

MIDDLE EAST AND ISLAMIC WORLD STUDIES MINOR

Loyola's Middle East and Islamic World Studies minor introduces students to the Middle East and Islamic civilization. The minor offers a unique opportunity to think differently about the Middle East, Islam, Muslim societies, and their influence around the world. Through a rigorous interdisciplinary approach, students explore history, culture, politics, and religion across the Middle East and in Muslim societies around the world. Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad in a Middle Eastern or Muslim country and enhance their academic knowledge through real life exposure to Middle Eastern and Islamic cultures.

Related Programs

Minor

- Arabic Language and Culture Minor (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/modern-languages-literatures/arabic-language-culture-minor/>)

Combined

- Theology/International Affairs (BA/MA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-bachelors-masters-program/theology-international-affairs-bama/>)

Curriculum

Code	Title	Hours
Required Course		3
Select one of the following:		
HIST 209	Islamic History: Themes & Issues	
HONR 212A	Encountering the Middle East	
or HONR 212	Encountering the Middle East	
or HONR 212	Encountering the Middle East	
PLSC 368	Politics of the Middle East	
THEO 295	Islam	
Electives		12
Select four of the following:		
ANTH 213	Culture in Africa ¹	
ANTH 220	Contemporary Cultures of the Middle East	
ANTH 361	Issues Cultural Anthropology ¹	
ARAB 101	Arabic I	
ARAB 102	Arabic 102	
ARAB 103	Arabic 103	
ARAB 104	Arabic 104	
ARAB 250	Advanced Composition And Conversation	
ARAB 251	Advanced Composition and Conversation II	
CLST 278	Experiencing Mesopotamia	
COMM 203	Topics in Cinema History	
ENGL 315	South Asian Literatures in English	
FNAR 352	Islam and Visual Culture	
HIST 209	Islamic History: Themes & Issues ²	
HIST 213	African History: Themes & Issues	
HIST 300	Topics in History ¹	

HIST 311B	The Crusades: Christianity and Islam	
HIST 327A	The Balkans: History, Fiction, Film	
HIST 340B	Introduction to Islamic History	
HIST 341	Modern Middle East	
HIST 341B	Arab-Israeli Conflict	
HIST 342B	African History Post-1600	
HIST 342C	The History of Islam in Africa	
HIST 343	Modern South Asia	
HIST 359D	The Ottoman Empire: A Global Perspective	
HIST 359H	Anti-Colonial Resistance in the Twentieth Century	
HIST 380A	Islam in the African-American Experience	
HNDI 101	Hindi-Urdu I	
HNDI 102	Hindi-Urdu II	
HNDI 103	Hindi-Urdu III	
HNDI 104	Hindi-Urdu IV	
HONR 210A	Encountering Africa	
HONR 210B	Encountering Africa	
HONR 210C	Encountering Africa	
LITR 238	Arabic Literature in Translation	
LITR 243	South Asian Literature	
LITR 280	World Masterpieces in Translation ¹	
PHIL 308	Islamic Philosophy	
PLSC 300B	Contemporary Political Issues: Political Theory	
PLSC 331	Islamic Political Thought	
PLSC 340	International Relations of Africa	
PLSC 342	African Politics	
SOCL 280	Topics in Contemporary Sociology ¹	
THEO 231	Hebrew Bible/Old Testament	
THEO 272	Judaism	
THEO 350	Topics in Islam	
THEO 365	Women, Gender and Embodiment in Islam	
THEO 366	Contemporary Islamic Thought and Movements	
URDU 101	Introductory Urdu I	
URDU 102	Introductory Urdu II	
Total Hours		15

¹ These are topics courses. Only selected sections can count toward the minor.

² Cannot apply toward electives if used as a required course.

Additional Requirements

No more than four courses may be taken from any one department. Language courses such as Arabic or Hindi-Urdu at any level may count for up to six units (two courses) of the minor. Up to nine units (three courses) may be shared with any Major or Minor program. Waiver will be offered for courses taken during study abroad in a Middle Eastern or Muslim country.

Suggested Sequence of Courses

Students can begin the Middle East and Islamic World Studies minor at any point in their undergraduate studies, in consultation with their advisor. While there is no set sequence of classes, students are encouraged to take one of the foundational required courses early on, to gain a general understanding of the Middle East or Islamic history and

culture. Once students have declared the minor, they are encouraged to contact their academic advisor or the Middle East and Islamic World Studies Program Director for further guidance on how best to progress with their studies.

Learning Outcomes

- The minor enables students to appreciate the complexities of the Middle East and the Islamic civilization, and understand the past and present global networks linking these societies to the rest of the world. Through an interdisciplinary approach, students take courses on history, literature, art, language, philosophy, politics, and religion to gain knowledge about the Middle East and contemporary Islamic world.