



February 28, 2024

To the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee;

On November 6th, 2023 the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee's Arts and Humanities Subcommittee 1 reviewed and approved a proposal—with four contingencies, which have subsequently been satisfied—from the Department of Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures (NESA) to create a new undergraduate certificate in Encountering Middle Eastern and South Asian Cultures.

NESA proposes a 12-credit hour certificate program which aims to provide students with competency for working with people and communities of the Middle East and South Asia. This certificate program would target students in professions such as business, social work, energy, government, development, engineering, medicine, public health, finance, marketing, and others that might interact with people in or from the Middle East and South Asia. They will gain familiarity with global human experiences, cultures, values, and belief systems and will be better equipped to interact with diverse international communities.

List of courses that constitute the requirements:

1) Middle East and South Asia comparative perspectives (must take one; up to two)

NELC 1125 Stories of Belonging and Difference in the Middle East and South Asia (3 credits)  
NELC 3025 or SASIA 3025 Citizenship and Diaspora: Living in Between Countries and Cultures (4 credits)

2) Middle East and South Asia Culture and Lived Experiences (must take one; up to two)

ARABIC 2241 Contemporary Arab Cultures: Arts, Mass Media, Society  
HEBREW 2241(H) or JEWSHST 2242(H) Culture of Contemporary Israel  
ISLAM 3205 Women in the Muslim Middle East  
NELC 2241 or ANTHROP 2241 The Middle East Close-Up: People, Cultures, Societies  
PERSIAN 3350 Iranian Society Today: Internal Conflicts and Social Movements  
PERSIAN 2241 Persian Culture  
SASIA 2220 or COMPSTDS 2220 Introduction to South Asia Studies  
TURKISH 3350 Contemporary Issues in Turkey  
TURKISH 2241 Beyond Harems and Belly Dancers: Turkish Culture 6 INTSTDS 2200 or  
NELC 2200 Introduction to the Modern Middle East

3) Middle East and South Asia Film, Literary, and Religious Perspectives (must take one)

ISLAM 3501 Introduction to Islam  
RELSTDS 3671 or SASIA 3671 Religions of India

ISLAM 3702 Literatures and Cultures of the Islamic World  
HEBREW 3705 Israeli Society and the Holocaust  
HEBREW 3245 or JEWST 3245 Israeli Film and Society  
NELC 2244 Films of the Middle East  
SASIA 3625 Understanding Bollywood, Knowing India: Hindi Cinema Since 1960  
HISTORY 2393 Contemporary India and South Asia  
HISTORY 2351 or ISLAM 2351 Early Islamic Society, 610-1258  
ARABIC 2701 Classic and Medieval Arabic Literature in Translation  
ARABIC 2702(H) or WGSS 2702(H) Gender and Citizenship in Modern Arabic Literature  
ARABIC 3702 Place, Space, and Migration in Modern Arabic Literature and Film  
ARABIC 3705 A Thousand and One Nights: Storytelling in Arabic and World Literature

We advance the proposal to create an undergraduate certificate in Encountering Middle Eastern and South Asian Cultures to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Staley', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David J. Staley, PhD  
Associate Professor of History  
Chair, Arts and Humanities Subcommittee 1