

# MIDDLE EAST STUDIES

The Middle East Studies BA is a multi-disciplinary program that requires three-years of foreign language study (typically in Arabic, though the program can accept transfer credit in other languages with certain conditions). Students build skills and knowledge through coursework in three areas: A) History, B) Language and Literature, and C) Social and Cultural Studies. They complete their degree with a capstone course that draws upon that expertise. The program allows for an emphasis on the transnational and diasporic experiences of people with heritage ties to the region so students can take advantage of our campus' Center for Arab American Studies and the Armenian Research Center. In addition to preparing students for graduate study of the modern Middle East, this BA provides a solid foundation for a variety of careers in which language, social, and cultural expertise alongside oral and written communication skills are desirable.

The Middle East Studies Certificate (MEST) is a credential for students who have studied the history and culture of the Middle East from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. Requiring a minimum of 12-16 upper level credits after the completion of prerequisites, the MEST Certificate can complement your major or stand alone as a post baccalaureate credential.

## Dearborn Discovery Core (General Education)

All students must satisfy the University's Dearborn Discovery Core requirements ([https://catalog.umd.umich.edu/undergraduate/gen\\_ed\\_ddc/](https://catalog.umd.umich.edu/undergraduate/gen_ed_ddc/)), in addition to the requirements for the major. Students must also complete all CASL Degree Requirements. (<https://catalog.umd.umich.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences-letters/>)

## Prerequisites to the Major

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Pre-Major Requirements</b>		
All of the following are required:		
HIST 101	The World to 1500 CE	3
or HIST 103	The World Since 1500 CE	
COMP 106	Writing & Rhetoric II <sup>1</sup>	3
or AAST 238	Storytelling: Arab American Literature	
or AAST 267	Arab & Arab American Workshop	
ARBC 101	Introduction to Arabic Language and Culture 1 <sup>2</sup>	4
ARBC 102	Beginning Arabic II <sup>2</sup>	4
ARBC 201	Introduction to Arabic Language and Culture 3	4
ARBC 202	Introduction to Arabic Language and Culture 4	4
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>22</b>

<sup>1</sup> COMP 220 or COMP 270 or COMP 280 may substitute for COMP 106.

<sup>2</sup> If a student is proficient (per test) to 300+ level in a Middle Eastern language other than Arabic, Arabic 101-102 must still be taken.

## Major Requirements

For a major in Middle East Studies, students are required to complete 30 upper level credit hours from the following:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Required Arabic (ARBC) Courses</b>		
ARBC 301	Advanced Arabic Writing and Conversation	4
Arabic Elective: Any one upper level ARBC class		4
<b>Group A: History - Select a minimum of two classes from the following:</b>		<b>6-8</b>
ARBC 304	The Poetry of Arab Women from the Pre-Islamic Age to Andalusia	
ARBC 335	Arabic Civilization	
ARBC 365	Intro to the Quran	
FNDS 3401	Reporting on the Middle East: Revising First Drafts of History	
HIST 338	Women&Islam Mid East to 1900	
HIST 339	The Late Ottoman Empire, 1789-1924	
HIST 3130	Armenia Ancient Medieval World	
HIST 3132	Armenians in the Modern World	
HIST 3502	The Middle East from 570 to 1800 CE: An Intersectional History	
HIST 3512	Modern Middle East, 1945-1991	
HIST 3520	Lebanon in Modern Middle East	
HIST 3632	America and the Middle East in the Age of Nation-States	
HIST 4515	Culture& Hist. in Mod. Iran	
MEST 3000	An Introduction to Middle East Studies	
MEST 3900	Independent Study in Middle East Studies <sup>4</sup>	
PHIL 306	Islamic Philosophy	
POL 385	Israeli-Palestinian Conflict	
<b>Group B: Language and Literature - Select a minimum of two classes from the following:</b>		<b>6-8</b>
AAST 473	Arab American Women Writers	
ARBC 304	The Poetry of Arab Women from the Pre-Islamic Age to Andalusia	
ARBC 305	Language of Business	
ARBC 310	Arabic Translation Skills: Arabic-English and English-Arabic	
ARBC 311	Simultaneous Interpreting Arabic-English and English-Arabic	
ARBC 312	Subtitling Arabic-English and English-Arabic	
ARBC 331	Survey of Arabic Literature	
ARBC 332	Arabic Cinema	
ARBC 335	Arabic Civilization	
ARBC 350	Arabic Literature and Culture	
ARBC 351	Contemporary Arabic Literature	
ARBC 365	Intro to the Quran	
ARBC 390	Topics in Arabic	
COML 302	Arabic and Comparative Literature in English	
COML 303	The Arabic Novel and Short Story in Translation	
ENGL 351	Arab Literature in English	
MEST 3000	An Introduction to Middle East Studies	
MEST 3900	Independent Study in Middle East Studies <sup>4</sup>	
<b>Group C: Social and Cultural Studies - Select a minimum of two classes from the following:</b>		<b>6-8</b>
AAST 3150	Intro to Arab American Studies	

AAST 3151	Public History in Arab Detroit
AAST 3634	History of Islam in the US
AAST 3673	Arabs & Muslims in Media
AAST 3675	Palestine and the Palestinians in the Levant and the U.S. (1870-1970)
AAST 3676	Arab Americans Since 1890
AAST 473	Arab American Women Writers
AAST 4677	Arab American Identities
AAST 4678	Middle Eastern Diasporas
ANTH 373	Anthropology of Middle East
ECON 444	Economies of the Middle East
MEST 3000	An Introduction to Middle East Studies
MEST 3900	Independent Study in Middle East Studies <sup>4</sup>
PHIL 306	Islamic Philosophy
POL 385	Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
<b>Capstone Course - Select one class from the following: 3-4</b>	
AAST 473	Arab American Women Writers
AAST 4677	Arab American Identities
AAST 4678	Middle Eastern Diasporas
ECON 444	Economies of the Middle East
HIST 4515	Culture& Hist. in Mod. Iran
MEST 4000	Advanced Research Seminar in Middle East Studies <sup>4</sup>
MEST 4900	Advanced Independent Research in Middle East Studies <sup>4</sup>
<b>Elective Course 0-3</b>	
One course as needed from any group above to reach a minimum total of 30 credits required for the major.	
<b>Total Credits 30-36</b>	

## Notes:

- At least 15 of the 30 upper level credit hours must be elected at UM-Dearborn.
- A minimum major gpa of 3.0 is required for graduation.
- Any one course may be used to satisfy only **one** requirement within the major.
- MEST 3900, MEST 4000 and MEST 4900 can be applied to Group A, B, or C by petition (as they depend on the particular project students complete in those courses).
- Students with upper level credit in any of the following Middle Eastern languages (with a grade of B or higher) from another institution may petition to apply that credit to satisfy the Group B requirement: Berber, Persian, Kurdish, Hebrew, Urdu, Dari, Pashto, Baluch, Armenian, Azeri Turkish, Turkish,Uzbek, and Tajik. This is not an exhaustive list and other languages may be considered via petition.
- If proficient in Arabic through High Intermediate Level (per test placement), the student may substitute other upper-division Arabic (ARBC) courses for ARBC 301 by petition.
- A minimum 3.0 major GPA and minimum 3.0 overall GPA is required in order to graduate.

## Certificate Requirements

### Prerequisites:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
The completion of:		
HIST 101	The World to 1500 CE	3
or HIST 102	Medieval and Renaissance World	
or HIST 103	The World Since 1500 CE	
COMP 106	Writing & Rhetoric II	3

### Required Courses:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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#### A minimum of 12 credits required from the following:

Group A: History- 3-4 credits from		3-4
ARBC 304	The Poetry of Arab Women from the Pre-Islamic Age to Andalusia	
ARBC 335	Arabic Civilization	
ARBC 365	Intro to the Quran	
FNDS 3401	Reporting on the Middle East: Revising First Drafts of History	
HIST/RELS/ WGST 338	Women&Islam Mid East to 1900	
HIST 339	The Late Ottoman Empire, 1789-1924	
HIST 3130	Armenia Ancient Medieval World	
HIST 3132	Armenians in the Modern World	
HIST 3502	The Middle East from 570 to 1800 CE: An Intersectional History	
HIST 3512	Modern Middle East, 1945-1991	
HIST 3520	Lebanon in Modern Middle East	
HIST 3632	America and the Middle East in the Age of Nation-States	
HIST 4515	Culture& Hist. in Mod. Iran	
MEST 3000	An Introduction to Middle East Studies	
MEST 4000	Advanced Research Seminar in Middle East Studies	
MEST 4900	Advanced Independent Research in Middle East Studies	
PHIL 306	Islamic Philosophy	
POL 385	Israeli-Palestinian Conflict	

9-12 credits from the following (a minimum of 3 credits must be from 9-12 Group B or Group C)

Additional Group A (History) course - must be a different course from the required course.

#### Group B: Language and Literature

AAST 473	Arab American Women Writers	
ARBC 301	Advanced Arabic Writing and Conversation	
ARBC 304	The Poetry of Arab Women from the Pre-Islamic Age to Andalusia	
ARBC 305	Language of Business	
ARBC 310	Arabic Translation Skills: Arabic-English and English-Arabic	
ARBC 311	Simultaneous Interpreting Arabic-English and English-Arabic	

ARBC 312	Subtitling Arabic-English and English-Arabic
ARBC 331	Survey of Arabic Literature
ARBC 332	Arabic Cinema
ARBC 335	Arabic Civilization
ARBC 350	Arabic Literature and Culture
ARBC 351	Contemporary Arabic Literature
ARBC 365	Intro to the Quran
ARBC 390	Topics in Arabic
COML 302	Arabic and Comparative Literature in English
COML 303	The Arabic Novel and Short Story in Translation
ENGL 351	Arab Literature in English
MEST 3000	An Introduction to Middle East Studies
MEST 3900	Independent Study in Middle East Studies
MEST 4000	Advanced Research Seminar in Middle East Studies
MEST 4900	Advanced Independent Research in Middle East Studies

## Group C: Social and Cultural Studies

AAST 3150	Intro to Arab American Studies
AAST 3151	Public History in Arab Detroit
AAST 3634	History of Islam in the US
AAST 3673	Arabs & Muslims in Media
AAST 3675	Palestine and the Palestinians in the Levant and the U.S. (1870-1970)
AAST 3676	Arab Americans Since 1890
AAST 473	Arab American Women Writers
AAST 4677	Arab American Identities
AAST 4678	Middle Eastern Diasporas
ANTH 373	Anthropology of Middle East
ECON 444	Economies of the Middle East
MEST 3000	An Introduction to Middle East Studies
MEST 3900	Independent Study in Middle East Studies
MEST 4000	Advanced Research Seminar in Middle East Studies
MEST 4900	Advanced Independent Research in Middle East Studies
PHIL 306	Islamic Philosophy
POL 385	Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

**Total Credit Hours** **12-16**

## NOTES REGARDING MIDDLE EAST STUDIES CERTIFICATE PROGRAM:

1. Application to the MEST Certificate Program requires the following: Completion of all pre-requisite courses and ONE course from Group A or B or C (with a grade of B or better in the Group A or B or C course).
2. Any one course may be used to satisfy only **one** group requirement within the certificate. MEST 3000, 3900, 4000, and 4900 may each be used to satisfy a Group A, B, OR C requirements.
3. A minimum 3.0 GPA in the courses counting in the MEST Certificate is required at the time of graduation and/or posting of the certificate.
4. At least 6 of the minimum 12 credits for the certificate must be completed at UM-Dearborn.
5. All courses must be taken as standard grade mode (no pass/fail mode allowed), with the exception of a maximum of 3-4 credits of internship/co-op (approved by Petition).

6. A maximum of 3-4 credit of internship or co-op may satisfy a Group A, B or C requirement by Petition.
7. Students may Petition the MEST Chair for use of upper level research based independent study credit.
8. Students with upper level credit in any of the following Middle Eastern languages (with a grade of B or higher) from another institution may Petition to apply that credit to satisfy the Group B requirement: Berber, Persian, Kurdish, Hebrew, Urdu, Dari, Pashto, Baluch, Armenian, Azeri Turkish, Turkish, Uzbek, and Tajik. This is not an exhaustive list.

Post-baccalaureate students may apply directly through the standard undergraduate non-degree admissions procedure, meeting the following stipulations:

1. Must have a bachelor's degree completed (any field) with minimum 3.0 GPA, or have completed a minimum of 90 credits in a declared major and be in good standing with a minimum 3.0 GPA.
2. If pre-requisites have not been met at time of application, provisional admission may be granted with the stipulation that pre-requisites must be completed within two semesters and that no certificate will be granted unless pre-requisites are complete.

**MEST 3000 An Introduction to Middle East Studies 4 Credit Hours**

This course introduces students to the growing field of Middle East Studies. Students will acquire and demonstrate a command of current theoretical approaches and debates, and they will learn interdisciplinary research methodologies that help us understand the region, past and present. Throughout the course, students will apply these theories and methods to key questions, problems, and debates. The course will culminate in a research project on a subject chosen by the student. (F, AY).

**Prerequisite(s):** (COMP 106 or COMP 220 or AAST 238 or ENGL 238 or AAST 267 or COMP 267) and (HIST 101 or HIST 103)

**MEST 3900 Independent Study in Middle East Studies 1 to 3 Credit Hours**

Readings or analytical assignments in Middle East Studies in accordance with the needs and interests of those enrolled and agreed upon by the student and instructor. Permission of instructor required. (YR).

**MEST 4000 Advanced Research Seminar in Middle East Studies 4 Credit Hours**

This course is designed to fulfill the capstone requirement for Middle East Studies and requires students to develop and execute a research prospectus that results in a presentation of research findings in a class workshop and submission of a capstone paper or equivalent project. (AY, OC).

**Prerequisite(s):** (COMP 106 or COMP 220 or AAST 238 or ENGL 238 or AAST 267 or COMP 267) and (HIST 101 or HIST 103) and ARBC 202

**MEST 4900 Advanced Independent Research in Middle East Studies 1 to 4 Credit Hours**

This course is for individual students working on an advanced project developed under the supervision of a faculty member affiliated with Middle East Studies. The resulting project should be equivalent to that of any capstone course in Middle East Studies. Permission of instructor required. (YR).

**Prerequisite(s):** (COMP 106 or COMP 220 or AAST 238 or ENGL 238 or AAST 267 or COMP 267) and (HIST 101 or HIST 103) and ARBC 202