

# 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

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

## REQUIREMENTS

### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CERTIFICATE

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

#### CORE COURSE

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

#### MIDDLE EASTERN LANGUAGE COURSE

One course required from:

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

#### HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSES

One course required from:

Code	Title	Credits
ANTHRO 322	The Origins of Civilization	
CURRIC 292	Globalizing Education	
CLASSICS 308	Sex and Violence in the Ancient Near East	
CLASSICS 321	The Egyptians: History, Society, and Literature	
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	
GEN&WS/ POLI SCI 435	Politics of Gender and Women's Rights in the Middle East	
HIST SCI/ ENVIR ST/ RELIG ST 356	Islam, Science & Technology, and the Environment	
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	Introduction to the Modern Middle East	
HISTORY/ RELIG ST 205	The Making of the Islamic World: The Middle East, 500-1500	
HISTORY/ JEWISH 220	Introduction to Modern Jewish History	
HISTORY/ GNS 265	An Introduction to Central Asia: From the Silk Route to Afghanistan	
HISTORY/ MEDIEVAL/ RELIG ST 309	The Crusades: Christianity and Islam	
INTL ST 401	Topics in Global Security	
JEWISH/ HISTORY 220	Introduction to Modern Jewish History	
JEWISH 231	Elementary Topics in Jewish History	
JEWISH 232	Elementary Topics in Jewish Philosophy and the Arts	
POLI SCI 320	Governments and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	
POLI SCI 323	Islam and World Politics	
POLI SCI/ JEWISH 341	Israeli Politics and Society	
POLI SCI 347	Terrorism	
POLI SCI/ HISTORY 370	Islam and Politics	
POLI SCI/ GEN&WS 435	Politics of Gender and Women's Rights in the Middle East	
POLI SCI 529	Arab-Israeli Conflict	

## RELIGION AND CULTURE COURSES

One course required from:

Code	Title	Credits
AFRICAN 231	Introduction to Arabic Literary Culture	
AFRICAN 300	African Literature in Translation	
AFRICAN/ INTL ST 302	Arabic Literature and Cinema	
AFRICAN/ASIAN/ RELIG ST 370	Islam: Religion and Culture	
AFRICAN 445	Advanced Readings in Arabic Texts	
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	
ART HIST 510	Proseminar in Islamic Art and Architecture	
ASIAN/ RELIG ST 206	The Qur'an: Religious Scripture & Literature	
ASIAN/AFRICAN/ RELIG ST 370	Islam: Religion and Culture	
ASIAN/ ART HIST 379	Cities of Asia	
ASIAN/ RELIG ST 444	Introduction to Sufism (Islamic Mysticism)	
CLASSICS 321	The Egyptians: History, Society, and Literature	
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/ JEWISH 451	Biblical Archaeology	
CLASSICS/ HISTORY/ RELIG ST 517	Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean	
FRENCH 285	Rebellious Women	
GNS 460	Readings in Turkish: Contemporary Turkey through Literature and Media	
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/ 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/ CLASSICS 241	Introduction to Biblical Archaeology	
JEWISH/ RELIG ST 278	Food in Rabbinic Judaism	
JEWISH/ LITTRANS 318	Modern Jewish Literature	
JEWISH/ RELIG ST 322	The Sabbath	
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/ AFRICAN/ MEDIEVAL/ RELIG ST 462	Muslims and Jews	
LITTRANS/ JEWISH/ RELIG ST 328	Classical Rabbinic Literature in Translation	
LITTRANS/ JEWISH 367	Israeli Fiction in Translation	
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/ 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/ ASIAN 444	Introduction to Sufism (Islamic Mysticism)
RELIG ST/ CLASSICS/ HISTORY 517	Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean

## 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	
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	
ASIALANG 337	Fifth Semester Persian	
ASIALANG 338	Sixth Semester Persian	
CLASSICS/ HISTORY/ RELIG ST 517	Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean	
CURRIC 292	Globalizing Education	
CURRIC 366	Internationalizing Educational Knowledge	
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	
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/PHILOS/ RELIG ST 435	Jewish Philosophy from Antiquity to 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

1

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

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 (<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/>)

## 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/>)

through the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS) Awards Office (<https://iris.wisc.edu/funding/>).

## PEOPLE

**Steven Brooke**, Middle East Studies Program Director

**Tsela Barr**, Assistant Director

**Lindsey Bliefenicht**, Assistant Director for Students and Curriculum and Advisor

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

## WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE

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

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