MIDDLE EAST STUDIES, MINOR

The Middle East is a region of historic and contemporary importance in which three of the major world faiths developed. Rulers built empires whose peoples made lasting contributions to philosophy, the visual and literary arts, architecture and mathematics. The relevance of significant trade routes in the past continues in the region today in its major commercial centers and industries of profound importance. Saint Louis University’s Middle East studies minor facilitates the exploration of these various factors that have shaped the Middle East, also exposing students to the history, cultures and religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, among other religions in the region.

Leadership
Jeffrey Wickes, Ph.D.
Program Director

Curriculum Overview
SLU’s Middle East studies program is special in its historical scope — exploring the ancient, medieval and modern periods — to encourage students to gain an unusual depth in their study of a complex world region. Moreover, the minor focuses not only on the geographic area of the traditional Middle East but also on areas influenced by or politically tied to the cultures of the Middle East, such as Spain and Africa. With courses from an array of fields in the College of Arts and Sciences, the Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business, and the Madrid, Spain, campus, this minor is distinctly multidisciplinary.

Students must complete 19 credits of Middle East studies (MES) courses for the minor. Students are encouraged to take MES courses from a range of disciplines on diverse topics, cultures and time periods. Courses for the minor are offered at both the St. Louis and the Madrid campuses.

Some courses not listed here may count toward the minor with the approval of the program director. These must have a majority of material related to the Middle East. Courses that are taken in study abroad programs or that are Special Topics courses (with a temporary course number ending in ‘930’) may also be approved for the minor and may count towards one of the area requirements with consultation from the program director.

Requirements
St. Louis Campus Requirements
At least one of the MES courses taken for the 19 credits of the minor must be at the 3000-4000 level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISTD 1100</td>
<td>Intro to International Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 2730</td>
<td>Crossroads of the World: The Middle East and North Africa Through History</td>
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<td>HIST 3830</td>
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<tr>
<td>LLC 3200</td>
<td>Israeli Culture: From the Birth of Zionism to the 21st Century</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPAN 4930</td>
<td>Special Topics (Spanish (Christian) Mysticism and its Muslim and Jewish Predecessors)</td>
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Social Science and International Business
Select one of the following:
- IBD 3150 Middle Eastern Business
- POLS 2650 War & Peace in the Middle East
- POLS 2660 Middle East/International Pol
- POLS 2590 Politics of the Middle East and North Africa

Philosophy and Theological Studies
Select one of the following:
- PHIL 3480 Jewish Life: Bible to Middle Ages
- PHIL 3490 Jewish Life: Middle Ages to Modern Times
- THEO 2110 Old Testament
- THEO 2210 New Testament
- THEO 2710 Religions of the World
- THEO 2715 Jerusalem: Three Faiths, One City
- THEO 2720 Islam: Religion & Culture
- THEO 3110 Pentateuch
- THEO 3115 Old Testament: Prophets
- THEO 3335 Christians In Middle East
- THEO 3725 Sufism, Islam’s Mystical Tradition
- THEO 3730 Jewish Life: Bible to Middle Ages
- THEO 3930 Special Topics

Electives
Additional credits chosen from any of the three MES Attribute areas. 9
Total Credits 19

Madrid Campus Requirements
At least one of the MES courses taken for the 19 credits of the minor must be at the 3000-4000 level.

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Social Science and International Business
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- IBD 3150 Middle Eastern Business
- POLS 2650 War & Peace in the Middle East
- POLS 2660 Middle East/International Pol
- POLS 2590 Politics of the Middle East and North Africa

Philosophy and Theological Studies
Select one of the following:
- PHIL 3480 Jewish Life: Bible to Middle Ages
- PHIL 3490 Jewish Life: Middle Ages to Modern Times
- THEO 2110 Old Testament
- THEO 2210 New Testament
- THEO 2710 Religions of the World
- THEO 2715 Jerusalem: Three Faiths, One City
- THEO 2720 Islam: Religion & Culture
- THEO 3110 Pentateuch
- THEO 3115 Old Testament: Prophets
- THEO 3335 Christians In Middle East
- THEO 3725 Sufism, Islam’s Mystical Tradition
- THEO 3730 Jewish Life: Bible to Middle Ages
- THEO 3930 Special Topics

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<td>Special Topics (International Contemporary Challenges)</td>
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<td>THEO 3930</td>
<td>Special Topics (The Qur’an and the Bible)</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEO 3115</td>
<td>Old Testament: Prophets</td>
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<td>THEO 3730</td>
<td>Jewish Life: Bible to Middle Ages</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEO 4710</td>
<td>Islam and the Christian Theologian: Comparing Theological Themes</td>
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**Electives**

Additional credits chosen from any of the three MES Attribute areas. 9

Total Credits 19

**Non-Course Requirements**

For the non-credit bearing required capstone, minors will revise a research paper that was originally written for an MES course from the minor with the counsel of a professor. The students will present the revised paper at an annual capstone event and write a brief commentary on their studies on the Middle East for submission to the Director of the minor.

**Language Study and Study Abroad Recommendation**

Though the MES minor does not require foreign language study or study abroad, the MES faculty strongly recommends that students with an interest in future careers or graduate studies in Middle East topics pursue relevant foreign language study and/or study abroad in the Middle East. Language courses taken abroad or in other universities may transfer and count towards the minor with approval from the Director of the minor. Students should discuss the options available with the Director of the minor and the Office of International Services.

**Continuation Standards**

All minor courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher in order to count for the minor and for the student to continue in the minor.