

Ecole des Sciences de l'Information

ESI à l'avant garde des technologies de
l'information et de la
communication



Views of Library and Information Science (LIS) Instruction in Morocco

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للجنة المغربية الأمريكية
للتبادل التربوي و الثقافي
MOROCCAN-AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL EXCHANGE



SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MAGHREBI AREA STUDIES
SYMPOSIUM FOR U.S.
FULBRIGHT GRANTEES

April 16, 2009
Tour Hassan Hotel
Rabat, Morocco

Perspectives: libraries in an oral culture?

Libraries as we know them in the US:

- Are issue of a primarily Western tradition
- Were first introduced in Morocco by the French
 - Supported education
 - Were destined for use by the elite
- Embody a metaphor that is not part of the local tradition in Morocco

Information in context

A « Maroc qui bouge » recognizes the importance of information

- Information's place in study and research (education)
- Information management and monitoring (business)
- Information literacy (general)

Libraries (*bibliothèques*) and information/documentation centers (*centres de documentation*) have a clear mandate

- And information professionals have an important place in the future of Morocco

Outline

- I. Situating Morocco's Ecole des Sciences de l'Information (ESI)
- II. My personal perceptions (that may be **WRONG**) of:
 - ESI facilities
 - ESI instructors
 - ESI students
- III. Final thoughts about the place of libraries and information in Morocco



Brief history and background

Morocco's Ecole des Sciences de l'Information (ESI)

- Began in 1974
 - Received funding from UNESCO
 - Co-sponsored by Pratt University in the US
- Is an « école » under the Haut Commissariat au Plan
 - Not attached to any of the local universities
 - The sister institution to
 - Centre National de Documentation (CND)
 - Institut National de Statistique et d'Economie Appliquée (INSEA)
- Only library and information science program in Morocco

Situating ESI







Madinat Al Irfane

Mur

Infos

Photos

Encarts

Exprimez-vous :

Partager

Recommander à des amis

Me retirer des fans

Informations

Adresse :

Madinat Al Irfane

Rabat, Morocco, 10000

Fans

6 sur 1 479 fans

Afficher tout



Abdelwah



Saihari



Hafsa

Madinat Al Irfane

Fans seulement



Madinat Al Irfane Feel free to post any event or news related to Madinat Al Irfane. Nothing will be considered as SPAM if it is related to Irfane.

21 octobre 2008, à 16:05 • Signaler un abus

Activité récente



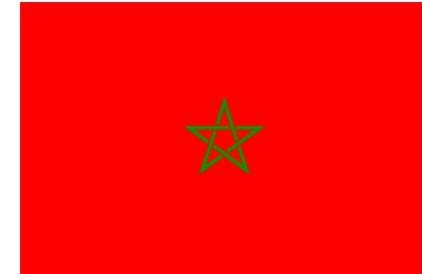
Madinat Al Irfane a modifié les infos suivantes : Transports en commun et Adresse.

Applications



Practical aspects of instruction

- Borrowing from *the French*
 - Grading system out of 20
 - System of modules
 - Students pass or fail the whole year
 - 4-year undergrad degree & Masters
 - Professional divisions
 - Librarian vs. documentalist
- Making their own mark
 - Calling graduates « informatistes »



Languages in play

- Instruction at ESI
 - Mostly French (technical aspects of topics)
 - Some explanations in Derija.
- Foreign language instruction for undergrads :
 - French
 - English
 - Spanish.

Where is Arabic?

Facilities



School's bus brought students to the BNRM



Salle des Conférences



Instructors

Générique : revue mensuelle des séries TV / Dir. de pub. Thibault Lanta et Julien Tendil. – [N° 1 (2007, janv.)]-
– Paris : Ed. Cathodiques, 2007- . – 30 cm. – Notice réd. d'après le n°3 (mars 2007).
N° 3 (2007, mars)-
ISSN 1956-7049 = Génériques : revue mensuelle des série TV

Lanta, Thibault. Dir.
Tendil, Julien. Dir.



New Director

facebook Accueil Profil Amis Boîte de réception 4 Heather Lea Moulaison Paramètres Déconnexion

El Hassan Lemallem - Directeur de l'E S I [Devenir fan](#)

Mur Infos Photos

El Hassan Lemallem... Fans seulement

Activité récente

-  El Hassan Lemallem - Directeur de l'E S I a modifié les infos suivantes : Informations personnelles, Adresse et Adresse électronique.
-  El Hassan Lemallem - Directeur de l'E S I a modifié les infos suivantes : Date de naissance et Informations personnelles.



Devenir fan

El Hassan Lemallem, né le 12/07/1960 - Directeur de l'Ecole des Sciences de l'Information

Informations

Students

has tired legs after all that walking in the medina. [3 days ago](#)
managed to get up "early" all week long [5 days ago](#)

[follow me on Twitter](#)



Blog Archive

▼ 2009 (29)

▼ April (3)

[Choosing the ESI director, a reprise](#)

[The SCI \(formerly SCILS\) Rabat section, class of](#)

[2...](#)

[Gen X, social media, and libraries](#)

► March (6)

► February (9)

► January (11)

► 2008 (40)



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2008

Blogs in class



Today we talked about blogs in Technologies de l'information. I took a photo of the class at the beginning of the hour, and posted these photos, as well as a first draft of this post, at the end of class. Everyone seemed to agree that it's an easy process, and about eight students came up after class and asked for me to transfer the

Students and after-hours « ateliers »



Final thoughts

- Straight comparisons are often useless
 - ESI classrooms have more equipment than some Rutgers classrooms
 - Many of the strengths and weaknesses described at ESI are also evident in American schools
- ESI educates a group that often becomes part of the Moroccan elite
 - The school is head and shoulders above others in Africa
- Information's time is here, and ESI's graduates are well-positioned to take the lead and help keep Morocco moving in the right direction

Thank you.
Merci.
Shukrane.

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