

Department of Foreign Languages

Current Events

Summer AIADs

Arabic. Currently, the Arabic section is leading a group of four cadets on a summer academic individual advanced development (AIAD) trip to Jordan. Cadets are in their final preparations to return 12 July. The cadets completed an Intensive Arabic Program at Al Qasid University in Amman, Jordan. Cadets spent their remaining time being introduced to famous cultural sites in and around Amman. POC is MAJ Donna Hess (donna.hess@usma.edu).

French. The French section is sponsoring a group of ten cadets on an AIAD to Rochefort, France that will continue to 14 July. The cadets are attending an advanced level language course at the Center for French instruction at Rochefort, a language program run by the *Gendarmerie Nationale*. During their time in Rochefort, cadets attend three weeks of intensive language training—focused primarily on oral comprehension and speaking—for six hours per day, five days per week. In addition to the classroom instruction, a key element of the Rochefort AIAD experience includes visiting local cultural and historical sites in the Rochefort area and practicing real-world situations, such as ordering meals, purchasing tickets, and navigating the area via public transportation. CPT Ron Hijduk and Dr. Steve Verolla will conduct a site visit from 9-11 July to attend 2 days of classes with the group. POC is MAJ Annmarie Ruppert (annmarie.ruppert@usma.edu).

Portuguese. Currently, the Portuguese section is leading a summer military individual advanced development (MIAD) trip to Brazil that will continue to 21 July. Three cadets spent five weeks in Brazil as guests of the Brazilian Army and the Brazilian Military Academy. Cadets completed a 2-week mountaineering training course at the Military Academy and are currently participating in a 2-week air assault training course at the Army Aviation Instruction Center. Once the school is complete, they will return to Rio de Janeiro (city) to stay at the Brazilian Military Engineering Institute (IME) and to visit cultural and historical sites in the city in the company of the USMLO officer and representatives from IME. POC is Dr. Rebecca Jones-Kellogg (rebecca.jones-kellogg@usma.edu).

Currently, Mr. António M.A. Igrejas, Dr. Lewis and the Portuguese section are leading a summer AIAD trip to Portugal. The AIAD is now finishing their tour of the Algarve, the southern-most region of Portugal. While based in the picturesque town of Lagos, the group traveled to the smaller town of Sagres, called “the end of the world,” for where it sits on the tip of southern Portugal where the Atlantic Ocean cuts inland to become the Mediterranean Sea. There, Prince Henry the Navigator established a mariner school in the 15th century, and the fortress, compass rose and chapel are still in existence today. The group returned to Lisbon on Tuesday and are in their final preparations to return today, 11 July. POC is Mr. António M.A. Igrejas (antonio.igrejas@usma.edu)

Russian. Currently, the Russian section is leading a group of cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Russia that will continue to 14 July. The 7 cadets participating in this AIAD left Voronezh on 7 July for 2 days in Moscow. While in Moscow, they visited the Kremlin, Kolomonskoye Park

where they observed a re-enactment of a major 16th Century battle, the Tretyakov Art Gallery, the Museum of the Great Patriotic War (WWII) and the Borodino Panorama Museum. On 9 July they took the overnight train to St. Petersburg, visiting the Peter and Paul Fortress and taking a boat cruise along many of the city's beautiful canals.

For the remaining time in St. Petersburg they will visit Peterhof, a royal estate for the Russian Tsars; Tsarskoe Selo, the summer residence for the Tsars, the Hermitage Art Museum, the Church on the Spilled Blood, and many more of the city's historical sites. POC is LTC Michael Nerstheimer (michael.nerstheimer@usma.edu).

Spanish. Currently, CPT Adam Riggs and the Spanish section is leading a summer AIAD trip to Chile that will continue to 29 July. Cadets will spend three weeks in Chile as guests of the Chilean Armed Forces and the Chilean Military Academy. Cadets will visit significant military commands, as well as study national politics, economics, history, and geography in an immersion setting as they travel to various cities and regions in Chile. POC is CPT Adam Riggs (adam.riggs@usma.edu).

Future Events

Arabic. From 23 July to 11 August, the Arabic section is leading a group of 7 cadets on a summer academic individual advanced development (AIAD) trip to Marrakech, Morocco. The cadets will travel without faculty escort. The cadets will spend 4 days/week in an Intensive Arabic Program and will spend their remaining time being introduced to famous cultural sites in and around Marrakech. POC is MAJ Donna Hess (donna.hess@usma.edu).

French. The French section is sponsoring a group of ten cadets on an AIAD to Rochefort, France, from 22 July – 11 August. The cadets are attending an intermediate level language course at the Center for French instruction at Rochefort, a language program run by the *Gendarmerie Nationale*. During their time in Rochefort, cadets attend three weeks of intensive language training—focused primarily on oral comprehension and speaking—for six hours per day, five days per week. In addition to the classroom instruction, a key element of the Rochefort AIAD experience includes visiting local cultural and historical sites in the Rochefort area and practicing real-world situations, such as ordering meals, purchasing tickets, and navigating the area via public transportation. MAJ Annmarie Ruppert will conduct a site visit from 23-26 July to attend 2 days of classes with the group. POC is MAJ Annmarie Ruppert (annmarie.ruppert@usma.edu).

Russian. From 21 July to 11 August, the Russian section will lead a group of cadets on a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Ukraine. Cadets will two weeks of intensive language instruction at the NovaMova Language School in Kiev, designed to increase Russian language proficiency, enhance their regional expertise and promote cultural awareness. Cadets will tour historically and culturally significant sites throughout Ukraine, interacting with the local population in day-to-day situations. POC is LTC Michael Nerstheimer (michael.nerstheimer@usma.edu).