



CERTIFICATE IN MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

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complex region

ABOUT THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Middle East is such a wonderfully complex region that even those who live in the area find it difficult to identify what defines it. Regional and foreign students have shown an increasing interest in developing an understanding of this region and in seeking employment here, hence their need to gain a deeper knowledge of and sensitivity towards its historical, cultural, social and political environment. For that purpose, The American University in Dubai has created its Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies.



PROGRAM MISSION

The Middle Eastern Studies Certificate is an 18-19 credit hour program designed to give students in the area an appreciation and understanding of the region in which they are currently studying and in which many will be pursuing professional careers. It is an opportunity for these students to enhance their knowledge of the cultural, historical, and political factors that have shaped the Middle East through time and to

a large extent, explain the profile and texture of the current Middle Eastern landscape.

For students outside the region (Study Abroad, etc.), the certificate program offers the unique opportunity to develop their interest in and awareness of Middle Eastern culture by living in a Middle Eastern country while earning credit at an American-accredited university.

PROGRAM GOALS

The Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies program seeks to:

- Educate students to such a level that they can function successfully in a contemporary global forum with an understanding of other ethnicities and nationalities, specifically those in the Middle East;
- Provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the culture(s) of the Middle East region;
- Provide students with the necessary skills to critically analyze current situations/events in the Middle East region, considering both cultural and historical backgrounds; and
- Provide students with an understanding of the geopolitical role of the region in the context of the current concept of “globalization.”

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate required familiarity with Modern Standard Arabic;
- Exhibit a geographic knowledge of the region including both physical and economic aspects;
- Identify and discuss the historical underpinnings of the region;
- Explain the basic tenets of the Islamic faith and the role various religions play in the societies of the Middle East;
- Identify and discuss the various cultures whose presence contributes to and presents challenges to the cohesiveness of the region;
- Identify the various political systems historically and currently practiced in the region; and
- Identify significant contributions to human culture by civilizations in the region.



WHO SHOULD BE INTERESTED?



The certificate program should be of potential interest to **all baccalaureate degree candidates**.

Students who, following graduation, will seek employment within the Middle East will gain a deeper understanding of the environment – **historical, cultural, and political**

– which will serve them well, regardless of the profession they choose.

Study Abroad students benefit from the structured study of the Middle East as a means of complementing the understanding gained from living in the region.

The certificate serves to complement the undergraduate degree program in which the student is enrolled, the result being a broadening of cultural knowledge and sensitivity – both of which play a role in professional endeavor and success.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any student pursuing a Bachelor's degree at AUD, attending AUD as a visiting student, in the Study Abroad Program, or as an exchange student.

or

Students who have already completed a Bachelor's degree and are only seeking admissions to the Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies program.



WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

General Requirements in order to qualify for admission to the Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies program, students must:

- Be in good academic standing at AUD or their primary university of study;
- Be pursuing or having pursued a bachelor's degree at an institution accredited by the MOHESR in the U.A.E. or by the relevant national or regional institutional accrediting body in the case of international applicants; or have earned a bachelor's degree at an institution accredited by the MOHESR or by the relevant national or regional institutional accrediting body in the case of international applicants;
- Have successfully completed ENGL 102 (Advanced Composition and Research) or its equivalent for students coming from institutions in which English is the language of instruction;
- Satisfy the English language requirements for students coming from institutions in which English is not the language of instruction.
- Satisfy all other requirements for admission to AUD

English Language Requirements

All students must achieve a TOEFL® score of 550 and 4.0 on the TWE (CBT 213, Internet-based TOEFL® 79-80 + writing skills range 24-30), or a minimum score of 6.5 in IELTS™ (with 6.5 in Writing), or an equivalent score on a test approved by the MOHESR in order to qualify for admission at AUD.

Exceptions

Please consult www.aud.edu

Note

AUD students should apply for the Certificate Program by completing the *Interest in Pursuing the Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies Form* available in the Registrar's Office.

Transfer Credits

Please consult www.aud.edu





REQUIREMENTS

Course Components	CH
Arabic Language*	3-4
Required Courses	6
Humanities/Social Sciences	3
Religion	3
Area Studies	3
Total	18-19

*The number of credit hours depends on the Arabic course that students take. 100 and 200 level Arabic language courses are 4 credit hours each. The two 300 level Arabic courses are 3 credit hours each.

COURSE SEQUENCING

The recommended course sequence for students pursuing the Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies is as follows:

SEMESTER I (SIX CREDITS)

MEST 210 and MEST 310 or MEST 323 or MEST 343

SEMESTER II (SIX CREDITS)

Arabic Language Course and MEST Religion Course

SEMESTER III (SIX CREDITS)

MEST Area Studies Course and MEST Humanities/Social Sciences Course

Study Abroad Students who only take courses within the scope of the certificate may complete the program in one semester by incurring one overload.

COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

The certificate will be awarded upon a student's completion of all Certificate requirements.

All courses applied towards the Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies program must be completed with a grade of C or above, and students must achieve a minimum 2.0 CGPA for the Certificate.

Students completing the program should request the Certificate from the Registrar's Office.

For information on Transfer Credits, please refer to the AUD Undergraduate Catalog.



COURSE CLASSIFICATIONS (RQ. CR. HRS.)

Language (3-4)*

- MEST 101 Elementary Arabic I
- MEST 102 Elementary Arabic II
- MEST 201 Intermediate Arabic I
- MEST 202 Intermediate Arabic II
- MEST 301 Arabic Proficiency I
- MEST 302 Arabic Proficiency II

Required Courses (6)

- MEST 210 An Introduction to Middle East History

and one of the following courses:

- MEST 310 Islamic Civilization
- MEST 323 Islam: Historical and Societal Aspects
- MEST 343 Business in the Modern Middle East

Humanities/Social Sciences (3)

- MEST 310 Islamic Civilization
- MEST 315 History of the Modern Middle East
- MEST 317 Middle Eastern Literature in Translation
- MEST 318 Cultures of the Middle East
- MEST 319 Politics in the Middle East
- MEST 320 The Qur'an: Text, History, and Meaning
- MEST 323 Islam: Historical and Societal Aspects
- MEST 327 Islamic Politics
- MEST 329 Islamic Art and Architecture
- MEST 330 The Ancient Near East
- MEST 333 The Near East in Late Antiquity
- MEST 352 Conflicts in the Middle East
- MEST 353 Women and Gender in the Middle East

Religion (3)

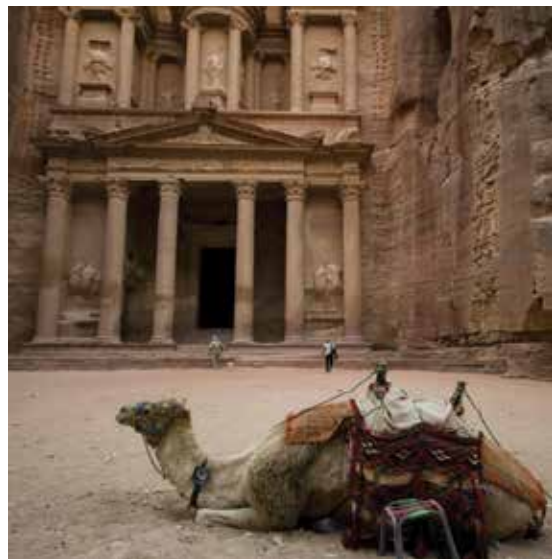
- MEST 320 The Qur'an: Text, History, and Meaning
- MEST 323 Islam: Historical and Societal Aspects
- MEST 327 Islamic Politics
- MEST 329 Islamic Art and Architecture
- MEST 350 Religions of the Middle East

Area Studies (3)

- MEST 380 The Gulf: Culture and Economics since 1970
- MEST 381 North Africa: Nation, Society and Culture
- MEST 382 The Levant: Arab Lands of the Eastern Mediterranean
- MEST 383 Iraq: Reinventing the Nation
- MEST 384 Egypt: Literature Since 1952

** Students who already know Modern Standard Arabic should arrange to take a placement test with the MEST language instructor. If a student's level is sufficient to place out of the Arabic courses being offered, then he or she should take another MEST Certificate qualifying course as a substitute.*

For a full description of the courses, please refer to the AUD Undergraduate Catalog or browse online.



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School of Arts and Sciences

The School of Arts and Sciences exemplifies the tradition that a college education liberates the mind. The School values the *pursuit of knowledge* for its own sake and believes that all college graduates are capable of studying a broad spectrum of subjects and of following a rational process to draw conclusions and inferences.

ADMISSIONS AT AUD

The mission of the Office of Admissions is to admit to AUD's degree programs students who possess appropriate credentials and the demonstrated capacity and potential to successfully complete the educational programs provided by the university and meaningfully participate in the total educational experience offered by AUD.

The Admissions Office consists of a professional team that assists prospective students gain accessibility to opportunities in higher education. The Admissions team is held to a high level of integrity and is charged with providing quality service and accurate information to all students.

AUD ADMISSIONS OFFICE

P. O. Box 28282, Dubai, UAE
T. +971 4 399 9000
admissions@aud.edu
www.aud.edu

For specific admissions requirements, please check the AUD Undergraduate on our website or contact the Admissions Office.



IN THE UAE & THE USA

AUD is officially licensed by the U.A.E. Ministry of Education – Higher Education Affairs (MOE-HEA). The Ministry has accredited the university's undergraduate and graduate programs, in addition to Certificate programs in Middle Eastern Studies and Professional Teaching. The university is also accredited in the USA by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

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