

Center for Academic Excellence
Department of Engineering
700 Park Ave, Norfolk Virginia. 23504-8060
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PRESS RELEASE
SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL ARABIC PROGRAM AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Norfolk State University Intelligence Community Center for Academic Excellence (NSU IC-CAE) is sponsoring a summer high school Arabic program for 30 high school students from more than 10 Metropolitan High Schools at the University of the District of Columbia this summer from July 8-31, 2009. The program director is Dr. Mary Johnson, who is the president of “Success in Learning Math” and Adjunct Professor at the University of the District of Columbia. The Arabic teacher comes from the Middle East Institute here in Washington, DC. The students have been exposed to calligraphy with an Omani chanting from the Koran.

They have also visited the Spy Museum and participated in activities that simulate real espionage and intelligence gathering. They have also visited the Defense Intelligence Agency, where the senior



staff informed them about possible careers in intelligence. At the DIA, the students were given a lot of information about scholarships and opportunities for students during the academic year.

As a part of this summer Arabic Program, students are in intensive language study each day from 8:00 am- 11:00 am, then they have an intensive language laboratory or analytical skills development each day from 11:30- 12:30. Other visits have included a visit to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates and the National Cryptological Museum. Most of the students admitted that they knew absolutely nothing about Islamic culture until this summer program.

This summer program for high school students is certainly in keeping with the

Obama’s administration’s goal of working with colleges and universities for future spies. The National Security Certificate offered through the NSU IC-CAE requires 18 credit hours with at least 6 credits in one of the strategic languages including Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Korean. There is also an international cultural immersion component for IC scholars.

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The closing ceremony was held on Friday, July 31, 2009 from 10:00-12:30 PM in building 42, Room A-06 on the campus of the University of the District of Columbia on Connecticut Avenue. The keynote speaker for this event was Ms. Michele Platt, Vice President for CACI gave a very inspirational talk about the importance of learning strategic languages as well as being good citizens so that they would be eligible to qualify for a security clearance.



Arabic Class at UDC—Mr. Basem El-Zaawily Teacher

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Calligraphy Group from The Middle East Institute

Preparing Leaders for America's Global Market

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For more information about the summer high school Arabic Program, please call Dr. Arlene Maclin at (202) 237-8915, who is the Director of the NSU IC-CAE, or send an email to: amaclin9@hotmail.com



Student in Summer Arabic Class at UDC

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Michele Platt from CACI & Dr. Arlene Maclin Kneeling & Students from Summer Arabic HS Arabic Program

The End#####