu/oman](http://www.nwciowa.edu/oman).

**Application Process** For NWC students the application deadline is **February 10** of the previous academic year before you plan to study in Oman. The deadline for non-NWC students is determined by the study abroad offices at their home institution but cannot be later than October of the semester preceding the spring semester in Oman.

**Program Fee** The program fee will be the same as Northwestern College on-campus tuition/room/board plus airfare. It includes tuition for 16 credits, in-country transportation, housing, most meals or meal per diem, orientation, and all program excursions and retreats. Visit [www.nwciowa.edu/tuition](http://www.nwciowa.edu/tuition) for current rates. All participants will need to cover airfare, books (est. \$100-\$150), passport and pictures, immunizations/vaccines, international insurance and individual travel and spending money, among other items.

**Deposit** Upon acceptance into the program, a \$250.00 deposit (cash or check made payable to NWC) will be required to hold a participant's spot. This deposit will be applied to the final program fee and is due on or around October 1.

**Financial Aid** All applicable Northwestern College financial aid applies for Northwestern College Students. Contact the NWC Financial Aid Office for more information. Non-Northwestern College students should contact their own college's financial aid offices.

**For more information:**

**CONTACT**

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Study abroad in

**OMAN**

spring semester

JOURNEY TO THE MOST PROGRESSIVE  
COUNTRY IN THE MIDDLE EAST TO STUDY  
ARABIC, MUSLIM CULTURE, ISLAM, AND  
INTERFAITH DIALOGUE.

AL-AMANA  
  
CENTRE

  
NORTHWESTERN  
COLLEGE  
Orange City, Iowa

Wahiba Sands—longitudinal dunes 200km long and 100km wide running south from the Eastern Hajars to the Arabian Sea. Picture from Dr. Scott Monsma



## Semester Program

- ◇ Muscat, Oman
- ◇ Spring (mid-January to early May)
- ◇ Course Offerings:
  - ◇ Introduction to Arabic (6 credits)
  - ◇ Christian-Muslim Relations (4 credits)
  - ◇ Oman Culture and Society (4 credits)
  - ◇ Integrative Experiential Learning (2 credits)

**Description** Northwestern College, in conjunction with the Al Amana Centre of Muscat, Oman, is pleased to offer a unique semester experience engaging the culture of Oman. This program will provide participants an opportunity to discover this rich and diverse Middle Eastern nation and to engage in a vibrant dialogue about Islam, Arab culture, and—more specifically—Omani culture. Combining cultural immersion with academic rigor, students will gain an understanding of some of the important questions facing a traditional culture that is rapidly modernizing.

The Al Amana Centre represents over one hundred years of work in Oman. This legacy opens doors to people and experiences not available to others. Aside from time spent in Muscat, participants will venture beyond the capital city to truly discover the diversity of Oman. The modern city gives way to small oasis villages, date palm farms and Bedouin lifestyles. To experience these elements of life in Oman, participants will be given ample opportunities to engage and observe more traditional Omani life through various excursions and activities.

**Location** The Oman Semester will take place in the cities of Muscat, Nizwa, and Manah. Oman is located in the Middle East and occupies the southeast corner of the Arabian Peninsula. It borders Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to the west, Yemen to the south, the Strait of Hormuz to the north and the Arabian Sea to the east. Muscat is the capital of Oman and is also Oman's financial and trade center. The wilayat of Manah is thought to be the first resting place of Malik bin Fahim al Azdi before the Arabs entered Oman when the Maa'rab Dam in Yemen broke. Nizwa is in the A'Dakhliah region and is known as the "Pearl of Islam" due to its important contribution in bringing Islam to Oman.

### Faculty and Staff

Rev. Doug Leonard, the director of the Oman Semester, is ordained in the Reformed Church in America and is the Director of the Al Amana Centre. He earned an M. Div. degree at Princeton Theological Seminary and has studied Arabic at the Qasid Institute in Amman, Jordan. Rev. Leonard will supervise the semester program and teach the course on Christian-Muslim Relations.

### Course and Credit

All participants will take four courses: Introduction to Arabic, Christian-Muslim Relations, Oman Culture and Society, and Integrative Experiential Learning. Northwestern College will grant 16 credits upon completion of the program. The credits from the Oman semester fulfill Northwestern's General Education Cross-cultural requirement and the foreign language requirement and can also be used toward completing a minor in Middle East Studies and Cultural Studies at Northwestern. Please see Boryana Dobreva for more information.

**Transportation** NWC will assist students in arranging their tickets to Muscat, Oman. Generally, all in-country transportation costs will be covered by the program or via a per diem. Specific travel instructions will be communicated to all accepted students in a timely manner.

**Housing and Meals** Students will stay at the Al Amana Centre located in Muttrah, the historic section of

Muscat. A resident director will be on-campus, and students will take their meals at The Centre.

**Excursions and Day Trips** During the semester, participants will take four weekend trips to discover the diversity within Oman. Included will be excursions into the interior via the coastal road. There will also be opportunities to hear guest lecturers, attend lectures at the Grand Mosque and hear presentations at the Historical Association of Oman. In students' free time, they will be able to visit local museums, go snorkeling, dolphin watching, trek in the mountains, and more.

**Pre-departure orientation** All students must complete all pre-departure requirements to participate in NWC study abroad programs. This includes attending your country-specific pre-departure orientation. *There are no exceptions.* Further information and dates will be provided and confirmed upon acceptance into the program.

**Passport and Visa** For U.S. Citizens, a passport and travel visa are required for travel to Oman. Participants are responsible for applying for and obtaining their own passport. NWC will assist with obtaining visas (once on-site.) For more information, please contact Boryana Dobreva or Nancy Landhuis. Complete information on entry/exit requirements for Oman is also available at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov).

**Vaccinations and Health Information** The Centers for Disease Control ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) recommends that all travelers to Oman be up to date on routine immunizations. The program **requires** that participants have up-to-date tetanus and diphtheria (Td) vaccinations and receive Hepatitis A vaccinations. Other immunization decisions should be made in consultation with your personal physician. Please plan ahead and visit your doctor at least six weeks prior to departure as certain immunizations require several visits or need several weeks to take effect. For specific health threats for visitors to Oman, please visit the Centers for Disease Control website (<http://www.cdc.gov>) for more information and complete details.

**Disclaimer:** All information in this brochure and program specific details are subject to change. Please contact the Global Education Center with questions.

