

Connecting SIUE Students to Peers in the Muslim World through Web-Based Conferencing

Even if you can't travel, you can talk...



How Soliya's Connect Program Works



Countries Involved (Selected)

- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| Egypt | Pakistan |
| Jordan | Palestine |
| Lebanon | Tunisia |
| Libya | Turkey |
| Morocco | UAE |

The Muslim World:

What part of the world could be more important for our students to learn about?



A Transformative International Experience without Leaving Campus

This experience, in all honesty, **has given me hope for the future.** (DA)

I anticipate **this experience will carry with me into my future.** It has allowed me to ask the difficult questions I normally would avoid in interactions within the Middle Eastern community... I feel as if I have a greater connectivity to the world I live in today. (CB)

If anything, I would say that **this Soliya experience has given me confidence to approach people of different cultures--** engaging in conversations/discussions about our life experiences and how those personal backgrounds affect the shaping of our world view... (SE)

The Soliya program I think **could be used in any major.** It is so much more than just the US and the Muslim world. It looks into how we relate to other humans across the globe... I think more people should experience this interaction. I believe if they did the world would be a more tolerable place. (MC)

This week, we had a fantastic turnout! We had Luna from **Jordan**, Zeeshan from Forman Christian College [**Lahore**], Jeremy from the US, Keicha from the US, Imen and Kholoud from the Engineering school of Bizerte [**Tunisia**], and finally, Amber, from Tennessee... **Heading into the final week, I am very sad that this experience is over...** As a group we decided to become Facebook friends so that we could stay in touch after this experience. (TR)

Integration of the Soliya "Tool" into a Class: HIST 354C "The 20th-Century Middle East"

Assignments and Grading for Soliya Component

Attendance at all sessions [one unexcused absence will mean a C grade in this column; more than one, a score of 0]	10%
Discussion board posts	10%
Soliya Final Projects	5%
Soliya portion of final grade	25%

Final Grades for Course

Regular Class Requirements	75%
Soliya Component	25%
Total	100%

US Universities (Selected)

- Bluefield State College
 - Bowie State University
 - Georgetown University
 - Indiana University
 - Northwestern Michigan College
 - Queens College
 - SUNY Potsdam
 - University of Maryland
 - University of Northern Colorado
 - Western Kentucky University
- SIU_e