MIDDLE EAST AND ISLAMIC STUDIES MINOR

College of Liberal & Creative Arts
Dean: Andrew Harris
Coordinator: Lucia Volk
Humanities Building, Room 576
Phone: (415) 338–2468
Email: lvolk@sfsu.edu

Program Scope

The Middle East and Islamic Studies minor 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. The 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.

Professors
Astren, Azadpur, Banerjee, Kaplan, Modirzadeh, Monshipouri, Volk, Watts

Associate Professors
Behrooz, Bertram, Chekuri, Ellis, Ibrahim, Kavuri-Bauer, Khanmohamadi, Salama

Assistant Professors
Ara, Savci

Middle East and Islamic Studies Minor — 18–22 units

Core (9–11 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.

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.

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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part I: History and Politics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 583 Hindus and Muslims</td>
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<td>HIST 584 India and the British Empire</td>
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<td>HIST 604 Islamic World I: 500 - 1500</td>
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<td>HIST 605 Islamic World II: 1500 - present</td>
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<td>HIST 607 History of Iran and Afghanistan 1500 - Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 608 Hindus and Muslims</td>
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<td>I R 323 The Persian Gulf in International Relations</td>
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<td>I R 324 Middle East and North Africa in International Relations</td>
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<td>I R 326 South and Southeast Asia Foreign Relations</td>
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<td>I R 335 Muslim Societies in Transnational Perspective</td>
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<td>JS/I R/MEIS 433 Model Arab League</td>
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<td>PLSI/MEIS 431 Israeli Democracy: Politics, Institutions, and Society</td>
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<th>Part II: Arts and Culture</th>
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<td>ANTH 319 Cultures of the Middle East and North Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARAB 102 Second Semester Arabic</td>
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<td>ARAB 103 Third Semester Arabic</td>
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<td>ARAB 104 Fourth Semester Arabic</td>
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<td>ARAB 206 Intermediate Conversation</td>
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<td>ARAB 300 Reading Qur’anic Arabic</td>
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ARAB 600  Modern Arabic Literature and Film in English  3
ARAB 650  Modern Arabic Fiction in English  3
ART 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 (Istanbul)  3
HUM/JS 377  Jerusalem  3
HUM 496  Islam and the Poetics of Space  3
JS/CINE 408  Israeli Cinema  3
JS/HUM/PHIL 501  Judaism, Christianity, and Islam  3
MUS 530  Musics of the Middle East and India  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.