

MIDDLE EAST STUDIES

The Middle East studies program is an intercampus, interdisciplinary major that is designed to provide a broad background in the language, literature, history, religion, anthropology, politics, economics, and art of the Middle East and North Africa (defined to include all the countries of the Arabic-speaking world plus Israel, Turkey, and Iran) from ancient times to the present. Through exposure to several disciplines, this University-wide liberal arts curriculum both provides a rich background for work in business, diplomacy, government, philanthropy, and education and prepares students for advanced work in one of the disciplines.

Program Activities

Internship Program

Students have the option of enrolling in the Middle East studies internship program, which offers opportunities to gain practical experience in the field while simultaneously receiving academic credit (at the student's discretion). Internships are currently available with the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, the National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce, Human Rights Watch/Middle East, Amnesty International, Human Rights First, and the International Catholic Organizations Information Center.

Off-Campus Courses

Students are encouraged to enroll in Middle East studies courses at both the Rose Hill and Lincoln Center campuses although they may complete a Middle East studies major/minor without taking any off-campus courses. Also, credit may be received for work completed in any one of the several cooperative agreements the Middle East studies program has with the American University of Cairo (Egypt), the Arabic Language Institute in Fez (Morocco), the Bourguiba Institute for Arabic Language Study in Tunisia (Tunisia), and the AIMS-sponsored overseas Arabic language program in Tangiers at the Tangiers-American Legation Museum (TALM). In spring 2006, Fordham University entered into a collaborative agreement with St. Joseph University, the French-language Jesuit university in Beirut, Lebanon. MESP Students can attend summer, one and two-semester-long programs in Lebanon and receive appropriate academic credit at Fordham. See the program director, John Entelis, Ph.D., for more details.

Opportunities for Nonmajors

Of course, students wishing to take only one or two courses in the program are welcome to do so. Excellent achievement in several such courses would prove attractive to a number of prospective employers.

For more information

Visit the Middle East Studies program web page.

Contribution to the Core

Middle East studies offers Arabic courses, which, when taken in sequence through to the exit level (ARAB 2001 Arabic Language and Literature), will fulfill the foreign language core requirement. The descriptions for all Arabic language courses can be located in the Modern Languages and Literature section of this bulletin. In addition, the program offers courses that will fulfill the Global Studies core requirement.

Programs

- Middle East Studies Major
- Middle East Studies Minor