

From: [Neff, Jennifer](#)
To: [Nagar, Ila](#); [McDonald, Carrie](#)
Cc: [Hedgecoth, David](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#)
Subject: NESA Major Revision
Date: Thursday, December 18, 2025 9:51:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good morning,

On Tuesday, December 9th, the Arts and Humanities Subcommittee 1 of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a request to revise NESA's existing majors in Arabic, Hebrew & Jewish Studies, and Islamic Studies into a single Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures major.

I am pleased to report that the Subcommittee approved the request with the following feedback:

- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends a cleanup of course listings to ensure consistency and accuracy throughout the proposal and curriculum maps. For example:
 - Course listings should include honors designations where applicable. Honors listings appear in some locations but not others (e.g., proposal pp. 3 and 23: Hebrew 2241/Jewish Studies 2242).
 - On proposal p. 16, History 2211 is incorrectly listed as 2111, which is a different course. This should be corrected.
 - Arabic 3601 is cross listed with Philosophy as course number 3221; however, the Philosophy course number is incorrect in the curriculum map (proposal p. 36).
 - Hebrew 2216/JEWSHST 2516 is listed correctly throughout the proposal text, but the Jewish Studies course number is incorrect in the curriculum map (proposal p. 37).
 - In the curriculum map, the title for Jewish Studies/History 2450 should be revised to "Ancient and Medieval Jewish History, 300 BCE–1100 CE", and the title for Jewish Studies/History 2451 should be revised to "Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History, 700–1700 CE" (proposal p. 38).
 - In the curriculum map, the title for Turkish 2701 should be listed as "Mystics, Sultans, Prisoners & Dreamers: Turkish Literature in Translation" (proposal p. 41).
- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends updating all references to SEI throughout the proposal to reflect the current terminology, SSLE (Survey of Student Learning Experience) (proposal pp. 5–9).
- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends revising the statement, "The University of Virginia also has a Department of Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages and Cultures. They offer four different undergraduate degrees ... The Studies degrees....," to clarify that these offerings are majors, not degrees (proposal p. 12).

The proposal will continue through the approval process to the full Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to David Hedgecoth (faculty Chair of the A&H1 Subcommittee) or me.

Best,
Jennifer



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Pronouns: she/her/hers