



Arabic Cultural Content Curator Internship

Position title: Arabic Cultural Content Curator

Organization: ASU SolarSPELL Initiative (Solar Powered Educational Learning Library)

Location: Tempe and/or Remote

Type of internship: For credit or non-paid; approximately 10 hours per week. International students are encouraged to apply; this opportunity counts for OPT/CPT

Application deadline: December 1st — applications will continue to be accepted and reviewed every week until the position is filled.

Start date: January 13, 2025

Description:

SolarSPELL is seeking interns to curate regionally-relevant, open access, educational content for our Middle East library collection that is currently used in the Autonomous Region of North and East Syria (AANES). Proficiency in Arabic, Kurdish, OR Syriac is required.

SolarSPELL is a global educational initiative at Arizona State University that combines solar-powered technology, relevant content, and local capacity building. We work to build internet-ready skills and improve educational opportunities around the world. Our offline digital library is designed to bring educational content to resource-constrained locations that may lack electricity, internet connectivity, and/or traditional libraries. The SolarSPELL library emits an offline WiFi hotspot, to which any WiFi capable device (smartphones, tablets, laptops) can connect and freely, and safely, surf thousands of resources that are carefully curated and continually improved to meet local information needs.

The Arabic collection began with a pilot program with our partners in North and East Syria. It currently includes over 1500 resources. Interns in this role will oversee the expansion and further development of the Arabic collection for use in North and East Syria and beyond. This is the first library to curate local content in three languages: Arabic, Kurdish, and Syriac.

More information on SolarSPELL can be found at solarspell.org. More information about our partnership with AANES can be found here:

<https://solarspell.org/rebuilding-education-during-conflict>.

This internship offers an exciting opportunity to contribute to improving the quality of educational information available to students and teachers in North and East Syria, whose schools may lack internet connectivity, electricity, and/or traditional libraries. Your contributions will be brought to North East Syria and used by teachers and students within months of your internship!

Interns will be expected to attend an orientation session and participate in an end-of-semester presentation. Ideal candidates will be detail-oriented, proactive in their content curation tasks, and have a desire to work for a department that serves communities from all over the world.

Main tasks will include:

- Complete a content curation training workshop at the beginning of the semester
- Attend weekly virtual check-ins throughout the semester
- Curate locally-relevant resources including science books, philosophy books, interactive modules, and other topics for high school and middle school students and teachers

Other general tasks may include:

- Feedback on current user interface and library organization/navigation
- Metadata work, including tagging and organizing of content within the library database
- General research on the AANES region and history
- Checking content websites we regularly curate from for any new content

Essential qualifications:

- Arabic, Kurdish, or Syriac proficiency
- Detail oriented and reliable; a strong and honest work ethic motivates you
- Globally minded; you have a desire to work for a department that serves communities from all over the world

How to apply: If you are interested in applying for this position, please submit a resume and cover letter to Cassie Barrett at cbarre38@asu.edu. All documents should be in PDF format and follow the naming style of [LastName_FirstName_DesiredPosition]