

Abby Bishop, WTAMU Freshman English Major

We've had class once a week since the semester started. And we've been going over diff aspects of the whole trip, from the Muslim culture, to the Islam religion, what we need to expect when we get there, different things we need to prepare for – for instance, the interaction b/w men and women is quite a bit diff than it is here in the US.

Tiffani Garcia, WTAMU Freshman Education Major

I'm really excited about learning about the culture, and finding things out about myself – how I adapt in that kind of situation, because I've never really been in that type of situation where you're just thrown into a situation, so I think it'll be really good.

Kendra Campbell, Director of Learning Communities

Pretty early into the trip, we'll have one day to assemble, and we'll take a flight on a local airline to a town called Goreme, it's a more traditional part of the country, assembled much like a city.

Well originally we were going to have two WT students per family, but we found out that many of these families live in caves, in the side of mountains. We found out that some of the families don't have electricity, so their entire cave is heated by a stove. They can only heat one or two rooms at once. It's winter there; they're expecting the high's to be in the 40s while we're there. So everyone has to sleep in one or two rooms, so they don't have room for two of our students to be in with their family. So it's going to be one WT student per family.

We're not necessarily taking anything over there; we're going to be teaching about junior high age students. We're going to be teaching them English; they have an English proficiency test in April. So we'll be teaching them moreso the way we speak, not the formal way of speaking English.

Really one of the most touching things that students come back with, is how it makes them appreciate what they have, and they take so much for granted. It's a big world out there, we're all people, and we can still live and work together. We can appreciate the differences and similarities we have.