

Middle Eastern and North African Studies (MENA)

The program in Middle Eastern and North African Studies (MENA) offers students an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the Middle East and North Africa. This is an area studies approach to non-western cultures and peoples. Drawing on courses in Art History, English, Government, History, and Religion, the program encourages students to learn about the history, culture, politics and languages of the Middle East and North Africa. It culminates in an independent capstone project designed to integrate learning from diverse areas of study.

The program in Middle Eastern and North African Studies is not a major. Courses applied toward requirements for this program may also be counted toward requirements that will satisfy other programs, majors, or minors. Successful completion of the program will be noted on the transcript and on the program for commencement exercises.

Coordinator

Courtney M. Dorroll

Program Requirements

Students are required to take MENA 354 and MENA 448 and four additional elective courses. Within the electives, a maximum of 6 credit hours (or two courses) may be taken in any one discipline. MENA 448 is normally taken in the fall semester of the student's senior year, however, exceptions may be granted with the approval of the the Program Coordinator.

Required Courses	6
MENA 354 Middle Eastern & North African Studies: An Area Studies Seminar	
MENA 448 Mid East & North African Studies Senior Capstone	
Electives	12
ARTH 225 Islamic Art	
ENGL 339 Race, Gender, and Empire	
GOV 361 Middle East Politics	
GOV 363 African Politics	
GOV 383 Revolutions & Regime Change	
HIST 291 Modern Middle East	
REL 221 Introduction to Islam	
REL 263 Ethnography of Religion in the Middle East & North Africa	
REL 312 Israel's Poetry and Wisdom Literature	
REL 315 Archeology and the Bible	
REL 353 Contemporary Islam	
REL 355 Islamic Religious Traditions	
REL 362 Ritualized Space in the Middle East	
Total Hours	18

Students may also take special or advanced topics courses in other disciplines as approved by the Program Coordinator.

MENA 354. Middle Eastern & North African Studies: An Area Studies Seminar. 3 Hours.

The area studies approach makes sure the political, geographical, historical, anthropological and religious influences of the Middle East/ North African region will be explored throughout the course. The religion of Islam will be explored through its engagement in particular places and spaces. Students will differentiate between how the politics and cultural context of one place directly influence the way Islam is practiced in, for example, the Gulf as opposed to Turkey.

MENA 448. Mid East & North African Studies Senior Capstone. 3 Hours.

The Senior Capstone is designed to help students focus and integrate their knowledge of the Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) region. Each student will complete an independent research project focusing on a specific problem or region from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Prerequisite: MENA 354 with a minimum grade of C.