Middle Eastern Studies minor

5 courses, including 3 required foundation courses and 2 electives

The interdisciplinary minor invites students to explore the links between the Arabic language, the history, and the politics of the Middle Eastern region and nearby nations. Through a series of core classes plus electives in multiple departments, students gain an understanding of the cultural complexities and relations between countries such as the United Arab Emirates, Israel, and Egypt, but also Algeria and Pakistan. With its interdisciplinary focus on the history and cultures of the Middle East, the minor invites students to gain insights into a region that is often at the center of contemporary discussions related to, among others, diplomacy, immigration, trade, and religion. The minor complements a wide array of majors, such as history, anthropology, sociology, economics, and international or comparative politics, and prepares students for graduate work and careers in any of these fields and professional careers in education, business, government, politics, foreign service, law, and journalism, among others. Five (5) units in the following distribution are required for the minor—with no more than a total of 2 courses in any one discipline.

**Foundation courses (3):** One each in AB, HI, and GOV
AB 101, 102
HI 263, 264, 356
GOV 241, 250*, 267

* GOV 250 can be substituted with RE 205 as they are cross-listed.

**Electives (2):** Two additional units must be taken from the list of classes below.

**Course offerings in Middle Eastern Studies**

**Arabic**
AB 101: Introductory Arabic I
AB 102: Introductory Arabic II
Or any other AB course

**Art History**
AH 220: Islamic Art and Archeology
AH 223: City and Empire: Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archeology

**Anthropology**
AN 201: Comparative Cultures

**English**
EN 314: Decolonizing the Mind
French
FR 242: Francophone Civilization

Government and Politics
GOV 241: History and Politics of Israel
GOV 250: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam (cross-listed with RE 205)
GOV 251: International Politics
GOV 267: US Foreign Policy in the Middle East

History
HI 253: The World of the Crusades
HI 263: Islam in Historical Perspective
HI 264: History of Islam
HI 269: France and the Francophone World
HI 356: Middle Eastern History and Politics

Philosophy and Religion
RE 205: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam (cross-listed with GOV 250)

Sociology
SO 306: Crossing Borders: Immigration and American Identities

Students may petition to the chair of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures for another course, including Special Topics courses, Expanding Your Horizons, or transfer credits for courses in a language spoken in the region (including Hebrew, Farsi, Turkish, among others), to count towards the minor. Independent Study or Internship Credit is also possible (requires prior approval from the chair of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures).