

MINOR IN MIDDLE EAST AND ISLAMIC STUDIES

College of Liberal & Creative Arts

Dean: Dr. Andrew Harris

Coordinator: Lucia Volk
Humanities Building, Room 576
Phone: (415) 405-2468
Email: lvolk@sfsu.edu

Program Scope

The Minor in Middle East and Islamic Studies is a multidisciplinary minor designed to provide undergraduate students with a broad understanding of the history, politics, and culture of the Middle East and Islamic world. Students are required to fulfill both core and elective requirements designed to give a background of the complexity and diversity of the region as well as offer more specific, in-depth studies of select issues of the region. This program covers regions and peoples from or in the Middle East from the founding of Islam in the seventh century to the present. In concert with the "Islamic Studies" aspect of this program, this minor also extends beyond the Middle East to those cultures, societies, and areas that are associated with the historical and current spread of Islam. Students can select from a variety of courses across multiple disciplines, including history, religion, politics, culture, art, music, language, and literature.

The minor is useful to students planning careers in politics and government, business, education, international organizations, journalism, and art, as well as for those who simply desire a better understanding of the Middle East and Islam. The multidisciplinary nature of the program also prepares students for further study in a number of academic fields at the graduate level.

The Middle East and Islamic Studies Minor consists of a core curriculum of three courses that deal with the region as a whole from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, plus three upper-division courses taken upon advisement.

Professor

FRED ASTREN (1996), *Professor of Jewish Studies*; B.E.S. (1979), University of Minnesota; M.A. (1989), Ph.D. (1993), University of California, Berkeley.

MOHAMMAD AZADPUR (2003), *Professor of Philosophy*; B.A. (1986), Bucknell University; M.A. (1993), University of Pittsburgh; Ph.D. (1999), University of Virginia.

SANJOY BANERJEE (1990), *Professor of International Relations*; B.A. (1976), Lehigh University; Ph.D. (1982), Yale University.

CAREL BERTRAM (2002), *Professor of Humanities*; M.A. (1988), University of California, Berkeley; Ph.D. (1998), University of California, Los Angeles.

BURCU AKAN ELLIS (2004), *Professor of International Relations*; B.A. (1994), Bilkent University, Turkey; Ph.D. (2001), American University.

DINA A. IBRAHIM (2003), *Professor of Broadcast and Electronic Communication Arts*; B.A. (1994), M.A. (1996), The American University in Cairo; Ph.D. (2003), University of Texas at Austin.

ERAN KAPLAN (2011), *Professor of Jewish Studies*; B.A. (1994), Tel Aviv University; Ph.D. (2001), Brandeis University.

SANTHI KAVURI-BAUER (2003), *Professor of Art*; B.A. (1991), Rutgers University; M.A. (1996), Ph.D. (2002), University of California, Los Angeles.

HAFEZ MODIRZADEH (1998), *Professor of Music*; B.A. (1983), San Jose State University; M.F.A. (1986), University of California, Los Angeles; Ph.D. (1992), Wesleyan University.

MAHMOOD MONSHIPOURI (2007), *Professor of International Relations*; B.A. (1975) Teachers' Training University, Tehran, Iran; M.A. (1979), Allamah Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran; Ph.D. (1987), University of Georgia.

MOHAMMAD RAMADAN SALAMA (2005), *Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures*; B.A. (1990), M.A. (1995), University of Ain Shams, Al-Alsun Faculty, Cairo; M.A. (2000), Ph.D. (2005), University of Wisconsin, Madison.

LUCIA VOLK (2003), *Professor of International Relations*; B.A. (1991), Stanford University; M.A. (1994), Georgetown University; Ph.D. (2001), Harvard University.

NICOLE WATTS (2003), *Professor of Political Science*; B.A. (1989), University of Washington; M.A. (1992), University of London School of Oriental and African Studies; Ph.D. (2001), University of Washington.

Associate Professor

MITRA ARA (2011), *Associate Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures*; B.A. (2000), M.A. (2003), Ph.D. (2006), University of California, Berkeley.

MAZIAR BEHROOZ (2002), *Associate Professor of History*; B.A. (1982), Saint Mary's College of California; M.A. (1985), San Francisco State University; C.Phil. (1989), Ph.D. (1993), University of California, Los Angeles.

CHRISTOPHER CHEKURI (2004), *Associate Professor of History*; B.A. (1987), M.A. (1997), Ph.D. (2005), University of Wisconsin, Madison.

SHIRIN A. KHANMOHAMADI (2005), *Associate Professor of Comparative and World Literature*; B.A. (1991), Brown University; M.A. (1996), The University of Texas at Austin; 4 M.A. (1998), Columbia University; Ph.D. (2005), Columbia University.

Middle East and Islamic Studies Minor - 18-21 units

All course work used to satisfy the requirements of the minor must be completed with a minimum grade point average of 2.0.

Core (9-10 units)

Complete at least nine units in the core by taking one course from Section A, one course from Section B, and a third course from either section. MEIS 300 and MEIS 301 may satisfy either Core Section A or B. Any core class taken beyond the required units can be counted towards the required elective units.

Code	Title	Units
Section A: History and Politics		3-4
HIST 381	Islamic World II: 1500 - Present	
HIST 604		

I R 324	Middle East and North Africa in International Relations	
I R 335	Muslim Societies in Transnational Perspective	
PLSI 410	Middle East Politics	
Section B: Arts and Culture		3
ANTH 319	Cultures of the Middle East and North Africa	
ARTH 417	The Art and Architecture of Islam	
HUM 361	Cultural Expression in Islam	
HUM 496	Space and Architecture in the Islamic World	
PHIL 516	Islamic Philosophy	
Section A or B:		3
MEIS 300	Foundations in Middle East and Islamic Studies	
MEIS 301	Islam: Interpretation and Practice	

Electives (9-11 units)

In addition to the three core courses above, take a minimum of three additional courses as electives. Courses that are used to satisfy core requirements may not also be used as electives.

Code	Title	Units
Select at least one course from Part I and at least one course from Part II. The third elective may be taken from either part I or II:		
Part I: History and Politics		
HIST 371	Islam In South Asia: From 1000 A.D. to the Present	3
HIST 372	India and the British Empire	3
HIST 381	Islamic World II: 1500 - Present	3
HIST 382	History of Iran and Afghanistan 1500 - Present	3
HIST 383	Imperialism and Nationalism in the Recent Near East	3
HIST 604		3
I R 323	The Persian Gulf in International Relations	4
I R 324	Middle East and North Africa in International Relations	4
I R 326	South and Southeast Asia Foreign Relations	4
I R 335	Muslim Societies in Transnational Perspective	4
I R/MEIS 433	Model Arab League	4
JS/I R/PLSI 430	Israeli Democracy: Politics, Institutions, and Society	3
PLSI 410	Middle East Politics	4
PLSI 420		4
PLSI/MEIS 431	Constructing Kurdistan	4
PHIL 436	Islamic Political Philosophy	3
Part II: Arts and Culture		
ANTH 319	Cultures of the Middle East and North Africa	3
ARAB 102	Second Semester Arabic	4
ARAB 103	Third Semester Arabic	4
ARAB 104	Fourth Semester Arabic	4
ARAB 206	Intermediate Conversation	3
ARAB 300	Reading Qur'anic Arabic	3
ARAB 600	Modern Arabic Literature and Film in English	3
ARAB 650	Modern Arabic Fiction in English	3
ARTH 417	The Art and Architecture of Islam	3
CWL/HUM 424	Multicultural Middle Ages	3
CWL 430	Heroic Tales of the Mediterranean	3

HEBR 102	Second Semester Modern Hebrew	3
HEBR 201	Third Semester Modern Hebrew	3
HEBR 202	Fourth Semester Modern Hebrew	3
HUM 361	Cultural Expression in Islam	3
HUM 375	Biography of a City: United States Cities (Istanbul)	3
HUM/JS 379	Jerusalem	3
HUM 496	Space and Architecture in the Islamic World	3
JS 408/CINE 314	Israeli Cinema	3
JS/HUM/PHIL 501	Judaism, Christianity, and Islam	3
MUS 530		3
PHIL 516	Islamic Philosophy	3
PHIL 517	Islamic Mysticism	3
PRSN 102	Second Semester Persian	4
PRSN 103	Third Semester Persian	4
PRSN 104	Fourth Semester Persian	4
PRSN 206	Basic Persian Conversation	3
PRSN 260	Persian Culture and Civilization in English	3
PRSN 350	Advanced Persian	3
RRS/ARAB 450	Contemporary Arabic and Arab American Literature	3
WGS 565	Muslim Feminisms	3

Foreign Language Requirement

Students are strongly encouraged to develop proficiency in a Middle Eastern language or a language pertaining to the Islamic world and to commit to more than one semester of language studies. Therefore, second-semester language courses and higher will count towards elective units. Each student will discuss how to incorporate language into their minor during advising sessions.

Study-Abroad Courses

Students completing the Middle East and Islamic Studies minor are strongly encouraged to participate in study-abroad programs, whether through the CSU system or another approved study abroad program. SF State's bilateral exchange with Koç University in Istanbul is particularly suited for MEIS minors. Please attend OIP's informational sessions and then see a MEIS advisor.