Middle East and North Africa Studies, Minor

Director: Enaya Othman, Ph.D.

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) encompasses the region from Mauritania in the west to Iran and Central Asia in the east, the Mediterranean in the north and Saharan and Sahelian Africa in the south. The MENA Studies program engages one of the most strategic regions of the world and its diasporas linguistically, culturally, historically, theologically, politically, socially and economically. The program utilizes interdisciplinary approaches to provide students with holistic knowledge about the home of the three Abrahamic religions and the world’s oldest civilizations. Students majoring or minoring in MENA Studies will acquire the skills to employ their learning in many careers including public policy, diplomacy, international business, national security, journalism, law, humanitarian work, public health or social work. Its learning objectives include:

- Develop critical and analytical research skills to investigate topics about the region from an interdisciplinary perspective applying quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-method approaches.
- Gain knowledge of the region’s geography, cultures, populations, and languages.
- Develop functional proficiency in Arabic.
- Understand theoretical approaches that informs historical, cultural, political, and cultural discourses.
- Understand the transaction of cross-cultural exchange toward developing appreciation of cultures.
- Explore the cultural intersections of gender and race.
- Raise awareness of and interest in global and religious diversity, human well-being, and social justice thereby helping to develop students as global citizens for the future.

Students majoring or minoring in MENA are encouraged to minor in the Arabic Language and Culture Studies.

Middle East and North Africa Studies Minor

The interdisciplinary minor requires 18–20 credits, depending on the student's proficiency in Arabic upon beginning the program. Foundational courses in Arabic language study (6–8 credits). Electives (12 credits) from historical, theological, social and cultural context courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARBC 1001</td>
<td>Elementary Arabic 1</td>
<td>6-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARBC 1002</td>
<td>Elementary Arabic 2</td>
<td></td>
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<td>ARBC 2001</td>
<td>Intermediate Arabic 1</td>
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<td>ARBC 2002</td>
<td>Intermediate Arabic 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARBC 3001</td>
<td>Grammar Review and Skills Development</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ARBC 3002</td>
<td>Spoken Arabic</td>
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Elective Courses. Choose four of the following:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 3312</td>
<td>Anthropology of Religion</td>
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<td>ANTH 3360</td>
<td>People and Cultures of the Middle East</td>
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<td>ARBC 3001</td>
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<td>Spoken Arabic</td>
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<td>ARBC 3200</td>
<td>Culture and Civilization of the Middle East</td>
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<td>ARBC 3210</td>
<td>Arabic Literature in English Translation</td>
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<td>ARBC 3220</td>
<td>Arab and Muslim Women in the United States</td>
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<td>ARBC 3705</td>
<td>Arabic for Media</td>
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<td>ARBC 3800</td>
<td>Re-envision of Disability</td>
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<td>FREN 4200</td>
<td>Francophone Literature: Non-Western</td>
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<td>FREN 4240</td>
<td>Francophone Popular Culture</td>
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<td>FREN 4310</td>
<td>Francophone History and Politics: Western</td>
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<td>HIST 4212</td>
<td>The Crusades</td>
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<td>HIST 3205</td>
<td>The Byzantine Empire</td>
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<td>HIST 3455</td>
<td>Middle East</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 4450</td>
<td>North Africa</td>
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<td>PHIL 3506</td>
<td>Philosophy of Race</td>
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<td>PHIL 3620</td>
<td>Medieval Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>POSC 4621</td>
<td>Politics of the World Economy</td>
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</table>
Notes:

1. In addition to the courses listed, students may apply as electives study abroad courses relevant to Middle East and North Africa studies with the approval of the program director.

2. Students may take ARBC 3001 Grammar Review and Skills Development and ARBC 3002 Spoken Arabic as electives courses only if they have not taken them as foundational courses.

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