

MIDDLE EAST STUDIES, CERTIFICATE

The Middle East studies certificate introduces undergraduate students to a multidisciplinary course of study that provides them with an informed overview of the history, civilizations, religions, politics, geographies, and economic factors that shape the cultural landscape of this dynamic and often volatile region.

The certificate provides in-depth training in a special area that may be particularly useful as students pursue careers in a variety of fields. These can include academia, law, public history, education, business, and even medicine, where they will practice their profession abroad or use their international experience to expand their understandings of these regions as they work with topics on or populations from diverse societies in the Middle East.

HOW TO GET IN

Students interested in declaring the undergraduate certificate should contact the IRIS Assistant Director for Students and Curriculum.

REQUIREMENTS

CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

18 credits are required, as follows:

CORE COURSE

Code	Title	Credits
HISTORY 139	The Middle East in the 20th Century	
INTL ST 266	Introduction to the Middle East	

MIDDLE EASTERN LANGUAGE COURSE

One course required from:

Code	Title	Credits
ASIALANG 138	Second Semester Persian	
ASIALANG 341	Elementary Summer Immersion Persian	
HEBR-MOD 102	Second Semester Hebrew	
AFRICAN 322	Second Semester Arabic	
AFRICAN 327		
AFRICAN 340	Second Semester Summer Arabic	
GNS 329	Elementary Summer Immersion Turkish	
GNS 340	Second Semester Turkish	

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSES

One course required from:

Code	Title	Credits
ANTHRO 322	The Origins of Civilization	
ANTHRO/ LINGUIS 430	Language and Culture	

CURRIC 292	Globalizing Education
GEOG 307	International Migration, Health, and Human Rights
GEOG 340	World Regions in Global Context
GEN&WS 424	Women's International Human Rights
GEN&WS/ INTL ST 535	Women's Global Health and Human Rights
HISTORY/ CLASSICS 110	The Ancient Mediterranean
HISTORY 111	Culture & Society in the Ancient Mediterranean
HISTORY/ MEDIEVAL/ RELIG ST 112	The World of Late Antiquity (200-900 C.E.)
HISTORY 139	The Middle East in the 20th Century
HISTORY/ RELIG ST 205	The Making of the Islamic World: The Middle East, 500-1500
HISTORY/ JEWISH 220	Introduction to Modern Jewish History
HISTORY/ RELIG ST 230	Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: Braided Histories
HISTORY/ GNS 265	An Introduction to Central Asia: From the Silk Route to Afghanistan
HISTORY/ MEDIEVAL/ RELIG ST 309	The Crusades: Christianity and Islam
HISTORY/ MEDIEVAL 313	Introduction to Byzantine History and Civilization
HISTORY/ JEWISH 374	Modern Political History of the Jews: Era of Mass Movements, 1870-1970
HISTORY/ RELIG ST 379	Islam in Iran
HISTORY/ RELIG ST 439	Islamic History From the Origin of Islam to the Ottoman Empire
HISTORY 500	Reading Seminar in History
HISTORY/ HIST SCI/ MED HIST/ MEDIEVAL/ S&A PHM 562	Byzantine Medicine and Pharmacy
HIST SCI 280	Honors Seminar: Studies in Science, Technology, Medicine
INTL ST 401	Topics in Global Security
JEWISH/ HISTORY 220	Introduction to Modern Jewish History
JEWISH 231	Elementary Topics in Jewish History
JEWISH 233	Elementary Topics in Jewish Studies: Social Sciences
POLI SCI 320	Governments and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa
POLI SCI 323	Islam and World Politics
POLI SCI 347	Terrorism
POLI SCI 529	Arab-Israeli Conflict

POLI SCI/
JEWISH 665 Israeli Politics and Society

RELIGION AND CULTURE COURSES

One course required from:

Code	Title	Credits
AFRICAN 231	Introduction to Arabic Literary Culture	
AFRICAN/ASIAN/ RELIG ST 370	Islam: Religion and Culture	
AFRICAN 445	Advanced Readings in Arabic Texts	
ART HIST 201	History of Western Art I: From Pyramids to Cathedrals	
ART HIST 210	A History of the World in 20 Buildings	
ART HIST 305	History of Islamic Art and Architecture	
ART HIST 310	Icons, Religion, and Empire: Early Christian and Byzantine Art, ca. 200-1453	
ART HIST/ RELIG ST 373	Great Cities of Islam	
ART HIST 413	Art and Architecture in the Age of the Caliphs	
ART HIST 440	Art and Power in the Arab World	
ASIAN/ RELIG ST 206	The Qur'an: Religious Scripture & Literature	
CLASSICS/ ART HIST 304	The Art and Archaeology of Ancient Rome	
CLASSICS 321	The Egyptians: History, Society, and Literature	
CLASSICS 330	Ancient Epic	
CLASSICS/HEBR- BIB/JEWISH/ LITTRANS/ RELIG ST 332	Prophets of the Bible	
CLASSICS/ JEWISH/ RELIG ST 335	King David in History and Tradition	
CLASSICS/ JEWISH/ RELIG ST 346	Jewish Literature of the Greco-Roman Period	
CLASSICS 370	Classical Mythology	
CLASSICS/ JEWISH 451	Biblical Archaeology	
CLASSICS/ HISTORY/ RELIG ST 517	Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean	
FOLKLORE/ MUSIC 103	Introduction to Music Cultures of the World	
HISTORY/ RELIG ST 205	The Making of the Islamic World: The Middle East, 500-1500	
HISTORY/ CLASSICS/ RELIG ST 517	Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean	
HEBR-BIB 103	Elementary Biblical Hebrew, I	

HEBR-BIB 104	Elementary Biblical Hebrew, II
HEBR-BIB 303	Elementary Biblical Hebrew, I
HEBR-BIB 304	Elementary Biblical Hebrew, II
HEBR-BIB 323	Intermediate Biblical Hebrew, I
HEBR-BIB 324	Intermediate Biblical Hebrew, II
HEBR-BIB/ CLASSICS/ JEWISH/ LITTRANS/ RELIG ST 332	Prophets of the Bible
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 301	Introduction to Hebrew Literature
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 302	Introduction to Hebrew Literature
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 401	Topics in Modern Hebrew / Israeli Literature and Culture I
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 402	Topics in Modern Hebrew / Israeli Literature and Culture II
JEWISH/ CLASSICS/ LITTRANS/ RELIG ST 227	Introduction to Biblical Literature (in English)
JEWISH 230	Elementary Topics in Jewish Literature
JEWISH 231	Elementary Topics in Jewish History
JEWISH 232	Elementary Topics in Jewish Philosophy and the Arts
JEWISH/ CLASSICS 241	Introduction to Biblical Archaeology
JEWISH/ RELIG ST 278	Food in Rabbinic Judaism
JEWISH/ LITTRANS 318	Modern Jewish Literature
JEWISH 343	Israeli Fiction in Translation
JEWISH/ CLASSICS/ RELIG ST 346	Jewish Literature of the Greco-Roman Period
JEWISH 356	Jerusalem, Holy City of Conflict and Desire
JEWISH/ LITTRANS 367	Israeli Fiction in Translation
JEWISH/HEBR- MOD 401	Topics in Modern Hebrew / Israeli Literature and Culture I
JEWISH/HEBR- MOD 402	Topics in Modern Hebrew / Israeli Literature and Culture II
JEWISH 430	Intermediate Topics in Jewish Literature
JEWISH 431	Intermediate Topics in Jewish History
JEWISH 432	Intermediate Topics in Jewish Philosophy and the Arts
JEWISH/PHILOS/ RELIG ST 435	Jewish Philosophy from Antiquity to the Seventeenth Century
JEWISH 533	Readings in Contemporary Hebrew Literature

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LITTRANS/ RELIG ST 257	Literatures of Muslim Societies in Translation
LITTRANS/ JEWISH 318	Modern Jewish Literature
LITTRANS/ JEWISH/ RELIG ST 328	Classical Rabbinic Literature in Translation
LITTRANS/ JEWISH 367	Israeli Fiction in Translation
PHILOS/JEWISH/ RELIG ST 435	Jewish Philosophy from Antiquity to the Seventeenth Century
RELIG ST 101	Religion in Global Perspective
RELIG ST 103	Exploring Religion and Sexuality
RELIG ST/ HISTORY 205	The Making of the Islamic World: The Middle East, 500-1500
RELIG ST/ ASIAN 206	The Qur'an: Religious Scripture & Literature
RELIG ST/ JEWISH 211	Introduction to Judaism
RELIG ST/ HISTORY 230	Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: Braided Histories
RELIG ST/ CLASSICS/ JEWISH 335	King David in History and Tradition
RELIG ST/ CLASSICS/ JEWISH 346	Jewish Literature of the Greco-Roman Period
RELIG ST/ ENVIR ST/ HIST SCI 356	Islam, Science & Technology, and the Environment
RELIG ST/ AFRICAN/ ASIAN 370	Islam: Religion and Culture
RELIG ST/ JEWISH/ PHILOS 435	Jewish Philosophy from Antiquity to the Seventeenth Century
RELIG ST/ HISTORY 439	Islamic History From the Origin of Islam to the Ottoman Empire
RELIG ST/ ASIAN 444	Introduction to Sufism (Islamic Mysticism)
RELIG ST/ JEWISH 448	Classical Rabbinic Texts
ASIAN/AFRICAN/ RELIG ST 370	Islam: Religion and Culture
ASIAN/ RELIG ST 444	Introduction to Sufism (Islamic Mysticism)
ASIAN/ ART HIST 379	Cities of Asia

ELECTIVES

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

Code	Title	Credits
AFRICAN 325	Colloquial Arabic	
AFRICAN 326	Colloquial Arabic	
AFRICAN 329	Fifth Semester Arabic	
AFRICAN 330	Sixth Semester Arabic	
AFRICAN 343	Fifth Semester Summer Arabic	
AFRICAN 344	Sixth Semester Summer Arabic	
AFRICAN 445	Advanced Readings in Arabic Texts	
AFRICAN 495	Fifth Semester, A Language of Northern Africa	
AFRICAN 496	Sixth Semester, A Language of Northern Africa	
AFRICAN 527		
ANTHRO/ RELIG ST 343	Anthropology of Religion	
ANTHRO/ LINGUIS 430	Language and Culture	
ASIALANG 337	Fifth Semester Persian	
ASIALANG 338	Sixth Semester Persian	
ASIALANG 541	Advanced Summer Immersion Persian	
CLASSICS 376	Love Poetry of the Ancient Mediterranean	
CLASSICS/ HISTORY/ RELIG ST 517	Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean	
GNS 529	Advanced Summer Immersion Turkish	
GNS 539	Fifth Semester Turkish and Azeri	
GNS 540	Sixth Semester Turkish and Azeri	
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 301	Introduction to Hebrew Literature	
HISTORY/ MEDIEVAL 313	Introduction to Byzantine History and Civilization	
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 302	Introduction to Hebrew Literature	
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 401	Topics in Modern Hebrew / Israeli Literature and Culture I	
HEBR-MOD/ JEWISH 402	Topics in Modern Hebrew / Israeli Literature and Culture II	
HISTORY/ HIST SCI/ MED HIST/ MEDIEVAL/ S&A PHM 562	Byzantine Medicine and Pharmacy	
JEWISH/ CLASSICS/ LITTRANS/ RELIG ST 227	Introduction to Biblical Literature (in English)	
JEWISH/PHILOS/ RELIG ST 435	Jewish Philosophy from Antiquity to the Seventeenth Century	

¹ A maximum of 3 credits of Advanced Language may apply to the Certificate.

RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK

- A minimum of 9 Certificate credits must be in residence
- Minimum 2.000 GPA in all Certificate courses

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

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

Advising for the certificate is run by the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS). The IRIS Assistant Director for Students and Curriculum can assist you in developing your plan of study for the certificate, 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/>)

L&S CAREER RESOURCES

SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science helps students leverage the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and liberal arts degree; explore and try out different career paths; participate in internships; prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications; and network with professionals in the field (alumni and employers). In short, SuccessWorks helps students in the College of Letters & Science discover themselves, find opportunities, and develop the skills they need for success after graduation.

SuccessWorks can also assist students in career advising, résumé and cover letter writing, networking opportunities, and interview skills, as well as course offerings for undergraduates to begin their career exploration early in their undergraduate career.

Students should set up their profiles in Handshake (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/handshake/>) to take care of everything they need to explore career events, manage their campus interviews, and **apply to jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers around the country.**

- SuccessWorks (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/>)
- Set up a career advising appointment (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit, targeted to first- and second-year students)—for more information, see Inter-LS 210: Career Development, Taking Initiative (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/inter-ls-210-career-development-taking-initiative/>)
- INTER-LS 215 Communicating About Careers (3 credits, fulfills Com B General Education Requirement)
- Handshake (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/handshake/>)
- Learn how we're transforming career preparation: L&S Career Initiative (<http://ls.wisc.edu/lsci/>)

PEOPLE

Middle East Studies Program Steering Committee: El Nossery, Layoun, Pruitt, Quraishi-Landes, Shelef.

WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE

As a regional center within the Institute for Regional and International Studies, 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

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/>).