



# GILEAD PROGRAM

## Spring Semester 2019



### The **Gilead Program**

The Gilead Program is a full-time semester-length missionary preparation course in culture and language.

We have run a similar program for six years on behalf of a professor at a major U.S. Bible College and we are now offering it on a wider basis.

The program offers students a one of a kind combination of immersion in Arabic language and culture while at the same time enabling students to study in one of the lands of the Bible. Not only will students be able to make a start in learning Arabic and Arabic culture they will also be able to do this in a country saturated with the biblical narrative. Students may earn up to 18 credit hours.



You will be spending the Spring semester at the Kelsey Arabic Program where you will be studying colloquial and written Arabic. This proven language program will help begin to unlock the mysteries of one of the world's most difficult



languages. In only a few short months, you will be on a path towards beginning to understand and communicate in colloquial Arabic as well as gaining some of the rudiments of reading and writing. The 12 credit hour language component of the Gilead program allows you to fulfill the language requirements of many colleges in just one semester. Your fledgling Arabic skills will enhance your time in Jordan, although students need to be aware that Arabic is one of the hardest languages for English speakers and that they will only be able to learn a limited amount in one semester

### **What is the Kelsey Arabic Program?**

For more than fifty years the Kelsey Arabic Program has proved itself as an effective language learning institute for

those whose aim is to engage in ministry in the Arab world. With a thoroughly international flavor the Program is primarily for Christian workers. Thus, students will be able to study alongside those who are already, or who are hoping to serve Christ in the Arab World.

### **What is JETS?**

JETS is an Arabic-medium seminary, now situated in its own premises near Amman, offering courses at both a Bachelors and a Masters level and accredited by agencies in Asia, the Middle East and Europe. JETS, like the Kelsey school is involved in the training of Christian workers for the Arab world. Most are from Jordan, Egypt and Sudan. Gilead students will have their own courses in English but will nonetheless be able to be part of a second institution- alongside the Kelsey Arabic Program- that is helping to prepare people for service in this critical part of the world. Transferred credits from the Kelsey Arabic Program will appear on your JETS transcript as the Kelsey Arabic Program is a

non-accredited  
institution and offer  
their courses to the  
Program on behalf  
of JETS.

## **Why Jordan?**

Over the years Jordan has continued to be a relatively user-friendly country in which to learn Arabic. The tragic events that have taken place in neighboring countries have arguably made it the premier choice for those wanting to study Arabic for Christian ministry. Jordan is an ideal place for getting a feel for overseas service.

A second reason for studying in Jordan is its affinity with the culture of Bible times. As well as its connection with a number of personalities and events mentioned in the Bible, Jordan offers students insights into the world of the Bible because of the relative closeness between Arabic culture and the culture of the Old and New Testaments. With this in mind, the Life in Bible Times course is enriched by being studied in the land.

## **Who should come on the program?**

The Gilead Program is for any student thinking of missionary service in the future and who is interested in hands-on overseas experience, especially in the Arab world. While Gilead is a study program, and not an extended mission trip, students will also have a regular ministry placement. This placement is sometimes among expatriates which is valuable in giving insights into what it is like for families serving as missionaries in this part of the world.

## **When does the Gilead program start and end?**

You will need to arrive in Amman by January 10. It is highly preferred that all students arrive on the same day. All classes will continue until the end of the JETS and Kelsey school Spring Semester sometime in late May.

## **Where will I be living?**

You will be living in a shared apartment in Amman or in a church guest house.

## **Will I need a visa before I come?**

As an American citizen, you can obtain an entry visa at the border. Your passport must be valid for at least 1 year from your date of arrival in Jordan.

## What about the cost?

Payments will need to be made according to the following schedule:

**Payment 1: November 10 - \$900**

**Payment 2: January 10 – \$3,000\***



These payments include fees, tuition, accommodation for the duration of the program. The following are not included: food, utilities and day-to-day transport within Amman, and transport to and from the States. We recommend that you budget around **\$1,500** living expenses during the semester, although many find they can live for less. This includes a reasonable budget for food, utilities including cell phone, and daily transportation (apart from the transportation to and from Jets twice a week which is the responsibility of Jets). This does not include discretionary spending nor any medical insurance or medical related expenses. The Gilead program offers no medical coverage of any sort and students are responsible for medical expenses they may incur. Students should have medical insurance that covers Jordan and will be asked to provide details of the insurance program they are covered by when they make their first payment. JETS is a faith institution that does not have funds to pay for students' medical expenses nor to evacuate them should circumstances require it. Student insurance should definitely include any activities that students intend to do in Jordan. For example, if you want to do rock climbing or scuba diving you should make sure you are covered for it. All students are required to have a cellular or i-Phone , partly for safety reasons. Not all US cellular phones function here and thus they are probably best purchased in Jordan.

\* JETS is not adding any profit margin to the costs of the Gilead Program and make no charge for administration costs. For this reason, if the housing costs of the group exceed the amount that JETS has budgeted for accommodation, then this sum will have to be added to the fees. This is unlikely to exceed a few hundred dollars at the most and prospective students will be informed before the first payment is to be made so that they have an opportunity to withdraw should they so choose.

## Possible trips

In order to be affordable, the program does not include trips which are extra. Usually students will want to visit places like Petra and need to take account of these additional expenses. A 2017 similar program did a budget trip in the south of Jordan which was around \$400-500.

We have calculated that a three-day, two-night trip to Israel would be somewhere in the region of \$500 -600 which sounds a lot but would be all inclusive; we usually have to use a travel agency with a group or more that two or three and so the cost rises considerably.

## What will we study?

### Fall Semester

Arabic Language	12 Credit Hours
Arab Culture	3 Credit Hours
Life in Bible Times	3 Credit Hours
Issues in Missionary Life	0 Credit Hours

### The JETS courses:

*Life in Bible Times* is a Bible background course that aims to exploit to the full the presence of the students in the 'Holy Land'.

*Arab Culture* looks at all the main aspects of the Arab World today.

*Issues in Missionary Life*, taught by serving missionaries is a non-credit course, encouraging students to think through some of the issues involved in being an effective missionary in the 21st century.

## What sort of free time will I have?

During the Spring semester of full time Arabic study, classes are held four mornings a week and there is plenty of homework to do in the afternoons or evenings. Twice a week you will be coming out to JETS for your classes there. It will be a very busy semester of study. Sundays are free days although many will want to go to an Arabic church service, part of their requirements in the Kelsey Arabic Program.

Besides Sundays, you will also have Fridays off. There are breaks for both Christian and Muslim holidays.

### **Jordan and Safety**

For decades, Jordan has been an oasis of safety and stability in an increasingly unstable and war-torn region. While we do not anticipate any change in the overall picture for Jordan in the coming year, we are keenly aware of what is happening around us and pay close attention to advisories from the US Embassy in Amman, with whom students are required to register on arrival. With this in mind, we have in place a pro-active safety and evacuation plan, under the supervision of a committee, whose protocols will be triggered by specific events and situations, should they arise.

**When is the application deadline?**

November 1, in order to allow sufficient time to confirm accommodation arrangements in Jordan.

**For Further Information**

**Kelsey Arabic Program:**

<http://kelseyarabicprogram.org>

Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary

<http://www.jets.edu/>

**JETS: Amman International Church:**

<http://www.ammanchurch.org/>

**For General Information on Jordan:**

<http://www.visitjordan.com/>

<http://www.jordanjubilee.com/>

**Further Inquiries:**

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