Middle Eastern Communities and Migrations

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This minor concentrates on social and political issues involving Muslim, Christian and Jewish populations in their own right and in relation to one another in the territory between the Nile and Indus rivers during the modern period. The program is also designed to accommodate consideration of other communities including Hindu and other South Asians, Anatolian and Central Asian Turks, and Mediterranean peoples in the larger area stretching from North Africa to Southeast Asia as well as Middle Eastern diaspora communities in Europe and the Americas from the ancient period to the present.

The cross disciplinary orientation of the program emphasizes comparison and a synthesis of local, regional, trans-national and global perspectives. The program provides an intellectual foundation that can be usefully applied and built upon in graduate school, the private sector or government service.

Students are required to take 18 credits comprised of six credits of core course work and 12 credits of electives structured as follows.

Core Courses

Students must take two of the following three courses to fulfill the six-credit core course work required for the minor:

- HUM 262. Islamic Civilization 2
- HIST 269. Premodern Middle East 2
- HIST 270. The Modern Middle East 2

Choose any of the following courses to fulfill the remaining 12 credits.

Regular Offerings

Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures

- ARAB 101. First Semester Arabic 1
- ARAB 102. Second Semester Arabic 1
- ARAB 111-112. Intensive Arabic 4
- ARAB 211-212. Intensive Arabic 4
- ARAB 231. Third Semester Arabic 2
- ARAB 232. Fourth Semester Arabic 2
- FL 490. Special Studies in Foreign Languages 6
- PERS 101. First Semester Persian 1
- PERS 102. Second Semester Persian 1
- PERS 231. Third Semester Persian 2
- PERS 232. Fourth Semester Persian 2

School of Art, Design and Art History

- ARTH 439. Medieval Jerusalem 2
- ARTH 410. African Art: The Sahara and Northern Sahel 2

Department of Political Science

- POSC 354. Politics of the Modern Middle East 2

Additional Courses

The following three-credit courses are offered at varying intervals and can count toward the MECM minor if they are structured to include substantial content relating to the foci and goals of the program. Contact the program coordinator to apply one of these courses to the MECM minor.

Department of Anthropology and Sociology

- ANTH 313. Processes of Social and Cultural Change 3
- ANTH 373. Anthropological Perspectives on Environment and Development 3
- SOCI 311. Sociology of the Environment 3
- SOCI 321. Politics and Society 3
- SOCI 348. Introduction to Developing Societies 3
- SOCI 360. Social Movements 3

Department of Political Science

- POSC 340. Political Development in the Third World 3
- POSC 361. Topics in International Relations 3
- POSC 371. Topics in Comparative Politics 3
- POSC 435. Seminar in International Terrorism 3

Department of Philosophy and Religion

- REL 309. Jihād in Islamic Traditions 2
- REL 300. Selected Topics in Religion 3

The College of Arts and Letters departments offer a number of courses listed generically, usually at the 300- and 400-level (including disciplinary capstone and methodology courses, often numbered 395) that can also count toward the MECM minor under certain circumstances.

1 No more than nine credits of foreign language course work can be used toward minor requirements.
2 Offered every fall semester.
3 Offered every spring semester.
4 Offered every two years.
5 Offered every fall and spring.
6 Offered every third semester.
7 Offered every third semester.
8 Offered every fall semester.
9 Offered every spring semester.
10 Offered every spring semester.
11 Offered every spring semester.

Modern European Studies

Dr. John Scherpereel, Coordinator

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The minor in modern European studies provides a cross disciplinary understanding of social dynamics in Europe from the Enlightenment (18th century) through the present. All minors must attain proficiency in French, German, Italian, Spanish or another European Union language at or above the intermediate level (FL 232 or above).

Students must complete 18 credit hours in addition to the language requirement. These 18 credit hours must include six core credits and 12 elective credits. Six elective credits must cover culture and thought, and six elective credits must cover history and society. The minor’s 18 credits must be distributed across at least three disciplines and must include at least one history course.