

Department of Near Eastern Studies Major Application

Instructions:

1. Obtain a copy of your Cornell transcript. You may request a transcript online at registrar.cornell.edu.
2. Complete the student section of this application.
3. Schedule an appointment with Seema Golestaneh, Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) at sg2327@cornell.edu. Be sure to bring your transcript and this application.
4. Return completed and signed application to Christianne Capalongo, 409 White Hall.

Student Section:

Application date: _____

Your Name (Last, First): _____

CUID#: _____

Email address: _____

Date of expected graduation: _____

Other Major(s): _____

Current class year (freshman, sophomore, junior, senior): _____

List all NES courses taken. Include the semester and year taken, course number and course title:

Department use only below

NES Advisor's Name: _____

NES Advisor Signature and Date: _____

DUS Signature and Date: _____

Near Eastern Studies Major Requirements

Applying to the Major

Prerequisite: Prospective majors must have successfully completed one NES course (language courses count).

Language:

To complete the major, students must successfully complete two years of one Near Eastern language or one year of two Near Eastern languages. Please indicate language(s) you plan to study.

Effective January 2016: In addition to the language requirement, eight courses are required to complete the major. Of these eight courses, at least three must be at the 3000 level or above, and one must be a Research Seminar. Research Seminar courses are designated with NES-RS in the Courses of Study. If you have taken a course that you feel meets the criteria but is not marked as NES-RS, please contact the department for approval.

Core courses:

NES 4560: Theory & Method in Near Eastern Studies is a required course. Students that have not taken NES 4560 prior to declaring the NES major are encouraged to sign up for it as soon as it is offered.

In addition to NES 4560, students must successfully complete one of the following:

- NES 2651: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- NES 2676: Holy War, Crusade and Jihad from Antiquity to Present
- NES 2754: Wondrous Literatures of the Near East

Historical Breadth:

Three courses must fulfill temporal breadth, defined as any one course whose chronological parameters fall within the following periods. Please indicate the three courses used to fulfill this requirement (semester/year, course number, course title). Also, please note if it was a Research Seminar (NES-RS).

- 3000 B.C.E. to 600 C.E.: _____
- 600 C.E. to 1800 C.E.: _____
- 1800 C.E. to present: _____

Major Electives (three courses required):

Please list the semester and year you plan to take, or have taken the elective course, as well as the course number and title. Also, note if it was a Research Seminar (NES-RS).

Note: Some course combinations are subject to departmental approval.

Additional requirements for Honors Candidates:

- NES 4998 - Fall semester of senior year
- NES 4999 - Spring semester of senior year
- Cumulative GPA of 3.5 in NES courses
- Thesis (3 copies in final form of 60-80 pages submitted to the Honors Chairperson by Friday closest to April 7. Please refer to the Honors Program Guide for complete information.

College of Arts & Sciences Requirements

- First Year Writing Seminars (two courses).
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- Foreign Language requirement
 - a. A Cornell language course numbered 2000 or above, or non-introductory class conducted in a foreign language
 - b. Or eleven credits of study in a single foreign language
 - Nine distribution courses, three of which are satisfied with a major in humanities or social sciences and four of which are satisfied with a major in sciences
 - 15 credits of elective courses outside of the major
 - Physical education: two 1-credit, non-academic courses required in addition to passing the swim test.
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Courses, Credit and Residency Requirements

- Minimum of 34 courses (must receive a grade equivalent to C or better in any given course)
- Total of 120 credits, of which 100 must be A&S
- Residence: 8 full-time semesters unless exempted

Important Note

All courses for the major must be taken for a letter grade (No S/U) and students must pass the course with a grade of C or better. No course may be used to satisfy two requirements. A maximum of two independent studies may be applied to the major; a maximum of two non-cross listed courses may be applied to the major; a maximum of two courses may receive credit for more than one major. A maximum of 15 credits of relevant, departmentally approved course work take overseas or at another university may be applied to the major. Arts and Sciences requires that students must carry a minimum of 15 credits during a semester abroad.

Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS):

Professor Seema Golestaneh, sg2327@cornell.edu, 254-6594, 415 White Hall