

Name: Sarah Ferrara

Email: sferrara@qmed.ca

Specialty: Surgery

Country: Jordan

Location: Amman

Rural/Urban: Urban

Hospital or non-hospital placement: Hospital

Type of placement: Pre-clerkship

Date: July 1-August 1, 2011

Project title: IFMSA/CFMS Exchange

Organization:

Website: http://www.cfms.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=152

Main language spoken: Arabic

Other language(s): English

Project description: I spent a month completing a plastic surgery pre-clerkship elective at the University of Jordan Hospital in Amman, Jordan, organized through the International Federation of Medical Students.

Student experience description: I was basically treated as a clerk throughout my month in the hospital. I was able to speak to patients, complete some aspects of the physical exam, and complete in patient and out-patient procedures. I learned so much from my attending and from the residents that were a part of my team.

Placement safety: I felt incredibly safe my entire time in Jordan. Everyone there was so friendly, and the organizers of the exchange could not have been more helpful or welcoming.

Educational experience (out of 10): 10

Social/cultural experience (out of 10): 10

Does the organization have any religious affiliations? No

At any point did you feel expected to participate in religious activity? No

Program fee: \$250

Dress code: I was expected to dress professionally in the hospital, as I would dress in a hospital in Canada. Outside of the hospital I followed the cultural dress code of covering my legs and shoulders.

Accommodation: Student dorm with roommate

Accommodation cost: Included in program cost

Helpful hints: Be prepared to deal with extreme language and cultural barriers. Do not expect a great accommodation, but it is sufficient for a month, and since it was free I can't complain.

Questions you are glad to have asked before leaving on placement: What kind of clothing should I wear in and out of the hospital, what medical instruments I need to bring, and if I need to do any prep work prior to the placement.

Questions you WISHED you asked before leaving on placement: None

Overall, would you recommend this placement for future students? Yes