

Bachelor of Arts in Middle Eastern Studies

The Bachelor of Arts in Middle Eastern Studies provides a comprehensive understanding of Middle Eastern societies, cultures, religions, history, politics, and conflicts. This online bachelor's degree is useful for business executives, journalists, government contractors, military service members, political analysts, educators, conflict resolution practitioners or other professions requiring an in-depth knowledge of the Middle East.

Degree Program Objectives

In addition to the institutional and degree level learning objectives, graduates of this program are expected to achieve these learning outcomes:

- Analyze the development of political and economic institutions.
- Explain the role of international and transnational organizations in both a global and regional setting.
- Describe how political, economic, social and military structures work within the region.
- Articulate the role of colonization in the development of the nation state system in the ME.
- Determine how conflict and shifting alliances shaped the politics of the region.
- Summarize the challenges facing Middle Eastern countries individually and as a region.
- Compare and contrast the different cultures and religions within the Middle East.
- Evaluate existing cooperation efforts and the long-term viability of those efforts for success.
- Analyze the role religion plays in the political, social, and economic fabric of the region.

Degree at a Glance

Code	Title	Semester Hours
	General Education Requirements	30
	Major Required	42
	Final Program Requirements	3

Elective Requirements	45
Total Semester Hours	120

Degree Program Requirements

General Education Requirements (30 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Arts and Humanities (6 semester hours)¹		
Select 2 courses from the following:		6
ARAB100	Arabic I	
ARAB101	Arabic II	
ARTH200	Art Appreciation	
ARTH241	Film and Literature	
DSIN141	Image Enhancement using Adobe Photoshop	
FREN100	French I	
FREN101	French II	
GERM100	German I	
GERM101	German II	
JAPN100	Introduction to Japanese	
LITR215	Literature of American Encounters, Revolution, and Rebellion	
LITR218	From Abolition to #MeToo: Literature of the American Civil Rights Movement	
LITR222	Pivotal Figures in Early British Literature	
LITR225	British Literature from Wordsworth through the Wasteland	
LITR231	Leadership in World Literature: Antiquity to the Early Modern Period	
LITR233	Literature of the Newly Globalized World: The Individual's Struggle to Adapt	
MUSI200	Music Appreciation	
MUSI250	World Music and Cultures	
PHIL101	Introduction to Philosophy	
PHIL110	Critical Thinking	
PHIL200	Introduction to Ethics	
PHIL202	Philosophy of Science	
PORT100	Introduction to Brazilian Portuguese	
RELS201	Introduction to World Religions	
RUSS100	Russian I	
SPAN100	Spanish I	
SPAN101	Spanish II	
STEM270	Thinking and Acting Ethically	
Civics, Political and Social Sciences (6 semester hours)¹		

Select 2 courses from the following:	6
ANTH100	Introduction to Anthropology
ANTH202	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
CHFD220	Human Sexuality
COMM211	Social Media and Society
COMM240	Intercultural Communication
ECON101	Microeconomics
ECON102	Macroeconomics
EDUC200	Humane Education: A Global Interdisciplinary Perspective
GEOG101	Introduction to Geography
HOSP110	Practical Food Safety and Awareness
IRLS210	International Relations I
LITR212	Forgotten America—Under Represented Cultures in American Literature
LITR235	Four Points of the Compass: Culture and Society Around the World
POLS101	Introduction to Political Science
POLS210	American Government I
PSYC101	Introduction to Psychology
SOCI111	Introduction to Sociology
SOCI212	Social Problems
SOCI220	American Popular Culture
STEM280	Exploring Society and Cultures via Science Fiction

Communication: Writing, Oral, and Multimedia (9 semester hours)

COMM120	Information and Digital Literacy	3
ENGL110	Making Writing Relevant	3
IRLS200	Information Literacy and Global Citizenship	3

History (3 semester hours)

Select 1 course from the following:	3
HIST101	American History to 1877
HIST102	American History since 1877
HIST111	World Civilization before 1650
HIST112	World Civilization since 1650
HIST121	Western Civilization before The Thirty Years War
HIST122	Western Civilization since The Thirty Years War
HIST221	African-American History before 1877
HIST222	African-American History since 1877
HIST223	History of the American Indian
HIST270	History of Science
STEM185	The History and Context of STEM

Mathematics and Applied Reasoning (3 semester hours)

Select 1 course from the following:	3
ACCT105	Accounting for Non Accounting Majors

ENTD200	Fundamentals of Programming
MATH110	College Algebra
MATH111	College Trigonometry
MATH120	Introduction to Statistics
MATH125	Math for Liberal Arts Majors
MATH225	Calculus

Natural Sciences (3 semester hours)

Select 1 course from the following:	3
BIOL180	Introduction to Biology
BIOL181	Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology
CHEM180	Introduction to Chemistry
ERSC180	Introduction to Meteorology
ERSC181	Introduction to Geology
EVSP180	Introduction to Environmental Science
PHYS180	Introduction to Physics
SPST180	Introduction to Astronomy
STEM100	Introduction to STEM Disciplines

Total Semester Hours 30

¹ All literature courses require successful completion of ENGL101 - Proficiency in Writing or ENGL110 - Making Writing Relevant.

Major Required (42 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
IRLS210	International Relations I	3
IRLS213	Political Geography	3
IRLS260	Middle Eastern Culture	3
IRLS300	Comparative Political Systems	3
IRLS360	Global Politics of Islam	3
IRLS412	Comparative Foreign Policy	3
IRLS460	Government & Security in the Middle East	3

Select 7 courses from the following:	21
ARAB100	Arabic I
ARAB101	Arabic II
ARAB200	Arabic III
HIST350	History of the Middle East
IRLS310	Introduction to Human Security
IRLS463	Arab-Israeli Conflict: Contemp. Politics & Dipl.
IRLS468	Politics and Security in the Persian Gulf
RELS330	Religions of the Middle East
RELS353	Islam

Total Semester Hours 42

Final Program Requirements (3 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
IRLS493	Capstone Middle Eastern Studies (to be taken as the last course before graduation) ¹	3
Total Semester Hours		3

¹ Prerequisite: Senior Standing and completion of all major courses prior to enrollment.

Elective Requirements (45 semester hours)

Select any courses that have not been used to fulfill major requirements. Credits applied toward a minor or certificate in an unrelated field may be used to fulfill elective credit for the major.