

MIDDLE EAST STUDIES, ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (AA)

Overview

The Middle East Studies Program involves the study of the history, politics, cultures, religions and languages of one of the most complex and critical regions of the world. Some of the questions which students will encounter in courses in this program include: What are the main tenets of the major religions of the area? What is the history of the peoples of this region? What are the political systems of these countries like? Why is the region so critical to world politics? What are the cultural differences in Middle Eastern cultures, within the Middle East and between the Middle East and the West and the East.

The Middle East Studies major also seeks to understand the question of democratization, political violence, the role of religion and ideology, the role of tradition and history in shaping the physical and psychological make-up of the region. The Program will be complemented with a Study Abroad component offering students a hands-on experience of life and culture and tradition and history of the Middle East.

The Associate in Arts in Middle East Studies degree (AA in Middle East Studies) is an interdisciplinary program that provides students with a solid foundation to transition to a Baccalaureate Degree in Middle East Studies at UCSB or at any of the other UC or CSU campuses offering a similar major.

Requirements

Associate Degree Graduation Requirements

Complete all of the following:

1. All Department Requirements listed below with a "C" or better or "P" in each course (at least 20% of the department requirements must be completed through SBCC).
2. One of the following three General Education options:
 - a. OPTION 1: A minimum of 18 units of SBCC General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.sbcc.edu/degrees-certificates-awards/#associateddegreeestext>) (Areas A-D) and Institutional Requirements (Area E) and Information Competency Requirement (Area F) OR
 - b. OPTION 2: IGETC (<https://catalog.sbcc.edu/transfer-curricula/#igetctext>) Pattern OR
 - c. OPTION 3: CSU GE Breadth (<https://catalog.sbcc.edu/transfer-curricula/#csugebtext>) Pattern
3. A total of 60 degree-applicable units (SBCC courses numbered 100 and higher).
4. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better in all units attempted at SBCC.
5. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better in all college units attempted.
6. A minimum of 12 units through SBCC.

Code	Title	Units
Department Requirements		
Core Courses:		
ART 216	Survey Of Islamic Art And Architecture	3

GEOG 107	Geography of The Middle East/North Africa and Southwest Asia	3
HIST 138	History of the Modern Middle East	3
POLS 136	Middle East Government And Politics	3
Complete 9 units of electives from the following:		9-10
ANTH 103 or ANTH 109	Introduction To Cultural Anthropology Comparative World Cultures	
ARBC 101	Beginning Modern Standard Arabic I	
ARBC 102	Beginning Modern Standard Arabic II	
GLST 101	Introduction to Global Studies	
GLST 102	Global Problems	
PHIL 102	Comparative World Religions	
POLS 121 or POLS 121H	International Politics International Politics, Honors	
POLS 131	Comparative Politics	
Total Units		21.00-22.00

Learning Outcomes

1. Distinguish between the main tenets of the major religions of the Middle East
2. Explain the differences and similarities between the political systems of the Middle East
3. Correlate the role of religion, ideology and culture to the notions of modernization and democratization in the Middle East

Recommended Sequence

Make an appointment with your SBCC academic counselor through Starfish to create a Student Education Plan that reflects a recommended course sequence for this program that is tailored to your individual needs.

How to schedule an Academic Counseling appointment (<https://www.sbcc.edu/counselingcenter/counselingappointments.php>).