

## SPRING 2018 MES Courses

Course	Title and Description	Cross-listed with	Instructor	Day/Time
ARB 102	<p><b>Arabic II</b> The course will focus on developing and improving the four main skills of learning a language – listening, speaking, reading, and writing. By the end of this semester you will have reached intermediate proficiency in Arabic.</p>		Phillips	<p>T, Th 11:00 am - 12:20 pm W 11:40 am – 12:35 pm</p> <p><b>Another section:</b> T, Th 9:30am - 10:50am We 9:30am - 10:25am</p>
TRK 102	<p><b>Turkish II</b> Continuing proficiency-based course which develops communicative abilities in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in culturally authentic contexts. Activities are conducted in Turkish. Students cannot enroll in TRK 102 after earning credit for TRK 201, TRK 202, or higher. PREREQ: TRK 101</p>		Omur	<p>T,Th 9:30 am - 10:25 am W 8:25 am - 9:20 am F 11:40 am - 12:35 pm</p>
TRK 202	<p><b>Turkish IV</b> Continuing proficiency-based course which further refines and expands linguistic skills in culturally authentic contexts. Incorporates reading, discussing, and analyzing texts as a basis for the expression and interpretation of meaning. Conducted in Turkish. Students cannot enroll in TRK 202 after successfully completing a course higher than TRK 202. PREREQ: TRK 201</p>		Gultekin	<p>T, Th 12:30 pm – 1:50 pm W 11:40 am – 12:35 pm</p>
JSP 235	<p><b>Travel Narratives and Pilgrimage</b> Study of secular and spiritual travel narratives, both factual and fictional. Included are tales of exploration, shipwreck, and pilgrimage to the Holy Land, which played a key role in literary history.</p>	ETS 230/ LIT/REL 235	Frieden	T, Th 12:30 pm - 1:50 pm
MES 317	<p><b>The Arab Revolutions</b> An exploration of the social, economic, and political histories of select Arab countries since independence to understand the contexts and reasons for the revolutions that began in 2011.</p>	HST 317	Kallander	T, Th 12:30 pm -1:50 pm

MES 335	<p><b>Israeli Literature and Culture</b></p> <p>The course discusses major internal and external conflicts that are still shaping the life of Israeli people. We trace current issues to their historical, religious, economical, and social roots which lead to the creation of the modern Jewish State. The ideological, cultural, and political aspects of Israel's existence are discussed through their representations in literature, theater, and film. While learning about Israeli Culture and Society, students should develop skills such as close reading, critical thinking, scholarly writing, and public speaking.</p>	REL/LIT/JSP 335	Brown-Sofer	T, Th 3:30 pm – 4:50 pm
MES 336	<p><b>Arabic Cultures</b></p> <p>This course is an invitation to hear voices of the Arab world and to see aspects of the culture visually and perceptively. It will explore Arabic culture through geography, literature, religion (Islam and other religions), ethnic groups, social divisions, films, the Media, music, art, food, gender issues, and everyday life. The focus will be on today's world, but the course will naturally take into account historical phenomena and their enduring presence in the region and in the culture. The course will examine various ways that people understand their own culture, appreciate it, criticize it, and seek to improve it. The course will show that understanding politics, economy, customs, and the people's way of life in the Middle East is fused with understanding Islam. It provides not only access to the culture of Arabic-speaking countries and communities but also understanding of other countries in the Middle East. The course promotes awareness and understanding of attitudes and values that may differ from those that exist in a student's environment or background.</p>	ARB/LIT 336	Habib	T, Th 3:30 pm – 4:50 pm

MES 342	<p><b>Religion and Politics in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict</b></p> <p>The course looks at the ways in which religion and politics are depicted in overviews of the conflict, and will examine how contested religious and political narratives have impeded conflict resolution. We will cover the core political and religious issues that undergird the intractable Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including Israel's settlement project, the controversy over Jerusalem's future, and the refugee problem. In addition, we will consider religiously and politically motivated violence, and the dilemmas of peacemaking. Specifically, we will consider what lessons the demise of Oslo offers for today's peacemaking efforts. The course concludes by considering how religion can be a 'force for peace' and whether a just and lasting peace for Israelis and Palestinians is likely to emerge in 2018.</p>	PSC/REL/JSP 342	Elman	T, Th 2:00 pm – 3:20 pm
MES 360	<p><b>Gender and Sexuality in the Arab World</b></p> <p>This course explores the ways in which gender and sexualities are represented in an array of visual, historical, and literary texts from the Arab world and its diasporas. Some of the main issues that will be addressed include the historical development of feminism in the Arab world, the construction of gender roles in the context of war and conflict, as well as the outspokenness of many of the region's writers on topics such as love, sex, and homosexuality. In studying these issues, we will also be focusing on texts by writers of Arab descent living in the US who respond to and engage with their counterparts in the Arab world on some of the same topics but from a diasporic perspective, thus emphasizing a transnational and transcultural approach to our study of gender and sexualities. The main aim of the course is to familiarize students with some of the main issues surrounding the topics of gender and sexualities in the Arab world, encouraging them to sharpen their critical and analytical skills in their engagement with this material.</p>	ETS/WGS/QSX	Fadda-Conrey	T, Th 9:30 am – 10:50 am

MES 374	<p><b>Popular Culture in the Middle East</b></p> <p>This course explores history and social change in the modern Middle East through popular - as opposed to elite - culture, ranging from hip hop and television, to sports and the internet. In contrast to the study of politics, government, and the ruling class, our focus will be the average citizen, her daily life, how she expresses herself, and how she experiences the events that make newspaper headlines. How do song lyrics evoke sensitive political issues? How are national identities constructed on social media? How are significant political events and conflicts represented and remembered through film? How does popular culture challenge or reinforce dominant stereotypes about women and gender roles? We will read these cultural texts alongside academic analysis to broaden our understanding of the diversity and richness of the modern Middle East in the twentieth and twenty-first century. Topics are grouped around specific countries, with attention to Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Palestine and Israel, and Morocco.</p>	HST 374	Kallander	T, Th 11 am – 12:20 pm
MES 391	<p><b>Revolutions in the Middle East</b></p> <p>Whereas revolutions are more or less abating in other regions of the world today, the Middle East still finds itself in the throes of revolution. A new wave of revolutionary upheavals has begun since January 2011 and continues to shape the politics of the region. In theoretical terms, four aspects of these political revolutions need to be studied:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Typology; 2) Etiology; 3) Morphology, and</li> <li>4) Teleology.</li> </ol> <p>Hence, in the first few weeks of the course we will study the major theories of revolution. Then in light of the theoretical discussion, we will explain the new wave of revolutions in the Middle East in terms of their causes and consequences.</p>	PSC 391	Bashiriyeh	M, W 3:45 pm – 5:05 pm

MES 395	<p><b>Democratization in the Muslim World</b></p> <p>The aim of this course is to study the ongoing process of democratization which has begun recently in the Islamic world. With the rising wave of democratic transitions in the last quarter of the 20th Century, the question has been raised as to whether the world of Islam could also experience a similar development. As a matter of historical fact a number of Muslim nations are in a process of making a transition to at least electoral democracy and are striving to consolidate the new institutions despite formidable obstacles. On the one hand a number of forces and variables favor democratization, but on the other hand several variables and forces impede the process. We assume that theories explaining transition to democracy elsewhere can be instrumental in understanding the process of democratization in the Muslim world as well. Hence, we will first review the general theories of democratization, in terms of their possible relevance to the study of democratization in the Muslim world, and then explain the processes of democratization in six Muslim nations.</p>	PSC 395	Bashiriyeh	M, W 12:45 pm – 2:05 pm
MES 430	<p><b>Social Theory and Resurgence of Religion in the Middle East</b></p> <p>The aim of this graduate/senior seminar is to provide a social-theoretical understanding of the resurgence of religion and politico-religious movements in the Middle East since the end of the Cold War. The main questions we ask are as follows: Has there been a resurgence in religion? What are the indications and forms of this resurgence? What are the main reasons or causes, in terms of Social Theory? What are the outcomes and implications in terms of a turn to a new style of politics? These questions are discussed in a recently growing literature which has been informed and inspired by various major Social Theories including Durkheimian, Marxian, Weberian and Functionalist traditions. The main purpose of the course is to critically review this expanding literature.</p>	PSC/MES 682	Bashiriyeh	Th 12:30 pm- 3:15 pm

### Related Spring 2018 Courses

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REL 114	<b>The Bible in History, Culture, Religion</b> This course examines Jewish and Christian scriptures in their ancient Near Eastern and Hellenistic contexts, with particular attention to their literary forms, the history of their composition, and their role in the development of Western religions and cultures.	JSP 114	Watts	T, Th 3:30-4:50p
REL 292	<b>The Human and Divine in Christian &amp; Muslim Philosophy</b> This class investigates the complex relationship between humanity and divinity and its implication for the formation of Christian and Islamic philosophy and theology.	PHI 241	Abdel-Meguid	T, Th 11a-12:20p
REL 300, m003	<b>Jews and Muslims in North Africa</b>		Moody	M, W 2:15-3:35p
REL 300, m004	<b>Jewish Sacred Space</b>		Gruber	T, Th 3:30-4:50p
ARC 435	<b>Islamic Architectures</b> The course covers Islamic architecture from the time of Mohammad (7th c.) through the 18th c. The purpose of the course is to acquaint the student with the fundamentals of form and practice in the architectures of the Islamic world. This architectural tradition, over 1000 years long and engaging many cultural traditions, rivals the western canon in the magnificence and sophistication of its achievements. Instructor approval is required for non-majors.	HOA 389	Henderson	M, W, 12:45-2:05p
JSP 439	<b>Jewish Mysticism, Music, Meditation</b>	REL 620	Frieden	M, 12:45-3:30p