MIDDLE EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES | IDS

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recognizes that students' academic and professional interests may include more than one discipline and that some majors are not formally available at the university. Because interdisciplinary approaches, research, and curricular activities are becoming increasingly appropriate and valuable within the liberal arts and sciences and other fields, UF students have the option to develop and pursue interdisciplinary (IDS) majors that cross the boundaries of numerous disciplines.

About this Program

- **College:** Liberal Arts and Sciences (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/)
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Arts
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Contact:**
  - Arabic: Email (yah@ufl.edu) | 352.273.2958
  - Hebrew: Email (yah@ufl.edu) | 352.846.3845
- **More Info:** Arabic (https://dean.clas.ufl.edu/interdisciplinary-studies/established-concentrations/middle-eastern-languages-and-cultures/#Arabic) | Hebrew (https://dean.clas.ufl.edu/interdisciplinary-studies/established-concentrations/middle-eastern-languages-and-cultures/#Hebrew)

Related Programs

- Arabic
- Arabic Language and Literature Minor
- Hebrew
- Hebrew Minor
- Jewish Studies Minor

Students design a concentration that focuses on an Arabic or Hebrew language and culture. Students acquire knowledge of relationships among language, literature, politics, religion, arts and economics. The major consists of 33 credits and culminates in a senior thesis.

This program provides a two-track major, Arabic and Hebrew. In addition to the major's other requirements and electives, all students must take at least one course (language or content-based) in the track of the second language.

Arabic

The Arabic language is the key to understanding the culture and history of more than 22 nations and more than 206 million speakers. It is the language of an ancient civilization and today is spoken widely across North Africa, the Middle East and the Arabian Peninsula. Arabic is also the liturgical language of more than a billion Muslims, and it is one of the six official languages of the United Nations. The interdisciplinary major in Arabic language and culture enables students to develop an appreciation for the complexity of the many facets of the Arab world: its society, culture, history, arts, religions, and literary heritage. This major is therefore ideal for students considering careers in diplomacy, journalism, consulting, business, foreign service, translation, and academia. Future graduates would be in great demand for advanced studies in any of these fields.

Arabic Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
ARA 3410 & ARA 3411	Advanced Arabic 1 and Advanced Arabic 2	6
ARA 4420	Arabic through the Texts	3
ABT 3130	Arabic Literary Heritage 1 (Gen Ed Humanities and International; Writing Requirement)	3
ABT 3500	Arabic Culture (Gen Ed Humanities and International; Writing Requirement; core course)	3
ARA/HBR 4930	Special Topics (Introduction of Semitic Languages; core course)	3
IDS 4906	Interdisciplinary Thesis Research	7
Total Credits		25

Electives
Three to six credits from courses with these prefixes

- ARA, ABT, REL (with reference to Islam or Judaism)
- AFH (with reference to North Africa) and
- CPO and WHO (with reference to the Middle East)

Hebrew

By assuming an interdisciplinary approach to Hebrew language and culture, students acquire knowledge of the close relationship between politics, history, religions, arts, and cultures in Israel. In addition to working toward proficiency in Hebrew, students will develop close reading and critical thinking skills. Students graduating with this major will find job opportunities in Jewish community organizations, the government and consulting. In addition, due to the interdisciplinary nature of the major, students will be well prepared for the rigor of graduate studies in the humanities.

Hebrew Requirements
33 credits

Code	Title	Credits
HBR 3410 & HBR 3411	Advanced Modern Hebrew 1 and Advanced Modern Hebrew 2 (Gen Ed Humanities and International)	6
ARA/HBR 4930	Special Topics (Comparative Semitic Languages)	3
IDS 4906	Interdisciplinary Thesis Research	7
Select three to six elective credits from prefixes: REL, HBR, HMW, JST, POS (courses related to Judaism, the Bible or the Middle East)		3-6
Total Credits		19-22

An intensive summer study abroad program in Fez, Morocco, is recommended for students at all levels from beginning to advanced. The six-week program earns six transferable credits or 10 credits for beginners.

Academic Learning Compact

The interdisciplinary studies major in middle eastern languages and cultures provides students with knowledge of political, cultural, literary, linguistic and historical issues of the Middle East. Students will be able

to evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and to apply it effectively. Students will also articulate research results clearly and effectively.

Before Graduating Students Must

- Satisfactorily complete IDS 4906 (capping 7-12 credits of thesis research), graded according to department rubric.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Content

1. Identify, describe and explain political, cultural, literary, linguistic and historical issues of the Middle East.

Critical Thinking

2. Evaluate the significance, quality and veracity of information gathered in the literature and apply it effectively.

Communication

3. Articulate research results clearly and effectively in speech and in writing in an accepted style of presentation.

Curriculum Map

I = Introduced; R = Reinforced; A = Assessed

Courses	SLO 1	SLO 2	SLO 3
IDS 4906, course 1	I, R, A	I, R, A	I, R, A
IDS 4906, course 2	I, R, A	I, R, A	I, R, A
IDS 4906 is the only required course for this major (or equivalent with other prefixes).			

Assessment Types

- Direct assessment of research in the thesis