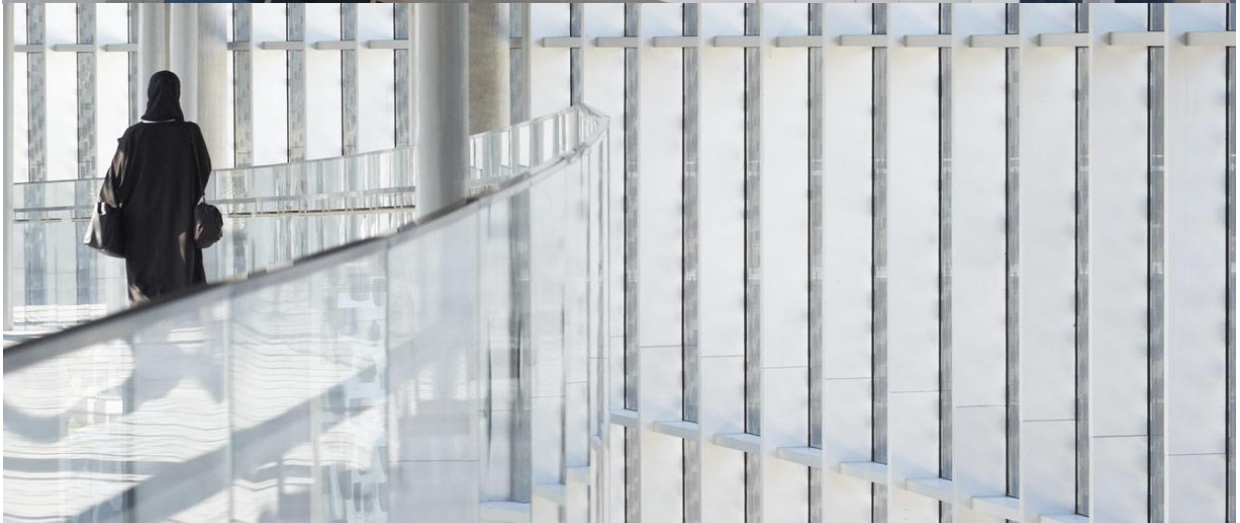


Winter 2019 >

JOURNALISM RESIDENCY QATAR HANDBOOK 2019



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Program & Country Information

Program Team

There are a number of different partners and players that make important contributions to your academic, cultural, and personal experience abroad.

You will have a multi-tiered support network while you are completing your JR:

- Your **on-site supervisor**, typically an editor who works daily with each student, will provide ongoing support and feedback to ensure that students are busy and productive. This supervisor also will be responsible for completing a midterm and final evaluation of the student.
- Your **local minder** serves as an emergency contact and resource for you on-site.
- Your **Medill faculty adviser** will follow your academic progress throughout the quarter.
- Your **ULA adviser** is your assigned adviser in the Undergraduate Learning Abroad (ULA) office and is available to provide advising about logistical, financial, and health and safety matters before, during, and after your JR experience abroad.

Journalism Residency Qatar	
On-site supervisor	<i>Assigned based on placement</i>
Local minder	Keelie Sorel keelie.sorel@northwestern.edu
Medill faculty adviser	Karen Springen k-springen@northwestern.edu
ULA adviser	Jessica Fetridge, jessica.fetridge@northwestern.edu

Program Schedules

Below are basic schedules of program dates, which are *subject to change*. Additional details will be distributed by email or upon arrival.

Thursday, January 10	Arrive in Doha Check in to NU-Q housing
Friday, January 11 – Saturday, January 12	Orientation Program
Sunday, January 13 – Thursday, March 21	Journalism Residency
Saturday, March 23	Program/accommodation end date Depart for United States

Accommodations

Students will stay in HBKU Student Housing in Education City. Confirmed participants will receive a housing questionnaire, where they will list their rooming preferences. Room types are not guaranteed; they are allocated on a first come, first serve basis. All residents will have a private bedroom and bathroom, regardless of the room type. Additionally, all units are fully furnished and include wireless internet services, as well as access to the gym facilities in Education City, laundry, and other amenities. For more information about on-campus accommodations, visit: <http://www.hbku.edu.qa/en/life-hbku/hbku-student-housing>.

Students will be responsible for arranging all meals, but there is a dining hall in the housing facility that offers buffet style meals and a la carte items. A breakfast stipend of \$350 (equivalent to \$5 per day for 10 weeks) will be provided, which will allow students to participate in the breakfast buffet. This stipend will be disbursed with the transportation stipend as a credit to your Student Account.

Visas

NU-Q staff will assist Journalism Residency Qatar students with obtaining a single-entry business visa prior to arrival. Depending on your length of stay, you may also need to obtain an exit permit prior to your departure from Qatar. More information will be emailed to you.

Transportation

Travel Stipend

Students participating in Journalism Residency programs abroad will receive a transportation stipend to offset the costs of work-related or personal ground transportation expenses, such as the cost of airport transfers, daily transportation to/from the placement site, transportation to/from field assignments, and any other work-related or personal transportation expenses. It is meant to encourage a student to choose the safest and most responsible transportation option, in many cases metered taxis or hired cars, even if that option is more expensive than others.

Your travel stipend will be processed after the start of the quarter. Be sure to set up direct deposit (CAESAR > Main Menu > Student Financial Services > Set Up Direct Deposit), so your stipend may be sent to you in a timely manner. **Note: This is separate from your work-study direct deposit.**

Getting To/From the Airport

Medill/ULA will arrange transportation to/from the airport. If you arrange any personal trips that involve long road trips or include air travel, first consult with your site supervisors and local minders about your travel plans.

Commuting

Students have several options for getting around Doha, and different modes of transportation are safer and more reliable than others. Below is some basic information, but also refer to the **Health, Safety, and Security** section for tips about safe travel.

For daily commuting to/from work, previous students have taken Ubers or have made arrangements with a local car service. One common service is Fox Transport Qatar (<http://www.foxtransport.net>), but there are several fairly reliable options, and prices can vary

widely. The state-owned public transport company Mowasalat runs Mowasalat-Karwa green taxis and a limousine service. Students occasionally hire personal drivers, but they will need to make these arrangements on their own. Be aware that traffic during rush hour can be unpredictable and generally heavy, so you should plan extra time to get to work each day. While on the Education City campus, students can access free shuttles and a Lulu Express bus, which provides free trips to the Lulu grocery store once per day.

Identity & Diversity¹

The section below provides some basic information, summarized from the Diversity Network Country Diversity Climate Notes. Also refer back to the **Identity and Diversity** section of the Orientation Guide for general guidance and resources.

Gender

Qatari society is very traditional, and although women face few specific security risks, they should follow commonsense security precautions. Women should dress modestly to avoid drawing unwanted attention. Observe and respect local clothing customs, such as no bare knees or shoulders, and adhere to conventions for travel in conservative Muslim countries. Moreover, you can politely refuse invitations that would take you beyond your personal comfort levels, even if faced by amicable pressure to behave otherwise.

¹ Adapted from the Diversity Abroad Network (2017): <http://www.diversitynetwork.org/>

Health, Safety, and Security

The sections below provide information about health and safety risks and resources in your program location. Refer back to the **Health, Safety, and Security** section of the Orientation Guide for more comprehensive information about preparing for and responding to health, safety, and security concerns.

Staying Healthy

Medical facilities in Doha are of high quality, and you will be able to access a high standard of routine and specialist care.

Food is generally safe in major cities, but you should always wash your hands with soap or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer before eating. Tap water is not considered safe to drink in Doha. If you are traveling out of the city, be sure to do some research on food and water safety before you go.

As a reminder, you must complete all required immunizations for travel to your site. Check health and safety recommendations provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/extended_student/qatar

Safety and Security²

In addition to the **Standing Travel Advice** outlined in the Orientation Guide, you are advised to follow these precautions during your journalism residency:

- Refer to the Country Information Sheet for safety and security guidelines: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/qatar.html>
- The risk of both crime and civil unrest remain low. Incidents of petty crime are quite rare, but you are still advised to be vigilant at airports, on public transportation, and in tourist locations, and care for your belongings.
- Tensions with Qatar's regional neighbors have been strained, since they accuse Qatar of supporting Islamic groups that aim to destabilize the region. However, Qatar's capable security forces and strict immigration policies mitigate any underlying threat of terrorism.
- There is a large and visible police presence in Qatar, and police response is generally professional and efficient.
- Avoid large crowds, demonstrations, and labor or work campus.

² Adapted from Drum Cussac. (2017).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Packing

Is there anything special that I need to pack for my program?

Essentially everything that you may need you can find in Doha, but you should make sure to pack clothes that are suitable for the workplace. Consult past students for packing tips.

Food & Water

Can I drink the water?

In Qatar, most travelers and expatriates drink bottled water. Some residences have water mains. At others, water is delivered by a tanker. Both types should be filtered and boiled.

Is the local cuisine vegetarian friendly?

It can be. You are responsible for most of your own meals, and you can find lots of fruits, vegetables, and proteins at the supermarkets and at nearby restaurants.

Money

How much does the program cost?

See **Appendix I** or refer to the program website for a breakdown of program costs.

Are meals included in my Program Fee?

No. Some meals will be provided during orientation, but you should plan to cover the costs of most meals.

How much cash should I bring?

For safety reasons, you are advised to bring no more than \$200 cash with you, plus a credit card and an ATM or debit card to use for purchases and to access additional funds. It is also recommended that you bring a second credit card in case of emergency. If you choose to bring more US dollars, be sure to pack safely and monitor your belongings while traveling.

Transportation

Will I be picked up from the airport?

Yes.

What if my flight is cancelled or delayed?

ULA shares your flight itineraries with your local minder and faculty director, so that they can monitor your flights. If you will not arrive on your scheduled flight due to a missed connection, illness, or other reason, please email or text your on-site administrators and ULA to let us know when you are scheduled to arrive.

Appendix I: Cost Breakdown

JOURNALISM RESIDENCY QATAR

Doha, Qatar

WINTER 2019

Program Cost Information

FEES CHARGED BY NORTHWESTERN	
PROGRAM FEE	
<p>Tuition: \$11,320 The tuition fee covers all program expenses, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty and site supervision at JR site • JR orientation program 	\$16,440
<p>Housing: \$3,500 The housing fee covers student housing in Education City. No meals are included; students are responsible for covering the costs of all meals.</p>	
<p>GeoBlue Health Insurance: \$120</p>	
<p>Transportation: \$1,500 Included in the program fee is a local transportation stipend to cover program-related transportation, such as commuting costs.</p>	
STUDY ABROAD ADMINISTRATIVE FEE	\$0
Students participating in this program are exempt from the Study Abroad Administrative Fee.	
TOTAL FEES CHARGED BY NORTHWESTERN	\$16,440
ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL COSTS	
International Airfare	
Students are responsible for making arrangements to fly round-trip to Doha, Qatar, on the dates provided. Cost estimates are based upon travel from Chicago. International airfares vary greatly based on the point of departure, carrier, and type of ticket purchased as well as volatility of airline industry pricing. Students may choose to take advantage of frequent flyer or other airline awards available to them, which could significantly lower their travel costs.	\$1,600
Discretionary Expenses	
Personal expenses vary based on individual spending habits and budgets. Discretionary expenses represent an average of the amounts reported by previous students and include local transportation, personal expenses, and other incidentals. Students who plan to travel outside of their program location should estimate an additional \$500-\$1,000.	\$1,800
TOTAL ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL COSTS	\$3,400
TOTAL STUDENT BUDGET (Program Fee + Estimated Additional Costs)	\$19,840

For more information about billing, finances, and financial aid for study abroad, please refer to the Money Matters section of the ULA Website or contact Krista Buda Bethel (krista@northwestern.edu) in the Financial Aid Office. Also refer to the Withdrawal Policies for Northwestern Programs for information about refunds in the case of withdrawal or dismissal.