CENTRE FOR ARAB & ISLAMIC STUDIES
(THE MIDDLE EAST & CENTRAL ASIA)

STUDY GUIDE 2020

ANU College of
Arts & Social
Sciences
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The Australian National University (ANU) is situated in the heart of Canberra, the capital city of Australia. The University campus is spacious (approximately 145 hectares) and conveniently situated adjacent to the central business district. It is accessible by public transport and an excellent city-wide bicycle path system. Canberra, a planned city of around 360,000 people, is surrounded by natural bush-land. It is only a few hours away from both the mountains and the coast and three hours driving distance from Sydney.

The University was founded as a research university in 1946, and undergraduate teaching was added in 1960. The unique structure of ANU makes it the most research-intensive university in Australia. ANU is comprised of seven Colleges, made up of the research and education Centres, Schools and Faculties that contribute to the various broad disciplines. The ANU Colleges link research and teaching at undergraduate, postgraduate and higher degree levels, and provide the base to achieve research at the highest standards of excellence, educational programs informed by current research and active researchers that offer students a memorable learning experience.

Internationally recognised as an outstanding university, ANU is a national centre of excellence in both research and teaching, with world-class computing, library and research facilities. The Australian National University has reaffirmed its position as Australia’s top university and 29th in the world (latest QS World University Rankings for 2019/20) and it is among the great research and educational institutions of the world.

The Centre for Arab & Islamic Studies (The Middle East & Central Asia)

The Centre for Arab & Islamic Studies (Middle East & Central Asia) - CAiS - forms part of the College of Arts & Social Sciences at the Australian National University and is Australia’s premier location for studies in this field. It has a high international standing and links with its major counterparts in the Arab and Muslim world, as well as in North America and Europe.

The Centre integrates the study of Middle Eastern and Central Asian contemporary politics, international relations, history, culture, political economy, and the role of Islam within the broader framework of the changing global order.
The Centre fosters the study of the region’s most relevant languages of Arabic, Persian and Turkish. It also focuses on issues pertinent to Australia’s interests in, and the development of its cultural, commercial, scientific and industrial ties with, its areas of coverage.

CAIS is a multi-disciplinary teaching and research Centre, with cognitive links with ANU College of Asia & the Pacific, as well as professional association with other ANU Colleges. Its activities are guided by a twenty-one member Advisory Board and a group of international advisers, made up of prominent scholars in Arabic, Islamic, Middle Eastern and Central Asian studies.

The Centre draws on the support of a rich academic community at the ANU to bolster its coverage and activities. Throughout the year students are encouraged to attend special lectures and events by leaders in the academic, political and business communities. The Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies is situated in a new and contemporary-styled building which reflects the architecture of the region. Here, students have access to the leading academics in the field, a specialised library and an audio-Visually enhanced lecture theatre.

The Centre offers graduate programs, undergraduate courses and postgraduate supervision (PhD and MPhil) on a wide range of topics, including the contemporary politics, modern history and political economy of the Middle East and Central Asia, as well as Islamic Studies, Arabic, Persian and Turkish languages, literature and culture.

The primary objectives of CAIS:

> to promote Arab, Islamic, Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies by providing quality educational programs at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels;
> to conduct research of its own, and to coordinate broader research projects with Australian and international academics and specialists;
> to provide a pool of expertise for public and private sectors;
> to strengthen Australia’s ties with the Middle Eastern and Central Asian domains through educational links, and engagement with government, business, diplomatic missions and the broader community.
Karima Laachir took up the position of Director of The ANU Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies in January 2020. Prior to her appointment, Karima held a tenured position at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, where she was also the Director of the SOAS Centre for Cultural, Literary and Postcolonial Studies. Prior to that, she was Lecturer in Cultural Theory at the University of Birmingham (UK) where she co-established a BA programme in Culture, Society and Communication and helped convene a seminar series on “Gender in Islamic Societies” organised for the UK Chevening Foreign Office Programme on “Islam and Governance”. She previously taught at the University of Leeds (UK) where she conducted extensive outreach activities with Muslim and non-Muslim communities to improve access to higher education. As part of this initiative, Dr Laachir taught community courses on Islamic History, Gender in Islam and Arabic Language. Karima’s broader research interests are located at the interface between Humanities and Social Sciences exploring culture/arts and activism under authoritarian regimes in the Middle East and North Africa. Her published work moves beyond the dominant binary perception of Arabic Middle Eastern cultural productions as ‘co-opted’ by or resistant to the States to outline the various dimensions of cultural politics that involve local, national and global flows and structures. She is interested in the intersectionality and articulation of the questions of class, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexuality in cultural practices and how they mobilise alternative understandings of society and the State. She has published extensively on the question of Arab and Muslim Diasporas in Western contexts from the perspective of cultural identity, anti-racist politics and national belonging.

Dr Laachir has maintained a passion for literature and literary productions multilingually and comparatively (Arabophone, Francophone and Anglophone) exploring how literature can mediate through particular aesthetics/poetics alternative imaginings of social and political realities in the Middle East and North Africa and allow for other forms of theorising of the political. She is the Maghreb lead of a large European Research Council-funded project ‘Multilingual Locals and Significant Geographies: For a New Approach to World Literature’, which offers a grounded, decolonial and comparative approach to the study of multilingual literatures from the perspectives of the Global South.

Huda Al-Tamimi has a PhD from ANU. Her research was on the political and social mobilisation for Iraqi women members of parliament post-2003. Dr Al-Tamimi has an MPhil and a Postgraduate Diploma in Education from Massey University, NZ, a BA in English Literature from Mustansiriya University, Baghdad and a Graduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics and Language Teaching from Trinity College, Dublin.

At CAIS, Dr Al-Tamimi has used her specialist skills to teach courses in Arabic linguistics and literature. In 2017, she received the ‘Vice Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Education’.

Dr Al-Tamimi has published two books: Women and Democracy in Iraq: Gender, Politics and Nation-Building (I.B. Tauris, 2019); and Arabic Literature through History, (Dar Al Saqi Publishers), Beirut, 2015, pp 400. She has also published her work in the following journals: Contemporary Arab Affairs, Journal of Islam and the Contemporary World, and Arab World English.
Dr Burcu Cevik-Compiegne has been appointed as the Turkish Studies Convenor in January 2020.

Dr Cevik studied history, linguistics and literature at the University of Aix-Marseille in France before completing her PhD at UTS.

In joining the CAIS Turkish Studies program, Dr Cevik will combine her research interests and teaching experience to contribute to a stimulating research and learning environment. Her research focuses on the social and cultural legacies of the First World War. She is particularly interested in politics and practices of remembrance of the war in post-imperial and postcolonial nations, mainly Turkey, India and Australia.

Dr Cevik is currently working on a book project about the Indian and Turkish experiences and remembrance of the war and the Turkish and Indian participation in Anzac Day commemorations in Australia. Her current research also further explores the impact of digital technologies on remembrance in transnational contexts.

Raihan Ismail is a lecturer at CAIS. In 2018 she received an ARC Discovery Early Career Researcher Award to continue her work on the transnational networks of the ultra-orthodox Salafi Sunni Muslim clerics.

Dr Ismail was awarded the prestigious 2018 Max Crawford Medal for her outstanding scholarly achievement in the humanities.

Dr Ismail’s research interests include Islam, Political Islam, Sunni-Shia relations, women in Islam and Middle East politics. She has presented at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University, examining Saudi clerics and Sunni-Shia relations in the Middle East. She is a regular commentator in Australian and international media on Islam and Middle East politics.

Dr Ismail is the author of Saudi Clerics and Shia Islam, (Oxford University Press, 2016). She is currently working on a book project on the Transnational Networks of Salafi Clerics in Egypt, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia (to be published by Oxford).

She has a Bachelors Degree in Political Science, with a minor in Islamic Studies, a Masters in International Relations from the International Islamic University of Malaysia, and a PhD from ANU.

Dr Liyana Kayali joined the Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies as a lecturer in January 2020. She holds a concurrent role as a research associate at the Centre for Gender Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. Prior to this, Liyana was a research fellow at the School of Law, Politics and Sociology at the University of Sussex, where she was part of a project examining the use of restorative justice approaches to respond to hate crime and hate incidents on university campuses. She has also previously lectured at the School of Politics and International Relations at the ANU.

Liyana’s research interests primarily encompass justice, resistance, gender, and the Middle East, with a particular focus on Israel-Palestine. Her first book, ‘Palestinian Women and Popular Resistance: Perceptions, Attitudes, and Strategies’, is based on ethnographic research conducted in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and is forthcoming with Routledge.
Leila Kouatly
Lecturer - Arabic Program

Leila Kouatly is an Associate Lecturer in the Arabic program. Ms Kouatly holds a Bachelor of Information Management from the University of Canberra and is currently completing a Master of Teaching (Languages Other Than English). She has been involved in the teaching of CAIS Arabic courses since 2011. More recently, she held the role of Educational Developer for the CAIS Online Languages project, working on the design and development of the CAIS courses for online delivery. As part of this project, Leila has worked on two levels of Introductory and Intermediate Arabic courses as well as the Arab Current Affairs and Media course. Her interests include Second Language Acquisition and Technology-Enhanced Language Learning.

Leila is working with France Meyer to publish an Introductory Arabic e-Text based on the online course that they designed and implemented through CAIS. They have recently been awarded an ANU eTEXT Grant to work on this publication.

France Meyer
Literary Translator
Lecturer - Arabic Program

France Meyer is a Literary Translator and an Associate Lecturer in CAIS Arabic program. Ms Meyer has a BA and an MA in Arabic Language, Literature and Civilisation from the Aix-Marseille University, Department of Middle Eastern Studies, France. She is a past recipient of the Institut Français du Proche-Orient (IFPO) Arabic studies scholarship. France has translated 18 works of Modern Arabic Literature into French, seven of them by Egyptian writer and Nobel Prize of Literature Laureate Naguib Mahfouz. Ms Meyer has worked in collaboration with the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris and is a translator and reviewer of Modern Arabic literature for several major French Publishing Houses. Her latest translations include Ahmed Saadawi’s Frankenstein à Bagdad (Piranha - 2016) Naguib Mahfouz’s Wedding Song (Les Noces du Palais - 2015 Abdul Rahman Mounif Cities of Salt (Villes de Sel - 2013).

Jessie Moritz
Lecturer

Jessie Moritz was appointed to CAIS following a postdoctoral research fellowship with the Transregional Institute, Princeton University, where she focused on post-2014 economic reform programs in the GCC. She received her PhD from ANU in 2017; her dissertation, "Slick Operators: Revising Rentier State Theory for the Modern Arab States of the Gulf", received the 2017 Association for Gulf and Peninsula Studies Dissertation Award. She also holds a BA with first class honours in International Relations from the ANU. Her current research focuses on the political economy of oil in the Arabian Peninsula, with a particular focus on state-society relations and diversification strategies. Her most recent publications include "Reformers and the Rentier State: Re-Evaluating the Co-Optation Mechanism in Rentier State Theory," Journal of Arabian Studies 8:S1 (2018) 46-64, and "Oil and Societal Quiescence: Rethinking Causal Mechanisms in Rentier State Theory," Project on Middle East Political Science 33 (January 2019) 40-43.
Kirill Nourzhanov  
Senior Lecturer  
HDR Coordinator


Zahra Taheri  
Lecturer, Convenor of the Persian Program & Undergraduate Advisor

Zahra Taheri holds the position of lecturer in Persian Language and Iranian Studies at CAIS. Dr Taheri received her BA in Persian language and literature from Pahlavi/ Shiraz University, Iran, her MA in Persian literature from The Research Institute of Persian Culture in Tehran, and her PhD in Near Eastern Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. She has taught Persian literature and language at UC Berkeley and Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Japan.


Stephanie Wright  
Associate Lecturer

Stephanie Wright is an Associate Lecturer in Middle Eastern Studies at CAIS. She graduated from the ANU with a Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) in History in 2013, and received a University Medal for her honours thesis, “From ‘Mahometan Tyranny’ to ‘Oriental Despotism’: The Secularisation of Islam in French Political Thought, 1610-1798.” In 2016, she was awarded a Master of Arts in Religious Studies from the University of California at Santa Barbara, for her research on the cosmology and political economy of the Nation of Islam in the 1960s. Her previous publications include ‘Reproducing Fear: Islamophobia in the United States’ (in *Fear of Muslims*, ed. Douglas Pratt and Rachel Woodlock. Springer, 2016), the introduction to Weak States, *Strong Societies* (I. B. Tauris, 2016), co-authored with Amin Saikal, and two articles on ‘Abd al-Rahman al-Kawakibi’ and 'Islam in Australia' for the *Encyclopedia of Islam* (Facts on File, 2017). She is currently completing her PhD on the underworlds of port cities in late nineteenth-century Lebanon.
Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies

The Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies at ANU takes you through the topics, debates and developments in the Middle East and Central Asia. You will study the socio-cultural, political, historical and economic structures of these regions and develop comprehensive knowledge of their relationship to global trends. In order to further engage with the history and culture of the regions, you will have the opportunity to study a Middle Eastern or Central Asian language. You can also choose from a wide range of electives to complement your studies.

Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies students have the opportunity to:

- Discern socio-cultural, historical and political structures of the Middle East and Central Asia
- Define and analyse the global implications of events and developments in the Middle East and Central Asia
- Understand the role of economic modernisation and themes relevant to regional security
- Communicate in a Middle Eastern or Central Asian language.

The Middle East and Central Asia is a significantly important region in world finance, trade, tourism, and politics. In the Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies you will learn the complexities of the region while being able to communicate effectively in a relevant language.

Middle East and Central Asian Studies (MECAS) Major or Minor

A MECAS major requires the completion of 48 units of CAIS courses (see pages 18 & 19). A MECAS minor requires 24 units of these courses. CAIS undergraduate courses are frequently chosen as part of an Arts or Asian Studies Degree. The politics courses can be included in a Political Science major, the European Studies Program, and the Development Studies and History majors and as a minor or electives in the International Relations Program. Depending on the rules of their program, students from other Colleges may be able to include the CAIS courses as their electives.

MECAS (Hons)

Plan: HMECA CRICOS: 082705K

A Bachelor degree with Honours is the most effective means of qualifying for higher degrees (PhD or MPhil) in the future.

The MECAS Honours program can be taken in Arabic language, Persian language, or in a non-language stream (with a focus on a social science such as political science, history, international relations. It can be taken in a BMECAS, BA or PhB degree. It is normally only available full-time and starting at the beginning of First Semester. It is an intensive program, requiring the completion of 24 units of course work, normally in the first semester, and 24 units for a thesis of up to 20,000 words, normally with the topic refined in the first semester and then all or most research and writing conducted in second semester.

Admission Criteria

MECAS Hons

The entry requirement is a MECAS major or a major in a cognate discipline, with a weighted average mark of 70% or higher across 36 units of latter year courses.

Applicants will also need the written agreement of a supervisor for the thesis.

Flexible Vertical Double Degrees (FVDD)

In a FVDD program, you can combine a Bachelor degree and a Master degree. Opt-in to your FVDD program straight after you enrol in your Bachelor degree, or up until you have completed 72 units of study. [Read more: www.anu.edu.au/study/study-options/vertical-double-degrees]
“I was first attracted to studying at ANU because of its Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies and the opportunity to study Arabic. I have always been fascinated in the Middle East and sought the opportunity to develop my knowledge on the region, its languages and its culture. Ultimately, I am driven to study Arabic as I hope to travel extensively in the Middle East and possibly one day work in the region.”

SARAH
Bachelor of Middle Eastern & Central Asian Studies/
Bachelor of Laws
The aim of these programs is to provide quality and coherent graduate education in Middle Eastern, Central Asian and Islamic Studies. The programs are designed for students who seek academic preparation for a career in a professional area requiring a solid understanding of the Middle East, Central Asia and Islam, whether in diplomacy, the public service, teaching, journalism or business.

Graduate Coursework

Master of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies (MMECAS)

CRICOS 049043G

The Master of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies is designed for students who want to get a broad education in Middle East and Central Asian Studies.

The program consists of 96 units of coursework. Students will choose a maximum of sixteen courses (with a value of 6 units each) and can elect to include language courses in Arabic, Persian or Turkish.

Applicants may be eligible for credit (up to 48 units) for prior study. Please refer to the diagram on page 13.

Program Requirements

This program has a duration of two years but applicants may be eligible for credit for prior learning.

The degree takes two years to complete if the applicant has no cognate qualifications. A two year program requires the completion of 96 units, or 16 courses, of which four can be substituted for a thesis.

Applicants with a Bachelor Degree or Graduate Certificate in a cognate discipline may be eligible for 24 units (1 semester) of credit.

Applicants with a Graduate Diploma or Honours in a cognate discipline may be eligible for 48 units (1 year) of credit.

Cognate disciplines

- Politics, including political science, international relations, political economy, security studies, strategic studies; sociology; modern history; religious studies/Islamic studies;
- Other social sciences and humanities disciplines and fields where there is significant coverage of a relevant aspect of Middle Eastern, Central Asian or Islamic Studies and where similar approaches and methodologies are used;
- And modern languages relating to the Middle East and/or Central Asia region such as Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Russian or French.
Enrolment Dates

Admission to the degree is possible in either first or second semester.

Part-time enrolment is available for all programs offered by CAIS.

Research Degrees

The Centre also offers M Phil and PhD by research in the field of its coverage. Admission to such degrees at ANU normally requires an Honours degree (at Honours 2A or above), or equivalent prior studies including some research work. Candidates with other qualifications and experience that include research may be considered for admission.

Prospective students should contact the Centre regarding their proposed research topic. For more information on applying for a research degree see the website: cais.anu.edu.au/higher-degrees-research/prospective-students
In my personal experience, the staff at the Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies have always been approachable, and continually display that they are all experts in their field. The last time I finished a postgraduate university qualification in 2002, I joined the Army as a soldier. Since then, I have been inspired by numerous work experiences in the Middle East, a year-long Farsi language qualification and broader experience in the international environment to pursue a Master of Middle East and Central Asian studies. I now understand the region more deeply and am better able to fulfil my current role in the Department of Defence providing policy advice to government.
Arabic
Persian
Turkish

The Centre currently offers courses in three of the major languages of the regions of its coverage—Arabic, Persian and Turkish.

Each of these languages is associated with a rich historical and cultural legacy. Each is also a dynamic contemporary language, with large populations of speakers throughout the regions of the Centre’s coverage.

Undergraduate students can take Arabic or Persian as a major, minor or elective. Turkish is offered as an elective.

Postgraduate coursework students can take up to 36 units of language in a MMECAS program. The number of language units in their degree will depend on the length of their coursework program.

No prior knowledge is required for the Introductory A units, but a student may be admitted directly to a more advanced unit if he/she is assessed by the lecturer as having sufficient prior knowledge.

CAIS offers the following language courses:
- Introductory Arabic A/B
- Intermediate Arabic A/B
- Advanced Arabic A/B
- Arab Current Affairs and Media Arabic
- Arabic (online course)
- Introduction to Arabic Linguistics

Introduction to Arabic Literature
Research Essay (Arabic)
Special Topics in Arabic
Directed Study Project (Arabic)
Applied Arabic
Introductory Persian A/B
Intermediate Persian A/B
Advanced Persian A/B
Elementary Turkish A/B

Arabic and Persian Online

CAIS offers Arabic and Persian as online courses.

Students at ANU, as well as from universities around Australia and internationally, can apply directly to study Arabic or Persian online and seek credit for their existing program at their home university. On-campus and online students will achieve an equivalent competency in all aspects of the language and receive equal standing towards a major or minor.

The following online courses will be offered in 2020:
- Introductory Arabic A & B
- Intermediate Persian A & B
- Advanced Arabic A & B
- Current Affairs and Media Arabic
- Introductory Persian A & B
- Intermediate Persian A & B
- Advanced Persian A & B

Miguel
Bachelor of Middle Eastern & Central Asian Studies (Honours)

I began studying at CAIS in 2014 for undergraduate coursework and it rapidly became my favourite school on campus; the passion of each teacher was palpable, and at every turn was someone willing to answer my questions and feed my curiosity. This only increased as I moved into Honours research, and my specialised interests found ample room to take root, refine, and grow.

My Honours year was challenging but invaluable, as my coursework semester allowed me to layer two MEAS postgraduate courses on top of compulsory research methods training. Throughout the year, especially in the thesis-writing half, I had to remain diligent in staying on top of the deadlines I set for myself, but at every point, and with every section draft, I was supported and given clear direction by my supervisor. The experience overall was deeply formative for my academic skills, but even beneficial for my current work in the public sector as Honours comprehensively refined my analytical reasoning and my skills in collating/assessing evidence.
MEAS1001 Introduction to the Modern Middle East
Dr Liyana Kayali

The aim of this interdisciplinary course is to acquaint students with the major historical, religious, social, economic, and political dimensions of the Middle East. It will cover topics such as the construction of identities, the place of tradition and history, the impact of imperialism, the development of nationalism, and the reasons for revolution and conflict in the region. The course will also look at the contemporary challenges of globalisation, religious radicalisation, democratisation, and transnational terrorism.

MEAS1002 Islam: History and Institutions
Dr Raihan Ismail

Students will be presented with a general outline of the history of Islam from the seventh century to the present day. The course also examines the development of the central institutions of Islam in the context of that history. Special attention will be paid to particular developments and institutions such as: the emergence of Islam; the Qur’an and basic Islamic teachings; Islamic Jurisprudence; and political institutions (e.g. the Caliphate), which have influenced the modern political debate in Muslim communities in the Middle East and beyond.

POLS2031 Politics in the Middle East
Dr Liyana Kayali

The course concentrates on the contemporary politics of the Arab world, Iran, Turkey and Israel, with some reference to Afghanistan. It examines the political development and dynamics of the major countries involved at national and regional levels. This is done in the context of four major variables - Islam, oil, the Arab-Israeli conflict and other regional disputes, and major power involvement - and the consequences of the interaction of these variables for the region in world politics.

POLS2069 Politics in Russia
Dr Kirill Nourzhanov

This course provides an introduction to the politics of Russia. It traces the evolution of Russian politics by offering a wide-range discussion of main events, figures and scholarly interpretations of Russia’s past and present. While the initial focus is on the rise and fall of communist ideology and institutions, the course examines in detail the ongoing development of political structures in post-communist Russia and the forces, both domestic and international, that shape the life of Russians today.

POLS2070 Politics in Central Asia
Dr Kirill Nourzhanov

This course covers a predominantly Muslim region, which has recently come to prominence in world politics since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Its focus is on the national politics and regional and international relations of Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, with references to other players’ role in the region. The course concentrates on selected themes concerning political and social change, economic modernisation and regional security against the backdrop of sectarian, ethnolinguistic and ideological diversity, as well as outside interference and geopolitical rivalry.

MEAS2000 Iranian History and Culture
Dr Zahra Taheri

This course broadly examines the processes which have formed and transformed Iranian culture and civilization. The student will be introduced to history, politics, language, literature, art and society in Iran, ranging from ancient Persia to contemporary Iran. The course will seek to analyse a range of topics, which includes the legacy of Pre-Islamic Iran as well the history of the Islamic conquest and its impact on Iranian literature, art, and architecture. It will also provide an analysis of the socio-political aspects that came to create modern Iran, emphasising the move towards the constitutional revolution, the consequences of the fifty-year Pahlavi dynasty, and finally the developments of the domestic and foreign policies under the Islamic Republic of Iran.
Dr Kirill Nourzhanov

Following the collapse of the USSR in 1991, fifteen former Soviet republics emerged as sovereign states. All of them have struggled to evolve working political systems and maintain sovereignty and internal cohesion. The newly independent states have been under pressure from Russia, China and the USA competing for geopolitical influence and, in a number of cases, control over extensive energy resources. Most of them have experienced economic decline, armed conflicts, terrorism, civil violence, organised crime and separatism of minority groups. Emphasis will be placed on the issues of great power rivalry, ethno-nationalism, and conflict management. The course will discuss security dilemmas at multiple levels, ranging from state policies to sub-state actors and transnational issues.

MEAS2002: Turkish History: Ottoman State to Modern Turkey
Dr Burcu Cevik-Compiegne

At its peak in the sixteenth century the Ottoman state spread across three continents. European colonial penetration and the rise of nationalism undermined the vitality of the Ottoman state and the empire came to an end after the First World War. The Turks, however, reunited and founded a new modern state after the war of independence. Turkey today acts as a bridge between the East and the West. From a geo-strategic perspective it is one of the most important countries in the post-cold war world. The course aims to provide an in-depth coverage of the process of state building in Turkey from the Middle Ages to the present; to comprehend the factors that played a role in the rise, stagnation and collapse of an empire; to analyse the factors that led to internal conflicts and strife in a heterogeneous society; and to reach a better understanding of nationalist movements.

MEAS2003: Modern Turkey: History, Culture and Regional Relations
Dr Burcu Cevik-Compiegne

Westerners prior to the foundation of Modern Turkey referred to the Ottoman State as Turkey. The word Turkey was used for a geographical region that fell between the Balkans and Arabia, but with no clear-cut boundaries. The Balkans and Arabia as well as much of North Africa were once the Ottoman lands with a continuing Ottoman heritage and culture. WWI marked the end of the Ottoman Empire. The Turks under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, later the founder of modern Turkey, fought the War of Liberation, securing the boundaries of the modern Turkish Republic. Ataturk was declared the first president of Turkey. The new modern state was founded following the western model and started to act as a bridge between the East and the West.

MEAS2105 The Political Economy of the Middle East
Dr Jessie Moritz

The aim of this course is to analyse and explain the dynamics of political economy in the contemporary Middle East. There is a focus on how political actors and social forces influence, and in turn are influenced, by political economy structures and development strategies. Institutions, international actors, social forces, and others are all examined, and various theoretical approaches assessed. Focused discussions cover Islamic economic approaches, the politics of economic reform, the globalization debate, specific development models, and the political economy of the Arab uprisings.

MEAS3001 Gallipoli: History and National Imagination
Dr Burcu Cevik-Compiegne

This course details the Gallipoli naval and military campaigns, the historical and political contexts in which they were fought, and the impact that the campaign has had on later generations. Turkish, British, French, German, Russian, Australian and New Zealand perspectives are considered, and current archaeological controversies
MEAS3002 Gender and Culture in Iran and the Middle East
Dr Zahra Taheri
This course will explore women’s cultural contribution to the modern Iran and the Middle East. During the last three decades, women have played a significant role in the making of culture, through cinema, music, literature and art in the region. To introduce students to the region, this course will also provide background of the social history of the Middle East and Iran. Women have become the leaders of various artistic movements, and in today’s Middle East literature, cinema, music, visual and performing arts are inspired by a growing female presence. This course will focus on the role of women, as novelists, playwright, movie directors, and musicians.

MEAS3003 Critical Perspectives on Arabic Culture
A/Prof. Karima Laachir
This course will critically explore the diversity of Arab culture in the context of the complex history and societies of the Arabic speaking world looking at questions of religious and ethnic diversity, the impact of colonialism, nationalist movements, family structures and gender politics, media, diaspora and migration as well as cultural practices and concepts that are shared across the region. Students will be exposed to aspects of cultural studies theories to learn how to evaluate cultural practices in the Arabic speaking world and to link them to socio-economic and political structures in these societies.

BUSI2024 Dynamics of Business in the Middle East
Dr Jessie Moritz
This course provides an overview of business issues, processes and debates in the Middle East. Specific topics include the political and economic factors shaping the business environment, the cultural issues that impact on business, and specific strategies in cross-cultural marketing and sales, the management of political risk, human resource management, logistics, finance and e-business.

BMECA (HONS) SUBJECTS
Students enrolling in a BMECA Honours program are able to take courses from the following list.

MEAS4111 Islam, The West and International Terrorism
MEAS4112 Dynamics of Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
MEAS4116 Authoritarianism, Democritisation and Protest in the Muslim Middle East
MEAS4001 Special Topics in Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies
MEAS4109 Energy and Security in Central Asia and the Caucasus
MEAS4113 The Gulf Strategic Environment
MEAS4100 Oil, Religion, Politics and Conflict in the Middle East
MEAS4102 Islamic Radicalism
MEAS4114 Geopolitics of Central Asia
MEAS4115 Islam in World Politics
MEAS4117 Islam in Central Asia
MEAS4121 Approaches to the Study of Modern Muslim Societies

To see the course descriptions go to postgraduate courses on pages 20-24.
MEAS6003 Critical Perspectives on Arabic Culture
A/Prof. Karima Laachir

This course will critically explore the diversity of Arab culture in the context of the complex history and societies of the Arabic speaking world looking at questions of religious and ethnic diversity, the impact of colonialism, nationalist movements, family structures and gender politics, media, diaspora and migration as well as cultural practices and concepts that are shared across the region. Students will be exposed to aspects of cultural studies theories to learn how to evaluate cultural practices in the Arabic speaking world and to link them to socio-economic and political structures in these societies.

MEAS8102 Islamic Radicalism
Dr Kirill Nourzhanov

This course is aimed at developing a better understanding of Islam, Islamic movements, Islamic revivalism or Islamism in a variety of settings. Specifically, it is a course about how to think about Islamic radicalism as a conglomeration of context-specific policies, projects, ideals, institutions, and movements that have their origin in Muslim societies’ response to ‘modernity’. It is designed to introduce students to major theoretical perspectives on Islamism, and its practical manifestations in individual countries (not confined to the Arab World), as well as in the regional and global arena.

MEAS8108 Issues of Development in the Middle East
Dr Jessie Moritz

The course will combine theoretical and comparative approaches to change in the Middle East with the advancement of empirical knowledge concerning individual experiences of the Arab states, Iran, Turkey, and Afghanistan. In discussing what constitutes ‘development’ and how it can be measured, various currents in contemporary discourse about development (or in reaction against development) will be examined, using Western and indigenous perceptions. The course will seek to integrate the themes of globalisation, the emergence of new social movements, crises of rentierism and corporatism, and neo-patriarchy into the narrative of change in the Middle East.

MEAS8109: Energy and Security in Central Asia and the Caucasus
Dr Kirill Nourzhanov

Energy in the form of oil and gas is the most plentiful and valuable natural resource of the Caspian Sea and its vicinity. The opening up of the region’s hydrocarbon reserves represents one of the most significant consequences of the Soviet Union’s collapse in 1991. Potential benefits from energy development to national and commercial entities are enormous, but so are the challenges stemming from the expansion of global economy, international and intra-regional competition, and the internal political dynamics of the Caspian states. The region is at the crossroads: from its current volatile situation, it could evolve either as an area of crisis, or as a zone of stability. The dynamics of energy development will be crucial for determining the actual outcome.
“The program has been fantastic. The professors are all very enthusiastic about the subject matter. All of them have such a wealth of experience and information of the region having studied there and travelled there numerous times.”

RENAE
Master of Middle Eastern & Central Asian Studies
MEAS8112: Dynamics of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
Dr Liyana Kayali
The central focus of the course will be the forces for continuity and change in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, and the challenges facing efforts to sustain a viable and productive peace process. Initially the course will examine the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from four angles: the search for security and identity within national frameworks; the peace process; dealings between external factors, the broader Arab-Israeli conflict; and the political dynamics that brought about the demise of the Oslo process. The course will then examine final status issues that were supposed to be addressed through the Oslo process - especially refugees, Jerusalem, borders and sovereignty, resources and security. The course will conclude with a discussion of the micro and macro issues facing Palestinians and Israelis, and how they may impact on the prospects for peace.

MEAS8113: The Gulf Strategic Environment
Dr Jessie Moritz
The Gulf is contested political terrain. Even its very nomenclature – ‘Persian’ or ‘Arab’/‘Arabian’ – is subject to controversy. The security of regional countries is influenced by a complicated web of strategic, political and cultural variables. The central focus of the course will be the forces for continuity and change in the Gulf, and the interaction of domestic and external actors and factors shaping the Gulf security environment. It will review internal political and economic trends, the dealings of Gulf states with each other, and their relations with other regional and extra-regional powers. It will, finally, consider broader concerns such as over food security, water scarcity, and dependence on migrant workers.

MEAS8114: Geopolitics of Central Asia
Dr Kirill Nourzhanov
This course examines the roots of contemporary geopolitical thought, focusing on the British, continental European, American, and Russian contributions. It will examine practical manifestations of geopolitics during World War II and the Cold War before moving to an analysis of contemporary conflicts in Eurasia’s southern Muslim belt through the prism of great power rivalry involving China, Russia, the USA, and other regional actors. The course includes a survey of modern critical approaches within the discipline of geopolitics, which go beyond the Realist paradigm in explaining conflictual and associative patterns of behaviour of territorial states in the region.

MEAS8115: Islam in World Politics
Dr Raihan Ismail
This course covers the international politics of the Muslim world, with a special emphasis on the Middle East since 1945. Classical and modern Islamic thought on war and peace serves as the backdrop to a consideration of a number of themes. These include the compatibility of Islam and nationalism, the significance of Islamic trans-nationalism, the role of the pan-Islamic ideal, the impact of radical networks, and the effects of globalisation. Attempts are made to relate modern historical trends to larger concerns and theories of international relations.

MEAS8116: Authoritarianism, Democratisation and Protest in the Muslim Middle East
A/Prof. Karima Laachir
This course examines in detail the debates over political obedience, engagement and dissent in the Muslim societies of the Middle East. It begins by an examination of modern Islamic thought and considers diverse views of the state, authority, pluralism, and citizenship. It assesses the importance of political culture and structural factors to both the maintenance and the radical reform of non-participatory political orders. In doing so, it critically examines essentialist and exceptionalist assumptions about Middle Eastern and Muslim societies, the degree to which authoritarianism is engrained, the position of Islamist movements, the reasons for and constraints on popular protest, and the possibilities of externally-influenced political transformations. While the course is organised thematically, examples are drawn from a number of specific cases and theoretical insights on authoritarianism, democracy and
protest are invoked in order to relate the specificity of Middle Eastern Muslim societies to broader debates.

**MEAS8121: Approaches to the Study of Modern Muslim Societies**
TBA

This course covers the major approaches and controversies in the study of modern Muslim societies and emphasises methods of analysis and critical thinking. While dealing with broad themes such as colonialism, nationalism, social change, and globalisation, the course evaluates the social and political significance of theological debates and normative change in Islam. In the process a range of the major works on modern Islam, drawn principally from the social sciences and history but also including the literature on Orientalism and its critics, are categorised and evaluated.

**MEAS6503: Modern Turkey: History, Culture and Regional Relations**
Dr Burcu Cevik-Compiegne

Westerners prior to the foundation of Modern Turkey referred to the Ottoman State as Turkey. The word Turkey was used for a geographical region that fell between the Balkans and Arabia, but with no clear-cut boundaries. The Balkans and Arabia as well as much of North Africa were once the Ottoman lands with a continuing Ottoman heritage and culture. WWI marked the end of the Ottoman Empire. The Turks under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, later the founder of modern Turkey, fought the War of Liberation, securing the boundaries of the modern Turkish Republic. Ataturk was declared the first president of Turkey. The new modern state was founded following the western model and started to act as a bridge between the East and the West.

**MEAS8117: Islam in Central Asia**
Dr Kirill Nourzhanov

This course explores the historical, political, social and cultural aspects of the evolution of Islam in Central Asia from the 8th century to the present. It investigates the reasons and mechanisms of Islam's expansion in the region as well as its dynamic interactions with local religious traditions and ways of life. Rather than reducing Islam to a homogenous, static, and dogmatic creed, the course analyses diverse Muslim identities and practices across time and space, and how different communities of believers have adapted Islam's common patterns and denominators to survive in the frequently challenging environment. By the end of the semester, students should be able to appreciate how sixty million Muslims in Central Asia follow their faith in terms of ritual, intellectual discourse, politics, and daily life.

**MEAS8118: Islam in Australia**
Convenor: TBA

This course presents an overview of Muslims in Australia and assesses the relative importance of such factors as ethnicity, immigration, and legal status on their social and political roles. It compares Muslims in Australia to Muslims in other societies of the West, such as Europe, and places the Australian experience of ‘minority Islam’ into the larger picture of the modern Islamic experience. It deals with questions of multiculturalism, reinterpreting religious traditions in local contexts, the demands of citizenship, the importance of communal institutions, the experiences of Muslim women in a liberal society, and Australian media representations of Muslims and Islamic issues.

**MEAS8127**
Islam and Sectarianism in the Middle East
Dr Raihan Ismail

This course will familiarise students with Islamic sectarianism in the Middle East. The growing sectarian tension and conflict between Sunni and Shia Muslims has come to define much of the region’s political landscape. The course aims to examine the complexities of sectarianism in the Middle East and extends to looking at the nature of the theological divisions between the two sects, Shia identity in various countries in the Middle East, and power politics in the region.
APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Coursework Degrees

Domestic Students

Students enrolling at ANU should start their search on the ANU web page: www.anu.edu.au/study/apply

Domestic students (citizens and permanent residents) can apply for admission to the BMECAS and MMECAS through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC).

Contact UAC:
W uac.edu.au
T + 61 2 9752 0200

If your academic qualifications alone do not meet the admission requirements and admission is being sought on the basis of a combination of academic qualifications and relevant work experience, you need to attach a supporting statement and upload your application.

Lodge your application with UAC, paying particular attention to UAC’s requirements for supplying academic transcripts.

For further information on programs available you may wish to check the ANU website: programsandcourses.anu.edu.au/

International Students

Postgraduate Coursework applications are made online for admission to the MMECAS at: www.anu.edu.au/study/apply

Please attach to your completed application form:

Copies of full academic transcripts (originals will need to be sighted prior to enrolment).

Evidence of English language proficiency (or education in English) in accordance with Admission Requirements.

Details of work experience and a supporting statement where admission is sought on the basis of a combination of an academic qualification and relevant work experience.

There is a $75 fee for online applications.

Applications and supporting documents must be lodged by 15 December for commencement in February/March the following year, OR by 15 April for mid-year entry.

You may seek further information about the ANU at the Australian Education Centre in your home country: aei.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx or students.anu.edu.au/for/international/

Research Degrees

Domestic & International Students

Applicants enrolling in either an MPhil or PhD should, in the first instance, contact the Centre for Arab & Islamic Studies to ascertain the suitability of their candidature.

Applicants are asked to submit a sample of written analytical work and an outline of their thesis proposal and copies of full academic transcripts to assist with this process.

All applicants will be asked to show evidence of English language proficiency.

All enquiries for Higher Degrees by Research at CAIS should be sent to:
HDR.CAIS@anu.edu.au

Applicants proceeding to the next level of enrolment can apply online.

Application for both domestic and international students: www.anu.edu.au/study/apply/anu-postgraduate-research-domestic-and-international-applications

CAIS is home to a diverse body of research scholars. To view the topics of current and past scholars go to: cais.cass.anu.edu.au/people
English Language Requirements

International applicants should note that the University requires evidence of an adequate standard of English. Unless undergraduate studies were undertaken in English in Australia, Canada (if English was the language of instruction), New Zealand, the UK or the USA, international students will normally be required to produce evidence of:

• an IELTS overall band score of 6.5 together with a score of at least 6.0 in all components or
• a minimum TOEFL score of 570 and a Test of Written English (TWE) score of 4.

TOEFL – internet based test A score of 80, with a minimum of 20 in Reading and Writing and 18 in Speaking and Listening

ANU English Language Policy: anu.edu.au/study/apply/english-language-requirements

For the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), contact any IPD Education Australia office or your nearest British Council office: ielts.org/default.aspx

For the American Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): ets.org/toefl/contact/region12

The ANU institution code #0506.

Fees and Financial Assistance

Tuition fees are adjusted annually and are calculated on a per course basis. The Domestic Tuition Fee is applicable to Australian and New Zealand students. All other students pay the International Student Fee.

For current fees please consult: www.anu.edu.au/study/scholarships-fees

Higher Education Loan Program Fee-Help

The Australian Government loans facility for eligible students who are enrolled in fee-paying graduate courses.


Other Opportunities

Please also refer to the funding opportunities listed at:

anu.edu.au/sas/scholarships/

Scholarships

ANU PhD Scholarships

The closing date each year for applications is 31 August for international students or 31 October for domestic students, for the main round of scholarships commencing in Semester 1 (February) of the following year. There is a minor round of mid-year scholarship, applications for which must be received by 31 May. Applications for scholarships are made on the admission form. To apply go to: students.anu.edu.au/scholarships/gr/

International Applicants

There are a number of scholarships available to International students. For a list go to the web link:

anu.edu.au/graduate/scholarships/international_only.php

Applicants may be eligible to apply for funding opportunities offered through the Australian Government or other organisations.

Please refer to: www.studyassist.gov.au/ for further information and eligibility criteria for scholarships offered by the Australian Government.
CONTACT

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Graduate Studies Advisor - Coursework
Dr Jessie Moritz

Undergraduate Advisor
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Senior Administrator & PG Advisor
Janja Peric