

# MIDDLE EAST STUDIES, CERTIFICATE

Given the immense importance of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region in shaping contemporary world politics, the Middle East Studies certificate is designed to provide an interdisciplinary perspective of the region's history and contemporary dynamics and their representations across the diaspora. The MES certificate offers a unique opportunity for students to develop their interest and knowledge of the MENA region through a wide range of courses taught by UW professors with great expertise in the fields of political science, history, religious studies, sociology/anthropology, art history, literature, and modern languages.

MES certificate will give students a variety of career opportunities in international affairs, public policy, journalism, governmental institutions, education, public health, humanitarian organizations, economic development, and security, or going on to graduate school and a career in academia.

## HOW TO GET IN

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Students interested in declaring the undergraduate certificate should contact the advisor.

## REQUIREMENTS

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**18 credits** are required, as follows:

#### CORE COURSE

Complete one core course:

Code	Title	Credits
HISTORY 139	Introduction to the Modern Middle East	3-4
INTL ST 266	Introduction to the Middle East	3

#### MIDDLE EASTERN LANGUAGE COURSE

One course required from:

Code	Title	Credits
AFRICAN 322	Second Semester Arabic	5
AFRICAN 340	Second Semester Summer Arabic	4
ASIALANG 138	Second Semester Persian	4
GNS 340	Second Semester Turkish	4
HEBR-MOD 102	Second Semester Hebrew	4
HEBR-MOD 311	Second Semester Intensive Modern Hebrew	4

#### HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSES

One course required from:

Code	Title	Credits
ANTHRO 322	The Origins of Civilization	3
CURRIC 292	Globalizing Education	3
CLASSICS 308	Sex and Violence in the Ancient Near East	3
CLASSICS 321	The Egyptians: History, Society, and Literature	3
GEOG 307	International Migration, Health, and Human Rights	3
GEOG 340	World Regions in Global Context	3
GEN&WS/ INTL ST 535	Women's Global Health and Human Rights	3
GEN&WS/ POLI SCI 435	Politics of Gender and Women's Rights in the Middle East	3
HIST SCI/ENVIR ST/ RELIG ST 356	Islam, Science & Technology, and the Environment	3-4
HISTORY/ CLASSICS 110	The Ancient Mediterranean	4
HISTORY 111		3-4
HISTORY 112		4
HISTORY/ RELIG ST 205	The Making of the Islamic World: The Middle East, 500-1500	3-4
HISTORY/ JEWISH 220	Introduction to Modern Jewish History	4
HISTORY/GNS 265	An Introduction to Central Asia: From the Silk Route to Afghanistan	3
HISTORY/ MEDIEVAL/ RELIG ST 309	The Crusades: Christianity and Islam	3-4
INTL ST 401	Topics in Global Security	3-4
POLI SCI 320	Governments and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3-4
POLI SCI 323	Islam and World Politics	3-4
POLI SCI/ JEWISH 341	Israeli Politics and Society	3-4
POLI SCI 347	Terrorism	3
POLI SCI 370	Islam and Politics	3-4
POLI SCI 529	Arab-Israeli Conflict	3-4

#### RELIGION AND CULTURE COURSES

One course required from:

Code	Title	Credits
AFRICAN 231	Introduction to Arabic Literary Culture	3
AFRICAN 300	African Literature in Translation	3
AFRICAN/ INTL ST 302	Arabic Literature and Cinema	3
AFRICAN/ASIAN/ RELIG ST 370	Islam: Religion and Culture	3-4
AFRICAN 445	Advanced Readings in Arabic Texts	3
ART HIST 305	History of Islamic Art and Architecture	3
ART HIST 310	Icons, Religion, and Empire: Early Christian and Byzantine Art, ca. 200-1453	3

ART HIST/ RELIG ST 373	Great Cities of Islam	3	JEWISH/AFRICAN/ MEDIEVAL/ RELIG ST 462	Muslims and Jews	3
ART HIST 413	Art and Architecture in the Age of the Caliphs	3	LITTRANS/JEWISH/ RELIG ST 328	Classical Rabbinic Literature in Translation	3-4
ART HIST 440	Art and Power in the Arab World	3	LITTRANS/ JEWISH 367	Israeli Fiction in Translation	3-4
ART HIST 510	Proseminar in Islamic Art and Architecture	3	RELIG ST/ ASIAN 206	The Qur'an: Religious Scripture & Literature	3
ASIAN/ RELIG ST 206	The Qur'an: Religious Scripture & Literature	3	RELIG ST/ JEWISH 211	Introduction to Judaism	4
ASIAN 444		3	RELIG ST/ CLASSICS/ JEWISH 335	King David in History and Tradition	3
CLASSICS 321	The Egyptians: History, Society, and Literature	3	RELIG ST/ CLASSICS/ JEWISH 346	Jewish Literature of the Greco-Roman Period	3
CLASSICS/HEBR- BIB/JEWISH/ LITTRANS/ RELIG ST 332	Prophets of the Bible	4	RELIG ST/ENVIR ST/ HIST SCI 356	Islam, Science & Technology, and the Environment	3-4
CLASSICS/JEWISH/ RELIG ST 335	King David in History and Tradition	3			
CLASSICS/JEWISH/ RELIG ST 346	Jewish Literature of the Greco-Roman Period	3			
CLASSICS/ JEWISH 451	Biblical Archaeology	3			
CLASSICS/ HISTORY/ RELIG ST 517	Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean	3			
FRENCH 285	Rebellious Women	3-4			
GNS 460	Readings in Turkish: Contemporary Turkey through Literature and Media	4			
HISTORY/ RELIG ST 205	The Making of the Islamic World: The Middle East, 500-1500	3-4			
HEBR-BIB/ CLASSICS/ JEWISH/LITTRANS/ RELIG ST 332	Prophets of the Bible	4			
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 301	Introduction to Hebrew Literature	3			
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 302	Introduction to Hebrew Literature	3			
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 401	Topics in Modern Hebrew / Israeli Literature and Culture I	3			
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 402	Topics in Modern Hebrew / Israeli Literature and Culture II	3			
JEWISH/CLASSICS/ LITTRANS/ RELIG ST 227	Introduction to Biblical Literature (in English)	4			
JEWISH/ CLASSICS 241	Introduction to Biblical Archaeology	4			
JEWISH/ RELIG ST 278	Food in Rabbinic Judaism	3-4			
JEWISH/ RELIG ST 322	The Sabbath	3			
JEWISH 356	Jerusalem, Holy City of Conflict and Desire	3			
JEWISH/ LITTRANS 367	Israeli Fiction in Translation	3-4			
JEWISH 430	Intermediate Topics in Jewish Literature	3-4			

## ELECTIVES

Additional course work from the categories above, or the following may be used to meet reach the minimum 18 credits required.<sup>1</sup>

Code	Title	Credits
AFRICAN 325	Colloquial Arabic	2
AFRICAN 326	Colloquial Arabic	2
AFRICAN 329	Fifth Semester Arabic	3
AFRICAN 330	Sixth Semester Arabic	3
AFRICAN 343	Fifth Semester Summer Arabic	4
AFRICAN 344	Sixth Semester Summer Arabic	4
AFRICAN 445	Advanced Readings in Arabic Texts	3
ASIALANG 337	Fifth Semester Persian	3
ASIALANG 338	Sixth Semester Persian	3-4
CLASSICS/ HISTORY/ RELIG ST 517	Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean	3
CURRIC 292	Globalizing Education	3
CURRIC 366	Internationalizing Educational Knowledge	3
GNS 529	Advanced Summer Immersion Turkish	8
GNS 539	Fifth Semester Turkish and Azeri	3-4
GNS 540	Sixth Semester Turkish and Azeri	3-4
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 301	Introduction to Hebrew Literature	3
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 302	Introduction to Hebrew Literature	3
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 401	Topics in Modern Hebrew / Israeli Literature and Culture I	3
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 402	Topics in Modern Hebrew / Israeli Literature and Culture II	3
JEWISH/CLASSICS/ LITTRANS/ RELIG ST 227	Introduction to Biblical Literature (in English)	4

JEWISH/PHILOS/ Jewish Philosophy from Antiquity to  
RELIG ST 435 the Seventeenth Century

## RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK

- At least 9 certificate credits must be completed in residence.
- Minimum 2.000 GPA on all certificate courses.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> A maximum of 3 credits of Advanced Language may apply to the certificate.

## CERTIFICATE COMPLETION REQUIREMENT

This undergraduate certificate must be completed concurrently with the student's undergraduate degree. Students cannot delay degree completion to complete the certificate.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. (Historical and Cultural Grounding) understanding the historical, political, and cultural forces and conditions that have given rise to the unity and diversity in the region today.
2. (Multi-disciplinarity) analyzing contemporary political, economic, and cultural realities in the region from at least two disciplinary perspectives, ideally including humanities, social sciences and sometimes natural science approaches.
3. (Depth of knowledge) mastering at the undergraduate generalist level a particular facet of life in the region by taking courses on a particular sub-region or country, or by studying a regional language, or by taking at least two courses on the region in one discipline.

### ADVISING AND CAREERS

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Advising for the certificate is run by the Institute for Regional and International Studies (<https://iris.wisc.edu/>) (IRIS). The IRIS Assistant Director for Students and Curriculum advises the certificate and can assist you in developing your plan of study, track progress toward your certificate, explore study abroad and international internship options, and begin the career exploration process. We offer walk-in advising, advising workshops, and scheduled appointments. We strongly encourage students to begin career exploration early on and to make use of the many resources available on campus.

## RESOURCES

- Language and International Directions Advising (<http://www.languages.wisc.edu/languageadvising/>) (Language Institute)
- International Internship Program (<http://internships.international.wisc.edu/>)

## 3 L&S CAREER RESOURCES

Every L&S major opens a world of possibilities. SuccessWorks (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/>) at the College of Letters & Science helps students turn the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and other coursework into fulfilling lives after graduation, whether that means jobs, public service, graduate school or other career pursuits.

In addition to providing basic support like resume reviews and interview practice, SuccessWorks offers ways to explore interests and build career skills from their very first semester/term at UW all the way through graduation and beyond.

Students can explore careers in one-on-one advising, try out different career paths, complete internships, prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications, and connect with supportive alumni and even employers in the fields that inspire them.

- SuccessWorks (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/>)
- Set up a career advising appointment (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- Enroll in a Career Course (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/career-courses/>) - a great idea for first- and second-year students:
  - INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit)
  - INTER-LS 215 Communicating About Careers (3 credits, fulfills Comm B General Education Requirement)
- Learn about internships and internship funding (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/>)
  - INTER-LS 260 Internship in the Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Activate your Handshake account (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/handshake/>) to apply for jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers recruiting UW-Madison students
- Learn about the impact SuccessWorks has on students' lives (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/about/mission/>)

### PEOPLE

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**Steven Brooke**, Middle East Studies Program Director  
**Tsela Barr**, Assistant Director

MESP Core Faculty (<https://mideast.wisc.edu/core-faculty/>) and Staff (<https://mideast.wisc.edu/staff/>)

### WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE

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As a regional center within the Institute for Regional and International Studies (<https://iris.wisc.edu/>), we support and enhance international and global awareness in our student communities and inspire informed thinking about the complexities of our world. We encourage our students to connect to international networks and our regional communities through our program's lecture series, film screenings, and varied outreach events and activities. We encourage our students to study abroad, do international internships, and learn foreign languages, and we expect them to gain an interdisciplinary grounding in global and regional affairs. We provide resources and expertise on our world area to students, and prospective students, and more broadly to K-12 teachers and students,

postsecondary educators and graduate students, businesses, the media, the military, the community at large, and anyone else who is interested.

## RESOURCES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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Information about funding through the Middle East Studies Program is available on our website (<https://mideast.wisc.edu/funding-resources/>). We also encourage our students to explore funding options available through the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS) Awards Office (<https://iris.wisc.edu/funding/>).