



# GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

## SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE

This semester, a diverse group of students at Montgomery College are participating in a ten-week collaborative global academic project with two universities in Jordan. The project is facilitated by Rita Kranidis, Director of the Global Humanities Institute at MC and Professor Omar Arabiat of Bau University, Jordan. Montgomery College is one of five community colleges participating in this project.

Through a series of virtual meetings the Jordan and Montgomery College teams will create a single proposal for a solution a critical issue regarding tourism and the sustainability [economic, cultural, environmental].

The Montgomery College team is comprised of 14 students from the Germantown and Takoma Campuses, including students in Hillman Entrepreneurs and Renaissance Scholars. They assume leadership roles in moving the work forward, steering their team locally and coordinating with the team in Jordan. This is an invaluable learning experience for all involved, developing and requiring cultural awareness and sophisticated cultural literacy.

Questions? Contact Rita Kranidis, [rita.kranidis@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:rita.kranidis@montgomerycollege.edu).

### **Program Description**

The Global Solutions Sustainability Challenge is a virtual exchange initiative that pairs post-secondary students from the United States and Jordan to work together on a collaborative international team to compete with their peers by creating innovative solutions to pressing global problems affecting their local communities. The challenge uses virtual exchange to improve global citizenship and problem-solving skills among hospitality and business students in the US and Jordan. By exposing students to real-world applications in their subject areas and equipping faculty with skills in teaching global competence through project-based learning, we can increase career readiness. Global Solutions is implemented by IREX and funded by the Aspen Institute Stevens Initiative, a program supported by the US State Department, and the Bezos Family Foundation. More information about the Global Solutions Sustainability Challenge can be found at: <https://www.irex.org/project/global-solutions>.

### **About the Department of State Stevens Initiative**

The Stevens Initiative is an international effort to build global competence for young people in the United States and the Middle East and North Africa by growing and enhancing the field of virtual exchange: online, international, and collaborative learning. It is housed at the Aspen Institute and is a public-private partnership with the family of Ambassador Chris Stevens, the U.S. Department of State, the Bezos Family Foundation, and the governments of the United Arab Emirates, and Morocco, in addition to Twitter, Vidyo, and Microsoft. For further information, please visit <http://www.stevensinitiative.org/>



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