

MIDDLE EAST STUDIES, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

This interdisciplinary program is designed for students having special interest in the Middle East broadly defined. In addition to the requirements for the minor, students may select other courses dealing with the Middle East, including courses studied abroad, subject to the approval of the Middle East Studies director. A certificate is awarded to students who complete the requirements of the minor.

What is Middle East Studies?

Middle Eastern Studies intends to instill an understanding of the history and culture of the multiple countries that make up the Middle East, from ancient through modern times. It is an interdisciplinary area of study that encompasses various aspects of the Middle East such as history, politics, religion, language, literature, art history, and more. Middle Eastern Studies offers a way to investigate a region of the world from multiple perspectives engaging a variety of methods of study.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You want to pursue a career or engage in graduate studies in fields such as archaeology, philosophy, literature, religious studies, political sciences, and more.
- You are interested in gaining further insight into the societies and cultures of ancient civilizations.
- You have a desire to do in depth research on the Middle East, and hope to spend time abroad to immerse yourself in the cultures and languages.

Program Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18

Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/>). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

Code	Title	Credits
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade C or better</i>		
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
CMLIT 7	Introduction to Middle Eastern Literatures	
HIST/ARAB/ RLST 165	Islamic States, Societies and Cultures c. 600-1500	
HIST/JST 181	Introduction to the Middle East	
HIST 190	The Middle East Today	
PLSC 267N	Government and Politics of the Middle East	

RLST 107	Introduction to Islam
Select 15 credits from the following (at least 6 credits at the 400-level 15 and no more than 6 credits from language study): ¹	
ANTH/JST/ PLSC 60N	Society and Cultures in Modern Israel
ARAB 1	Elementary Modern Standard Arabic I
ARAB 2	Elementary Modern Standard Arabic II
ARAB 3	Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic
ARAB 110	Arab Language, Cultures, and Current Topics
ARAB/RLST 164	Introduction to the Qur'an
ARAB/HIST/ RLST 165	Islamic States, Societies and Cultures c. 600-1500
ARAB 401	Advanced Language & Cultures I
ARAB 402	Advanced Language & Cultures II
ARTH 125	Islamic Architecture and Art
ASIA 186	The Silk Roads
ASIA 401	Technology & Society in Modern Asia
CAMS 10	Mesopotamian Civilization
CAMS 10U	MESOPOTAMIAN CIVILIZATION
CAMS 20	Egyptian Civilization
CAMS 44	Myth in Egypt and the Near East
CAMS/JST/ RLST 90	Jerusalem: Past, Present, and Future
CAMS/JST/ RLST 102	Ancient Israel
CAMS 104	Ancient Egypt
CAMS 115	Literature of the Ancient Near East
CAMS 405	Law & Economy in the Ancient Near East
CAMS 470	Languages and Cultures of the Ancient Near East
CMLIT 7	Introduction to Middle Eastern Literatures
CMLIT 449	Literary Cultures of Islam
HEBR 1	Basic Modern Hebrew I
HEBR 2	Basic Modern Hebrew II
HEBR 3	Intermediate Modern Hebrew
HEBR 401	Advanced Hebrew--Conversation Emphasis
HEBR 402	Advanced Hebrew--Reading Emphasis
HIST 105	The Byzantine Empire
HIST 106	Early Modern Empires of Islam: The Ottomans, Safavids, and Mughals
HIST 108	Crusades: Holy War in the Middle Ages
HIST/JST 140	The History of the Israel-Palestine Conflict (1917-Present)
HIST 169	The Indian Ocean World
HIST 181	Introduction to the Middle East
HIST 190	The Middle East Today
HIST/JST 193	Modern Iran
HIST 238N	Society and Culture in Palestine/Israel
HIST 245	Middle Eastern Cities
HIST 252	Revolutions in the Middle East
HIST 260	The Middle East in Film
HIST 305Y	Middle East Studies Research Workshop
HIST/JST 416	Zionism

HIST/RLST 423	
HIST/JST 443	Jewish Histories of the Middle East
HIST/RLST 471Y	Classical Islamic Civilization, 600-1258
HIST 472	The Ottoman Empire
HIST/JST 473	The Contemporary Middle East
PLSC 267N	Government and Politics of the Middle East
PLSC 467	International Relations of the Middle East
RLST 107	Introduction to Islam

¹ Courses with Middle East content not listed below may count toward the minor in consultation with the director of Middle East Studies.

Some courses may require other course work as some courses have prerequisites.

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

University Park

Liberal Arts Academic Advising

814-865-2545

Use the Liberal Arts Meet the Academic Advisers web page (<https://la.psu.edu/student-services/academic-advising/meet-the-academic-advisers/>) to see the contact information for the specific adviser(s) of this program

Career Paths

A minor in Middle Eastern Studies offers students the opportunity to take part in enriching experiences that can lead to exciting careers in fields such as archaeology, politics, religious studies, and more. Students who achieve a minor in Middle Eastern Studies offer knowledge and understanding of complex histories that employers and graduate programs find appealing.

Careers

- Secondary and College Teaching
- Archaeology
- Philosophy
- Politics

Contact

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