Department of Foreign Languages

Completed Events

**Arabic.** Four Arabic SAP cadets are currently studying at an AMIDEAST sponsored Arabic colloquial pre-session in Rabat before traveling to Ifrane for their semester abroad experience at al-Akhwayn University (AUI) in Morocco.

**Chinese.** During the fall semester, Dr. Hongyu Huang developed and directed the pilot course LC371 “Intensive Intermediate Chinese” and successfully adopted a new set of textbooks that facilitated a smoother transition from the basic to intermediate level. To meet departmental requirements, the new course devoted five classes to military instruction and divided the time among guest lectures, student presentations, and a film screening. On the first two days, Major Kevin Jensen briefed cadets on the organization, branches, ranks, equipment and history of the People’s Liberation Army of China. Major Matthew Radik assisted with material preparation. On the third day, cadets presented on major Sinophone cities, identifying their physical locations, describing their geographic and cultural features, and planning itineraries for imagined visits. Many AIAD participants shared personal stories and photos from their recent language and culture immersion trips to Beijing, Harbin, Xi’an and Taipei. On the last two days, cadets watched the 2007 Chinese war drama *Assembly* (Jíjíehào 集结号) directed by Feng Xiaogang, and each wrote a summary & review. Cadets found this movie touching and meditative on the tension between the state war machine and the soldiers’ fundamental humanity. Through these activities, cadets increased their knowledge of and interest in the Chinese military as well as its representation in popular culture. Their learning was further assessed through the culture questions in the Term-End-Examination.
In this photo: MAJ Kevin Jensen gave an informative briefing on the history of the Chinese armed force to the intermediate Chinese class.

In this photo: Dr. Hongyu Huang’s students presented on major Chinese cities and took pleasure in the verbal and visual tours of China’s famous attractions.