Program Director: Hugh Roberts, Edward Keller Professor of North African and Middle Eastern History

Middle Eastern Studies is an interdisciplinary program that encourages breadth in coursework and significant immersion in one or more Middle Eastern cultures. The program gives students an opportunity to study the history and culture of the Middle East, as well as areas of the world whose territories were part of Middle Eastern empires or were under the influence of Middle Eastern civilizations in pre-modern and modern times. Study abroad is highly recommended.

The Middle Eastern Studies Major has recently been modified in respect of the course requirements, with particular reference to the language requirement, which has been relaxed. Students who matriculate in fall 2014 will have to conform to the new revised requirements. Students who matriculated in fall 2013 or earlier may choose to conform to the old requirement or the new ones as they prefer.

Revised Requirements of the Major

(mandatory for students matriculating in fall 2014; optional for those matriculating in Fall 2013 or earlier):

The Middle Eastern Studies major comprises twelve courses:

i. Four courses of a Middle Eastern language, (level 3-4, or equivalent). Students who have demonstrated language competence through level 3-4 by a placement test must take two advanced language courses and either two semesters of a second Middle Eastern language or two other courses listed in section b.

ii. Six courses in Middle Eastern studies—chosen in consultation with an advisor—from an approved list updated by the Middle Eastern Studies program annually. Three courses must be chosen from each of the following two groups:
   A. art history, religion, literature, Judaic studies, music, and
   B. anthropology, history, political science.

   These courses must include at least one course in pre-modern and one course in modern Middle Eastern studies. They must also include one course in each of two Middle Eastern cultures. Two of these courses may be more advanced language courses (21-22 and beyond).

iii. One course that relates the Middle East to other regions of the world.

iv. One advanced research course, such as thesis honors, a seminar, or advanced directed study.
Previous Requirements of the Major

(These apply only to students who matriculated in Fall 2013 or earlier, but they may choose to conform instead to the new requirement)

The Middle Eastern Studies major comprises ten courses:

Two courses in a Middle Eastern language (level 121-122, or equivalent). Students who have demonstrated language competence through level 121-122 by a placement test must take two advanced language courses, two semesters of a second Middle Eastern language, or two other courses listed in section b. for a total of ten courses.

Six courses in Middle Eastern Studies chosen in consultation with an advisor, from an approved list updated by the Middle Eastern Studies program annually. These courses must include three from each of the following two groups.

A. Art history, religion, literature, Judaic studies and music

B. Anthropology, history, political science

These courses must include at least one course in pre-modern and one course in modern Middle Eastern Studies. They must also include at least one course in each of two Middle Eastern cultures.

One course that relates Middle East to other regions of the world.

One advanced research course, such as thesis honors, a seminar or advanced directed study.

For Further Information Contact:

Dr. Hugh Roberts
Director, Middle Eastern Studies
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Email: Hugh.Roberts@tufts.edu
Phone: 617-627-2316

Or visit the Middle Eastern Studies website at: http://ase.tufts.edu/mes/
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<th>Professor</th>
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<td>HIST 73</td>
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<td>HIST 74</td>
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<td>HIST 77</td>
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<td>JS 65</td>
<td>Intro. to Yiddish Culture: from Old World to New World</td>
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<td>JS78</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Th 10:30-1</td>
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<td>REL 37</td>
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<td>REL 191-04</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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ANTH 144 Popular Cultures of the Middle East

In these years of extraordinary change, what can we learn about society and politics in the Middle East – especially the Arab world – by examining popular culture? What do representations produced by people in the Middle East about themselves tell us about power, social difference, and culture? In this course, we will study film, television, and music that have played a role in consolidating, contesting, and complicating national identities and state power, and media such as Arab hip-hop that are the products of global circuits. We will study the role that popular culture has played in the Arab Spring and its aftermath. We will also consider the multiple meanings of the "popular" (al-sha'bi, in Arabic) in Middle Eastern popular culture, and whether and when news can be regarded as popular culture. This course also introduces students to anthropological approaches to media. This course counts toward the Social Sciences distribution requirement, the World Civilization requirement, the Middle Eastern Culture option, and the Anthropology area course requirement.

ARB 2 Elementary Modern Standard Arabic

Continuation of ARB 1: Elementary Modern Standard Arabic. Communicative approach through the development of the four language skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students will have weekly oral presentations, short papers and a final video project. Pre-requisite: Arabic 01 or equivalent.

ARB 4 Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic

A continuation of ARB 3: Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic. Communicative approach with particular emphasis on active control of Arabic grammar and vocabulary; conversation; reading, translation and discussion of selected texts. The course includes oral presentations, typed papers in Arabic and a final creative project. Weekly meetings include 2 regular classes and one conversation class. Prerequisites: Arabic 3 or equivalent.

ARB 5 Colloquial Arabic: Levantine

Introduction to the spoken Arabic used in the Levant (Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine). The course will focus on day-to-day conversations by starting with daily basic expressions and commonly used verb structures to more complex conversations and sentence forming. Students will also gain exposure to pressing cultural issues and debates in the Levant region. Pre-requisite: Enrolled in or have completed Arabic 3.

ARB 22 Arabic Reading Composition and Conversation

Emphasis on active control of vocabulary and grammar. Intensive practice in communication, reading, writing, and translation. The course includes oral presentations, short papers and a creative project. Weekly meetings include 2 regular classes and one conversation class. Prerequisite: Arabic 21 or equivalent.

ARB 92-01 Gender and Sexuality in the Middle East

This course will explore the fascinating but often misunderstood realms of gender and sexuality in the Middle East through the region’s literature and cinema. Students will examine the diverse cultural and political realities of women and men, boys and girls in a region made and re-made by revolution, social movements, war, colonial power, and anti-colonial resistance. How do these broader realities, traumas, conflicts, and expressions of solidarity impact the lives of men and women in the Middle East? Participants in the class will be introduced to foundational theoretical literature on gender and sexuality and will use those insights to better analyze the diverse and changing experiences of Middle Easterners and the multiple communities of which they are a part. We shall examine the men and women of this important part of the world in their diversity and complexity. This course aims to get students to see the people and communities of the Middle East not as victims in need of “saving,” nor as “problems” representing threats of various kinds but instead as those with agency and the capacity to, in crucial ways, shape and craft their own lives, to write their own histories.

ARB 92-02 Palestinian Literature and Cinema

This course will explore the histories and cultures of Palestine through a range of pathbreaking writers, filmmakers, and thinkers. These include novels by Anton Shammas and Emile Habiby, the creative non-fiction of Edward Said, Suad Amiry, and, the poetry of Mahmoud Darwish and spoken word artist Suheir Hammad. We will examine these writers in relation to the burgeoning work of Palestinian filmmakers such as Elia Suleiman, Mia Masri, Emad Burnat, Michel Khleifi and others. By doing so students will address crucial questions relating to Palestine/Israel, including themes such as nationalism and national identity, gender and sexuality, cultural hybridity, war and peace, and colonialism.
ARB 92-03  
American Orientalism and the Middle East: Colonialism, Race, and Culture  
D+tr  
Abowd

This course explores the intersections of culture, race, and imperialism and will examine representations of the Middle East in the United States over the last 150 years. Participants will explore American power at home and abroad and some of the racial assumptions crucial to it in the diverse realms of popular culture, particularly cinema and literature. The course will also look at representations of and “truths” about Middle Eastern peoples, places, and cultures produced in governing circles and institutions of US higher education. As Native American populations continued to be The rise of the American empire abroad began …Native American populations through conquest and genocide, the American republic than sought to establish its authority in the Middle East and elsewhere, especially after WWI. But this conquest was not simply an effect or design of military prowess. This course will trace some of the lineages of racism in the United States through an examination of a range of writers including Mark Twain, Edward Said, Melanie McCalister, Ella Habiba Shohat, Evelyn Alsultany, Timothy Mitchell, Lila Abu Lughod, and Mahmoud Mamdani.

ARB 92-05  
Special Topics: Arabic Music Ensemble  
M  
Roustom

Performance of both classical and folk Arabic music. The Maqam micro-tonal scale system as applied to both Western and Arabic instruments. Improvisation, form, style, rhythmic cycles, as well as Arabic vocal diction. Some Arabic Ouds (lutes) to be made available. One half-course credit. Cross-listed as MUS 92.

ARB 122  
Advanced Modern Standard Arabic  
Mult. Sections  
See Dept.

This course will offer readings and discussions in Modern Standard Arabic. Articles dealing with a variety of topics will be explored, including Islam and politics, Arabic folklore, Arabs and the West, Modern Arabic poetry, development in Arab developing countries, and Arabic feminist writers. Grammatical structures will be discussed in the context of articles addressing these issues. The course will also use audio-visual materials. In Arabic.

ARB 157  
War and Cultural Memory in Middle Eastern Literatures and Cinemas  
I+mw  
Rastegar

This course explores how Middle Eastern literatures and cinemas have contributed to the cultural memory and/or memorialization of socially traumatic experiences such as war. To do this, we will study several historical and social contexts: the Algerian war of independence, the Lebanese civil war, the Iran-Iraq war, the invasion and occupation of Iraq, and the Israeli-Palestinian experience. Alongside primary text readings and film viewings, we will also read secondary texts pertaining to social trauma, cultural memory and the limits of representing these issues in literary and cinematic forums. We will read culturally theoretical readings drawn from Holocaust studies, psychoanalysis and critical theory, as well as reading novels, short stories and poetry alongside viewings of fictional and documentary films. The goal of the course will be to develop a thematic framework of knowledge relating to the formation of cultural memory and social trauma, as well as enhancing our knowledge of modern literatures and cinemas of the region, in addition to according a deeper understanding of the historical contexts with which the course is concerned. In English. Film Screenings Wednesdays 7:30-9:30pm. Cross-listed as ILVS 92-02.

CLS 192-02  
Classical Arabic Through the Words of the Prophet  
K+mm  
Romanov

A vast corpus of the sayings of Prophet Muhammad, Hadith constitutes the second most important source of Islamic learning to which Muslims turn in order to find answers to practically any important question. The goal of the course is to introduce you to the classical Arabic of this particular corpus, concentrating on the vocabulary, grammar and morphology most relevant to the understanding of Hadith. The course will use a frequency-based reader which is meant to ease you into the Arabic of this particular genre. You will work with original Arabic texts during the entire course and will learn/review the grammar, morphology, and syntax of classical Arabic. You will also learn about the role of Hadith and Hadith sciences in the system of Islamic learning and everyday life. Learning will be facilitated by the use of digital reading and studying tools. Learning to read hadiths you will be also producing research data that will be stored as micro-publications at the Perseus Digital Library and will facilitate learning of other students and further studies of Hadith.

FAH 120  
Armenian Art, Architecture and Politics: 4th to 14th Century  
G+  
Maranci

Study of castles, churches, sculpture, and manuscripts in an international context. Armenia's political and religious ties with Rome, Byzantium, Islam, the crusaders, Europe, and East Asia. The first country to declare Christianity its official religion, Armenia created art expressing distinctive religious concepts. Its architectural techniques and sculpture anticipated later developments in Western Romanesque and Gothic art. Cross listed as REL 120

FAH 21/121  
Early Islamic Art  
L+tr  
Hoffman

A survey of the visual arts in Muslim lands from Spain to Central Asia between the seventh and thirteenth centuries, emphasizing the role of visual arts in the formation and expression of cultural identity. Painting, sculpture, architecture, and the portable arts of ceramics, ivory, metalwork, and manuscript illustration will be considered. Topics will include the uses of figural and non-figural imagery; calligraphy and ornament; religious and secular art; public and private art; the art of the court and the art of the urban middle class; and the status, use, and meaning of the portable arts. Cross listed as REL 23/12
FAH 210  The Byzantine Icon  8  Maranci

A seminar on the Byzantine icon, considering questions of its history, theology, and worship.

HEB 2  Elementary Hebrew  Mult. Sections  Kimelman
Continuation of Hebrew 1 focusing on the book Hebrew from Scratch part I. The course will continue to develop knowledge of Hebrew for both reading and conversation. An additional hour of class for practice and drills to be arranged. Prerequisite: Hebrew 1 or consent of instructor.

HEB 4  Intermediate Hebrew  DMD+  Harari-Spencer
Continuation of Hebrew 3. The course teaches students intermediate-level Hebrew language skills, in particular with regard to the daily use of Hebrew as well as the understanding of articles written from the press and scientific journals adapted into simplified Hebrew. The course increases students' vocabulary, adding an additional 800 words. From the course, students will gain command of the fundamental structures of Hebrew and its basic grammatical forms. Each lesson emphasizes all four skills – reading, listening comprehension, speaking, and writing – so that the students will feel comfortable to use their skills in the same manner. By the end of Hebrew 4, students will be familiar with the basic structure of the Hebrew language. Prerequisite: Hebrew 3 or consent of instructor.

HEB 22  Composition and Conversation  H+  Harari-Spencer
Continuation of Hebrew 21. This course will teach students to understand adapted articles and create passages in Modern Hebrew through exposure to the Hebrew currently used in Israeli newspaper, television, cinema, pop music, Internet, literature, and everyday conversation. The course will combine and broaden the grammatical structures and vocabulary studied in Hebrew 21. By the end of Hebrew 22, students will be able to read texts in regular Hebrew, write on topics discussed in class. Prerequisite: Hebrew 21 or consent of instructor.

HEB 122  Composition and Conversation  I+  Harari-Spencer
Continuation of Hebrew 121. The course will broaden the grammatical structures and vocabulary studied in Hebrew 121. It will concentrate on the written language and will teach students to understand unadapted texts, in particular literature and the press. Students will expand their knowledge of synonyms and the subtle differences between words. Vocabularies will substantially increase. By the end of the course, students should have a good command of most verbal and syntactical structures, including exceptions to the rules. Prerequisite: Hebrew 121 or consent of instructor.

HST 71  The Middle East and North Africa since WW1  F+  Roberts
This course will provide an introduction to the politics, society and culture of the Middle East and North Africa. It will examine the transformations that occurred following both WWI and WWII, the rise of anti-colonial nationalism and Islamism, the emergence of nation-states, the creation of the state of Israel and the evolution of the Arab-Israel conflict; and, since the end of the Cold War, the impact of globalisation, the development of democratic currents, feminist and minority rights movements and Islamist movements, the dynamics of the ‘Arab Spring’ and the descent into violent chaos in Libya, Syria and Iraq.

HST 73  History of Iran  H+  Manz
Emphasis on the modern period. Iran within the Muslim world, its emergence as a separate entity, the introduction of Shi‘ism as a state religion. Western influences, modernization, the Iranian Revolution and the Islamic Republic.

HST 74  Modern Armenia  I+mw  Baghdiantz-McCabe
The uses of history in the formation of Armenian identity, nation, and nationalism. The Armenians of the Ottoman Empire, Iran, India, and other host societies. A comparative study of the ideas of nationality and Ethnicity, with a focus on revolution, ideology, and identity. Linkages between the massacre of Armenian people in 1915 and other mass killings and genocide in the twentieth century (examples extend to Kosovo in 1999).  [formerly HST. 66]

HST 77  Egypt since 1952  J+  Roberts
This course examines Egyptian history since the Free Officers’ coup in 1952. It considers the social, economic, cultural and religious as well as political and diplomatic history of Egypt under Nasser, Sadat and Mubarak as well as the dynamics of the major crises – Suez, the Six-Day War in 1967, the War of October 1973, and the 2011 revolution. The course also studies the Muslim Brothers and other currents of Islamic activism, the evolution of the Coptic community since 1952, the emergence of new opposition currents since 2002, the election of President Mohamed Morsi and the subsequent military coup and the main developments since then.
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<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
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<td>Gittleman</td>
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<td>JS 78</td>
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<td>J+tr</td>
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<td>JS 91</td>
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<td>F+</td>
<td>4:30-</td>
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<td>JS 92-05</td>
<td>The History of Judaism: From Creation to Redemption</td>
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<td>Roots Jewish Imagination</td>
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<td>JS 142</td>
<td>Jewish Experience on Film</td>
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<td>Music and Prayer in the Jewish Tradition</td>
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<td>10:30-1</td>
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<td>PS 134</td>
<td>Comparative Politics of the Middle East</td>
<td>E+mvw</td>
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<td>Mufti</td>
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</table>
REL 37 Christianity & Globalization since the Middle Ages
This course explores the development of Christianity as a world movement from the early modern period to the present. We will study major historical events such as the Protestant Reformations; expansions of Catholicism and Protestantism through exploration, trade, conquest and mission; the growing diversity and transformations of Christian traditions in colonial and post-colonial societies; the rise of indigenous expressions of Christian faith and practice in Asia, Africa, and Latin America; the global spread of evangelicalism and pentecostalism; and development of Christian ‘internationalism’ in an era of increasing globalization. This course counts toward the Humanities or Social Sciences distribution requirement.

CLST: HIST 80-02

REL 152 Islam and Modernity
REL 194-03 Islam and Modernity seminar level
The radical transformation in human societies, economies, institutions, and world-views over the past 200 years known as modernity has posed challenges to all religious traditions. This course will begin with a survey of the major figures and movements in modern Islamic thought from the 19th century to the present and end with a survey of the contemporary religious landscape of Egypt, covering the Muslim Brotherhood, different trends in Salafism, and the “new preachers.” This course counts toward the Humanities distribution requirement, the World Civilization requirement, and the Middle Eastern Culture and South & Southeast Asian Culture options.

REL 191-04 Approaches to Middle East Studies
10+m
Garden
Middle Eastern Studies can be approached through a wide variety of academic disciplines: anthropology, art history, ethnomusicology, history, political science, and religious studies. This seminar aims to expose students to many of these different ways of seeing the Middle East by having a different professor lead the discussion each week, exploring the region through the lens of their particular discipline. Students will gain a richer appreciation for both the region and the many ways it can be studied. This course counts toward the Humanities distribution requirement.

REL 194-03 Islam and Modernity IR seminar level
ARR
Staff
The radical transformation in human societies, economies, institutions, and world-views over the past 200 years known as modernity has posed challenges to all religious traditions. This course will begin with a survey of the major figures and movements in modern Islamic thought from the 19th century to the present and end with a survey of the contemporary religious landscape of Egypt, covering the Muslim Brotherhood, different trends in Salafism, the “new preachers,” and the re-emergence of al-Azhar as an independent institution. This latter section of the course will also consider current events. This course counts toward the Humanities distribution requirement, the World Civilization requirement, and the Middle Eastern Culture and South & Southeast Asian Culture options. Register under REL 194-03 for IR seminar level.

CIS 160 Middle Eastern Studies Interdisciplinary Thesis/Project
ARR
Director
Middle Eastern Studies Thesis. Please see departmental website for specific details. The project required of students electing the interdisciplinary minor option. Either one-half or one course credit will be given at the discretion of the faculty members involved. Permission of Director.

NOTE: This list may be incomplete, and the class times are subject to change. Before you register, consult the listings in the course's home department. Courses listed with an asterisk (*) are not exclusively concerned with Middle Eastern Studies material.

For Further Information Contact:
Dr. Hugh Roberts Director, Middle Eastern Studies
Edward Keller Professor of North African and Middle Eastern History, East Hall, Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155
Email: Hugh.Roberts@tufts.edu Phone: 617-627-2316
Or visit the Middle Eastern Studies website at: http://ase.tufts.edu/mes/

Program Faculty(27,814),(980,892)

Rana E. Abdul-aziz, GRALL
Thomas Abowd, Anthropology
Gloria Ascher, Judaic Studies Program
Amahl Bishara, Anthropology
Rabab El Nady, GRALL
Leila Fawaz, History
Elizabeth Foster, History
Ken Garden, Religion
Haci O. Gunduz, GRALL
Hedda Harari-Spenser, GRALL
Steven Hirsch, Classics
Bruce Hitchner, Classics
Eva Hoffman, Art and Art History
Fadi Jaji, GRALL
Ayesha Jalal, History
Richard Jankowski, Music
Christina Maranci, Art & Art History
Beatrice Manz, History
Nimah Mazaheri, Political Science
Ina Baghdiantz McCabe, History
Malik Mufi, Political Science
Kamran Rastegar, GRALL
Hugh Roberts, History
Joel Rosenberg, Judaic Studies
Enrico Spolaore, Economics
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