



Study abroad, participate in a travel course, live with a local family, learn a new language, or volunteer in southwestern Morocco with

DAR SI HMAD
for Development, Education, and Culture



Dar Si Hmad for Development, Education and Culture is a leading Moroccan non-profit organization based in Agadir and Sidi Ifni that works with local communities on cultural, educational, and environmental projects, including one of the world's largest fogwater harvesting projects – and the only one of its kind in North Africa. Dar Si Hmad facilitates access to clean water in remote rural Amazigh/Berber villages in southern Morocco. Additionally, Dar Si Hmad educates rural children about water and sustainable development through our unique Water School, supports women-led Argan oil and cacti cooperatives, and empowers youth to participate in the development of their communities.

Specifically, Dar Si Hmad's leading project uses pioneering technology to harvest pure water from fog and deliver it to rural Berber communities previously without access to potable water. In symbiosis with this project, Dar Si Hmad's water school teaches children about sustainable water practices and the natural environment through interactive and engaging games and lessons. Our innovative e-learning platform is a parallel program for older girls, who are the first generation to leave their villages to continue their education. Through digital educational support services, we help these marginalized high school students excel in



school and prepare to pass their national exams. In urban Agadir, Dar Si Hmad works with young adults from universities and vocational schools to train them to succeed in their careers.

Dar Si Hmad invites international researchers, faculty, and students to be a part of our inspiring work with local communities by facilitating academic and cultural programs, service learning opportunities, and homestays. We offer courses that encourage students to engage meaningfully with local cultures and languages, creating spaces for rich cross-cultural exchange and learning. Dar Si Hmad also coordinates language classes in:

Tashelheet
Darija
Modern Standard Arabic

With offices in the center of Agadir and the seaside fishing town of Sidi Ifni, Dar Si Hmad is perfectly located to support students and researchers as they explore the rich socio-cultural heritage of southwestern Morocco. To date, Dar Si Hmad has hosted over 200 students from over 50 universities across the United States and Europe, including long-term partnerships with Georgetown University and Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI).

Partnering with us not only offers students a unique opportunity to engage with local populations and participate in community-driven development initiatives, but also creates a platform for innovative dialogue and international research in a traditionally underrepresented region of Morocco.

Vision: Enable sustainable livelihoods and create opportunities for low-resource communities to learn and prosper

Mission: Dar Si Hmad promotes local culture and creates sustainable initiatives through education and the integration and use of scientific ingenuity with the communities of Southwest Morocco.



Dar Si Hmad develops unique programs built around professors' and students' interests. We specialize in the following themes, but also custom-design programs:

Environment, Ecology, and Sustainable Development

- ① Module I: Critical Southern Perspectives on Development
- ① Module II: Ethnobotany & Permaculture: Argan, Aknari, Zaatar, and Apiculture
- ① Module III: Water Systems and Rural Livelihoods

Globalization and Local Economies

- ① Module I: Tourism and the Commodification of Culture
- ① Module II: Subsistence Agriculture and Innovative Farming Practices
- ① Module III: Fishing, the Fruits of the Sea
- ① Module IV: Women's Livelihoods: Argan and Aknari Cooperatives

Contemporary Expressions of Culture

- ① Module I: Poetry, Literature and Sociolinguistics
- ① Module II: Art, Photography, and Cinema
- ① Module III: Music and Dance: Rhythms of Southwest Morocco
- ① Module IV: Breaking Bread: Traditions of Moroccan Cuisine

Sociohistorical Transformations and Narratives of Identity

- ① Module I: Education and Youth Voices of Morocco
- ① Module II: Building Communities
- ① Module III: Ethnolinguistic Relations: Arabs and Berbers of the South
- ① Module IV: Lived Experiences of Gender and Sexuality
- ① Module V: Passing Through: Migration and Marginalization

Embodiments of Tradition and Modernity

- ① Module I: Urban and Rural Institutions of Governance: Politics on the Margins
- ① Module II: Health and Healing: Medical Anthropology in the Souss
- ① Module III: Blue Jeans and Djellabas: Fashion and Identity in Southwest Morocco



Agadir is a major coastal city of Southwest Morocco known for its beautiful weather, clean and spacious beaches, nearby surfing villages, and cosmopolitan urban history. Despite a devastating earthquake that demolished much of the city in 1960, Agadir has since evolved into one of Morocco's most dynamic cities. Agadir is surrounded by beautiful mountains and lush oases, numerous historical sites, and the only Argan forests in the world.

Sidi Ifni is a small town known for its beautiful coast and rich history as well as recent sociopolitical activity. Spanish colonization left behind a distinct flavor here, where weaving calles (streets) and blue and white art-deco buildings dot the hillside above what used to be the flourishing port. Sidi Ifni provides the perfect resting post from which to visit Dar Si Hmad's fog project site, the gate of the Sahara, and many traditional agricultural villages.

PROFESSORS

Are you interested in leading a travel course in Morocco?

Are you looking for a local partner for an innovative environmental, anthropological, historical, or technical research project?

Do you want to instill in your students the experience of equitable cross-cultural exchange through meaningful interaction with their Moroccan peers?

STUDENTS

Would you like to learn Arabic or Berber in a dynamic environment that takes you outside the classroom?

Do you want to make a positive impact and gain valuable work experience by volunteering or interning abroad?

Do you crave travel experiences that support local communities and push you beyond surface-level tourism?

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