Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

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Program of Study

The programs for the B.A. degree in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations are as varied as the wide subject matter they embrace. In consultation with their concentration advisers, students work out a program that meets their cultural interests and provides a sound basis for graduate work. Students select an area of specialization that explores their interests. These areas include:

- Archaeology and Art of the Ancient Near East
- Classical Hebrew Language and Civilization
- Cuneiform Studies (including Assyriology, Hittitology, and Sumerology)
- Egyptian Languages and Civilization
- Islamic and Modern Middle Eastern Studies (including Arabic, Armenian, Modern Hebrew, Persian, Turkish, and Uzbek)
- Near Eastern Judaica

Program Requirements

Twelve courses are required in the concentration. All students must take one of the two- or three-quarter civilization sequences that introduce the specialization. These sequences include:

- HUMA 20000-20100-20200. Judaic Civilization I, II, III
- NEHC 20411-20412-20413. Medieval Jewish History I, II, III
- NEHC 20601-20602. Introduction to Islamic Civilization I, II
- NEHC 20621-20622-20623. History of the Islamic Middle East I, II, III

Normally, students take a two-year-long sequence in one of the Near Eastern languages (e.g., Akkadian, Arabic, Egyptian, Hebrew). The rest of the course program, including other language arrangements, should be planned in light of special interests and needs. Students planning to do advanced work in Near Eastern studies are strongly encouraged to develop a reading knowledge of German and French. Students should consult the counselor of undergraduate studies for approval of the program.
Summary of Requirements

**College**
- demonstrated competence in a modern foreign language equivalent to one year of college-level study

**Concentration**
- 6 quarters in a Near Eastern language (credit must be earned by course registration only, not by placement)
- 2 or 3 approved civilization sequence*
- 4 or 3 courses related to the Near East

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*If a Near Eastern civilization sequence is used to fulfill the general education requirement, a second Near Eastern civilization sequence is required for the concentration.*

**Grading.** The program in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations uses letter grading only. No P/N or P/F grading is allowed. Students intending to work for an advanced degree should maintain at least a B average in the field of specialization.

**Honors Program.** To be eligible for honors, students must make application before the end of the third year to the counselor of undergraduate studies. Students must have an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher and must develop an extended piece of research through a senior honors paper under the supervision of a faculty member. One or two quarters of NECV 29900 or NELG 29900, which can be counted toward concentration requirements, may be devoted to preparing the senior honors paper. For a student to be recommended for honors, the paper must first be recommended by the faculty member who supervised the work. The completed paper must be submitted to the counselor of undergraduate studies no later than the fifth week of the quarter in which the student expects to graduate.

**Faculty**


**Courses**

**Akkadian (AKKD)**

10101-10102-10103. Elementary Akkadian I, II, III. This three-quarter sequence covers the elements of Babylonian grammar and the cuneiform writing system, with reading exercises in Old Babylonian texts (ca. 1900 to 1600 B.C.E.), such as the Laws of Hammurabi. W. Farber, M. Roth, M. Stolper. Autumn, Winter, Spring.
Ancient Anatolian Languages (AANL)

10101-10102-10103. Elementary Hittite I, II, III. This three-quarter sequence covers the basic grammar and cuneiform writing system of the Hittite language. It also familiarizes the student with the field's tools (i.e., dictionaries, lexica, sign list). Readings come from all periods of Hittite history (1650 to 1180 B.C.). T. van den Hout. Autumn, 2003; Winter, Spring, 2004.

20301. Hieroglyphic Luwian I. PQ: Consent of instructor. This course introduces the student to the grammar and writing system of the Hieroglyphic Luwian language of the first millennium B.C. (1000 to 700). Once the grammar is discussed, older and younger texts of that period are read, including the Karatepe Bilingual. T. van den Hout. Winter, 2004.

20601. Carian, Pisidian, and Sidetic. This course provides an overview of the smallest of Anatolian Languages: Carian, Pisidian, and Sidetic. The focus is on Carian. We look at the alphabets, their decipherment, text corpora, their historical background, onomastics, and grammar. T. van den Hout. Winter, 2003.

20901. Hurrian. PQ: One year of Akkadian or Hittite. This course provides an introduction to Hurrian grammar. Text samples from various periods and origins (i.e., Tish-Adal inscription, the Hurrian-Hittite bilingual from Boghazköy, the Mittani Letter, Ras-Shamra Vocabulary) are analyzed and read. G. Gragg. Spring, 2004.

Arabic (ARAB)

10101-10102-10103. Elementary Arabic I, II, III. This sequence concentrates on the acquisition of speaking, reading, and aural skills in modern formal Arabic. The class meets for six hours a week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.


Aramaic (ARAM)


10401-10402-10403. Elementary Syriac I, II, III. The purpose of this three-quarter sequence is to enable the student to read Syriac literature with a high degree of comprehension. The course is divided into two segments. The first two quarters are devoted to acquiring the essentials of Syriac grammar and vocabulary. The third quarter is spent reading a variety of Syriac prose and poetic texts and includes a review of grammar. S. Creason. Autumn, Winter, Spring. Offered 2003-04; not offered 2002-03.


Armenian (ARME)


In addition to the language sequences listed above, one or two courses in Armenian Studies are usually offered each year by a visiting faculty member. Although specific courses change yearly, topics have included Armenian art and architecture, history, linguistics, and music. This program is made possible through the United Armenian Cultural Association/The Ara and Edna Dumanian Foundation Endowment Fund.

Egyptian (EGPT)


10103. Middle Egyptian Texts I. *PQ*: EGPT 10101-10102. This course features readings in a variety of genres, including historical, literary, and scientific texts. P. Dorman, J. Johnson. Spring.

10201. Introduction to Coptic. *PQ*: Knowledge of earlier Egyptian language phases or of Classical or Koine Greek helpful but not required. This course provides an introduction to the last native language of Egypt, in common use during the Roman, Byzantine, and medieval Islamic periods (fourth to tenth centuries C.E.). Grammar and vocabulary of the standard Sahidic dialect are presented in preparation for reading biblical, monastic, and Gnostic literature, as well as a variety of historical and social documents. Autumn.

10202. Coptic Texts. *PQ*: EGPT 10201. This course builds on the basics of grammar learned in EGPT 10201 and provides readings in a variety of Coptic texts, including monastic texts, biblical excerpts, tales, and Gnostic literature. Winter.


20102. Introduction to Hieratic. *PQ*: EGPT 10101-10103 required; EGPT 20101 recommended. This course is an introduction to the cursive literary and administrative script of Middle Egyptian (corresponding to the Middle Kingdom period in Egypt) and is intended to provide the student with a
familiarity with a variety of texts written in Hieratic, including literary tales, religious compositions, wisdom literature, letters, accounts, and graffiti. J. Johnson, R. Ritner. Winter.

20110. Introduction to Old Egyptian. PQ: EGPT 10101-10103 required; EGPT 20101 recommended. This course examines the hieroglyphic writing and grammar of the Old Kingdom (Egypt's "Pyramid Age"), focusing on monumental readings from private tombs, royal and private stelae, administrative decrees, economic documents, and Pyramid texts. Some attention is given to Old Egyptian texts written in cursive Hieratic. Spring.

Hebrew (HEBR)

10101-10102-10103. Elementary Classical Hebrew I, II, III. (=JWSC 22000-22100-22200, JWSG 30100-30200-30300) The purpose of this three-quarter sequence is to enable the student to read biblical Hebrew prose with a high degree of comprehension. The course is divided into two segments: (1) the first two quarters are devoted to acquiring the essentials of descriptive and historical grammar (including translation to and from Hebrew, oral exercises, and grammatical analysis); and (2) the third quarter is spent examining prose passages from the Hebrew Bible and includes a review of grammar. The class meets five times a week. S. Creason. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

10501-10502-10503. Introductory Modern Hebrew I, II, III. (=JWSC 25000-25100-25200, JWSG 35000-35100-35200, LGLN 20100-20200-20300/30100-30200-30300) This course introduces students to reading, writing, and speaking modern Hebrew. All four language skills are emphasized: comprehension of written and oral materials; reading of nondiacritical text; writing of directed sentences, paragraphs, and compositions; and speaking. Students learn the Hebrew root pattern system and the seven basic verb conjugations in both the past and present tenses, as well as simple future. At the end of the year, students can conduct short conversations in Hebrew, read materials designed to their level, and write short essays. A. Finkelstein. Autumn, Winter, Spring.


20002. Phoenician Inscriptions. PQ: HEBR 20001. Reading and analysis of the inscriptions, primarily on stone and primarily from the Phoenician homeland, that belong to the early and middle first millennium B.C. D. Pardee. Winter, 2004.


prose texts. The last two quarters are devoted to an introduction to Hebrew poetry with readings from Psalms, Proverbs, and the prophets. D. Pardee. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

20301-20302. Tannaitic Hebrew Texts I, II. PQ: Some basic knowledge of biblical and/or modern Hebrew, and consent of instructor. This course consists of readings in the Mishnah and Tosefta, the main corpus of legal and juridical texts assembled by the Palestinian academic masters during the second and early third centuries. Goals are to introduce: (1) views and opinions of early rabbinic scholars who flourished in the period immediately following that of the writers of the Dead Sea Scrolls; (2) aspects of the material culture of the Palestinian Jews during that same period; and (3) grammar and vocabulary of what is generally called "early rabbinic Hebrew" and thereby to facilitate the ability to read and understand unvocalized Hebrew texts. N. Golb. Autumn, Winter.

20501-20502-20503. Intermediate Modern Hebrew I, II, III. (=JWSC 25300-25400-25500, JWSG 35300-35400-35500, LGLN 20400-20500-20600) PQ: HEBR 10503 or equivalent. The course is devised for students who have previously taken either modern or biblical Hebrew courses. The main objective is to provide students with the skills necessary to approach modern Hebrew prose, both fiction and nonfiction. In order to achieve this task, students are provided with a systematic examination of the complete verb structure. Many syntactic structures are introduced, including simple clauses, and coordinate and compound sentences. At this level, students not only write and speak extensively, but are also required to analyze grammatically and contextually all of the material assigned. A. Finkelstein. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

30501-30502-30503. Advanced Modern Hebrew I, II, III. (=JWSC 25600-25700-25800, JWSG 35600-35700-35800, LGLN 22900-23000-23100) PQ: HEBR 20503 or equivalent. This course assumes that students have full mastery of the grammatical and lexical content at the intermediate level. However, there is a shift from a reliance on the cognitive approach to an emphasis on the expansion of various grammatical and vocabulary-related subjects. Students are introduced to sophisticated and more complex syntactic constructions, and instructed how to transform simple sentences into more complicated ones. The exercises address the creative effort on the part of the student, and the reading segments are longer and more challenging in both style and content. The language of the texts reflects the literary written medium rather than the more informal spoken style, which often dominates the introductory and intermediate texts. A. Finkelstein. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Persian (PERS)

10101-10102-10103. Elementary Persian I, II, III. This sequence concentrates on modern written Persian, with an introduction to classical literature and modern colloquial usage. Stories, articles, and poetry are read toward the end of the sequence. The class meets three hours a week with the instructor and two hours with a native informant who conducts grammatical drills and Persian conversation. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Sumerian (SUMR)

10101-10102-10103. Elementary Sumerian I, II, III. PQ: AKKD 10101. Sequence typically begins in winter quarter. This sequence covers the elements of Sumerian grammar, with reading exercises in Ur III, pre-Sargonic, and elementary literary texts. C. Woods. Autumn (10103), Winter (10101), Spring (10102).

Turkish (TURK)

10101-10102-10103. Elementary Turkish I, II, III. This sequence features proficiency-based instruction emphasizing grammar in modern Turkish. The course consists of reading and listening comprehension, as well as grammar exercises and basic writing in Turkish. The instructor is assisted by a native informant who conducts grammatical drills and Turkish conversations focusing on everyday topics. Modern stories and contemporary articles are read towards the end of the sequence. The class meets for five hours a week. H. Özoglu. Autumn, Winter, Spring.


Ugaritic (UGAR)


Uzbek (UZBK)

10101-10102-10103. Elementary Uzbek I, II, III. This sequence enables students to reach an intermediate level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing modern literary Uzbek, the most widely spoken Turkic language after Turkish. Students learn both the older Cyrillic and the recently implemented Latin script versions of the written language. K. Arik. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

20101-20102-20103. Intermediate Uzbek I, II, III. PQ: UZBK 10103 or equivalent. This sequence enables students to reach an advanced level of proficiency in modern literary Uzbek. The curriculum includes a selection of Uzbek literature, as well as excerpts from Uzbek media. K. Arik. Autumn, Winter, Spring.
Near Eastern Art and Archaeology (NEAA)

20051-20052/30051-30052. Method and Theory in Near Eastern Archaeology I, II. (=ANST 21901-21902) This course introduces the main issues in archaeological method and theory with emphasis on the principles and practice of Near Eastern archaeology. Topics are (1) the history of archaeology, (2) trends in social theory and corresponding modes of archaeological interpretation, (3) the nature of archaeological evidence and issues of research design, (4) survey and excavation methods and recording techniques, (5) the analysis and interpretation of various kinds of excavated materials, and (6) the presentation and publication of archaeological results. Winter, Spring, 2003.

20061/30061. Ancient Landscapes I: An Introduction to the Archaeology of the Near Eastern Landscape. (=ANST 22600) The landscape of the Near East contains a detailed and subtle record of environmental, social, and economic processes that have obtained over thousands of years. Landscape analysis is, therefore, proving to be fundamental to an understanding of the processes that underpinned the development of ancient Near Eastern society. This class provides an overview of the ancient cultural landscapes of this heartland of early civilization from the early stages of complex societies in the fifth to sixth millennium B.C. to the close of the Early Islamic period around the tenth century A.D. T. J. Wilkinson. Spring, 2003.


20081/30081. The Archaeology of Technology. (=ANST 22700) PQ: Concurrent registration in NELC 20093/30093. No auditors permitted. Designed to develop theoretical and methodological competence in the study of material culture (i.e., metallurgical, ceramic, lithic, textile industries), this course reviews and evaluates several theoretical perspectives on technology that have emerged within the social sciences widely referred to as the anthropology of technology. N. Kouchoukos, A. Yener. Winter, 2004.

20093/30093. Instrumental Analysis in Archaeology. (=ANST 22800) PQ: Concurrent registration in NELC 20081/30081. No auditors permitted. This lab introduces the principles, instruments, and practices used to extract information about ancient societies from their artifacts through weekly hands-on demonstrations in different experimental facilities on campus. Students are responsible for applying these methods to the analysis of an object of their choice. Topics include sample preparation, light and scanning electron microscopy, X-ray spectroscopy, metallography and petrography, mass spectrometry, data management, and report preparation. A. Yener, N. Kouchoukos. Winter, 2004.

20101-20201-20301-20351-20501/30101-30201-30301-30351-30501. Art and Archaeology of the Near East I, II, III, IV, V. May be taken in sequence or individually. These courses present the archaeological sequences in the Near East from the Paleolithic period through the Islamic period. The archaeology of Mesopotamia, Anatolia, Syria-Palestine, and Egypt are covered.
20101/30101. Art and Archaeology of the Near East: The Archaeology of Mesopotamia. (=ANST 21601) This course introduces the culture of Mesopotamia from the Neolithic period to the introduction of Islam. Because Mesopotamia was the area in which civilization first came into being, the theoretical and artifactual aspects of this process form a major part of the course. The subsequent oscillation between development and collapse of complex society in Mesopotamia is presented. Although geographically centered in modern Iraq, Mesopotamian archaeology touches upon parts of Iran, Arabia, Syria, Anatolia, Palestine, and Egypt. M. Gibson. Winter, 2003.

20201/30201. Art and Archaeology of the Near East: The Archaeology of Egypt. (=ANST 21602) This course provides a general survey of the art and architecture of the ancient Near East from the Neolithic through the Ptolemaic periods. Autumn, 2002.

20301/30301. Art and Archaeology of the Near East: The Archaeology of Palestine and Syria. (=ANST 21603) This course surveys the archaeology of ancient Palestine and Syria (encompassing the territory of modern Israel, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon, and western Syria) from the Paleolithic period to the Roman era, with emphasis on the culture of ancient Israel. D. Schloen. Offered 2003-04; not offered 2002-03.

20351/30351. Art and Archaeology of the Near East: The Art History and Archaeology of Anatolia. (=ANST 21604) This lecture series focuses on the archaeological heritage of Anatolia within the context of important technological, environmental, and cultural changes taking place from the Paleolithic period through the end of the Early Bronze Age. The origin of agricultural production, the emergence of complex states, and the first empires are highlighted. The sites of Çayönü, Çatal Hüyük, Hacilar, Alaca Höyük, Troy, and Kurdu are some of the topics and places covered. A. Yener. Autumn, 2002.

20501/30501. Art and Archaeology of the Near East: Introduction to Islamic Archaeology. (=ANST 21605) This course surveys the region of the fertile crescent from the ninth to the nineteenth century. We aim for a comparative stratigraphy for the archaeological periods of the last millennium. The primary focus is on the consideration of the historical archaeology of the Islamic lands, the interaction of history and archaeology, and the study of patterns of cultural interaction over this region, which may also amplify understanding of the ancient archaeological periods of the Near East. D. Whitcomb. Spring, 2003.


20372/30372. Anatolian Archaeology II. (=ANST 21800) This introductory survey course focuses on the archaeological heritage of Turkey (ancient Anatolia) within the context of important technological, territorial,
and cultural changes taking place from the Assyrian Trading Colony period through the Hittite period in the first half of the second millennium B.C. Textual material is integrated with the archaeological record to illuminate some of the complex relationships between the Hittite Empire in northern Anatolia and the Levant. We discuss the sites of Kültepe, Acemhöyük, Alalakh, and Bogazköy (Hattusha). A. Yener. Winter, 2003.

20381/30381. Problems in Anatolian Archaeology (Alalakh). (=ANST 21810) The seminar focuses on new excavations at the Middle and Late Bronze Age sites of Tell Atchana, ancient Alalakh located in the Amuq river valley in Southern Turkey. Textual documents from Alalakh and Hittite sites, as well as from other neighboring regions, are utilized in conjunction with the archaeological evidence. This integrative approach provides the basis for understanding the relationship of this region to the Aegean, Anatolia, Mesopotamia, and Egypt. A. Yener, M. Roth, T. van den Hout. Winter, 2003.


Near Eastern History and Civilization (NEHC)

10101. Introduction to the Middle East. Designed for those with no previous knowledge of the Middle East, this course aims to facilitate a general understanding of some key factors that have shaped life in this region, with primary emphasis on modern conditions and their background, and to provide exposure to some of the region's rich cultural diversity. The course can serve as a basis for the further study of the history, politics, and civilizations of the Middle East. F. Donner. Spring, 2003.


20001-20002-20003/30001-30002-30003. History of the Ancient Near East I, II, III. (=ANST 21300-21400-21500) Available as a three-quarter sequence or as a two-quarter sequence (Autumn, Winter; or Winter, Spring). This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This sequence surveys the history of the ancient Near East from ca. 3400 B.C. to the death of Alexander the Great (323 B.C.). Areas covered include Mesopotamia, Anatolia, Syria-Palestine, Iran, and Egypt. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

20211-20212-20213/30211-30212-30213. Near Eastern Civilization I, II, III. (=ANST 23301-23302-23303) PQ: Completion of the general education requirement in social sciences. May be taken in sequence or individually. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This sequence introduces students to central aspects of Near Eastern civilization through the examination of textual and archaeological evidence from key regions and periods.

20211/30211. Ugarit: Late Bronze Age Metropolis. (=ANST 23301) The site of Ras Shamra, excavated since 1929, has revealed a Late Bronze city named Ugarit that was destroyed in ca. 1185 B.C. Among the discoveries have been thousands of tablets that reveal much about everyday life and about the religious practices and beliefs of the time. The purpose of the course is to illustrate life in the late Bronze Age Levant by studying the artifacts from this city. Most of the course is devoted to reading and discussing the texts from the site and to comparing them with those from similar cultures, in particular the Hebrew Bible. D. Pardee. Autumn, 2002.

20212/30212. Introduction to Egyptian Religion. (=ANST 23302) A general introduction to the theology and ritual practice of Ancient Egypt from the Predynastic Period to the late Roman Empire (ca. 3100 B.C. to A.D. 543). Illustrated lectures survey primary mythology, the nature of Egyptian "magic," the evolving role of the priesthood, the function of temple and tomb architecture, mummification and funerary rites, the Amarna revolution, and origins of monotheism, as well as the impact of Egyptian religion on neighboring belief systems. Students read a wide array of original texts in translation in addition to modern interpretive studies. R. Ritner. Winter, 2003.

20213/30213. The Sumerians. (=ANST 23303) This survey of Sumerian history and culture focuses on the periods from the rise of civilization and writing in Mesopotamia (c. 3200 B.C.E.) to the end of the Old Babylonian period (c. 1600 B.C.E.), relying on documents in English translation, archeological evidence, and especially materials in the collections of the Oriental Institute. Topics include political and economic institutions, society, religion, scribal training and belles-lettres, the origins of writing, the prehistory of Sumerian civilization, and the legacy of Sumerian culture. The course draws on documents in translation, archeological data, and materials in the Oriental Institute Museum collections. C. Woods. Spring, 2003.


20370/30370. Sufism. PQ: NEHC 20601/30601 or equivalent. This course investigates the complex social phenomena and the rich cultural and intellectual traditions of Sufism. We focus on the primary sources (in translation) and survey the secondary literature. Topics include early Sufi masters, "sober" and "intoxicated" schools, apologetic and doctrinal literature, rise and development of the Sufi orders, Sufi poetry, thought of Ibn Arabi, and Sufism in the modern world. R. Dankoff. Spring, 2003.

20411-20412-20413. Medieval Jewish History I, II, III. (=HUMA 23000-23100-23200, JWSC 23000-23100-23200, JWSG 38100-38200-38300) PQ: Consent of instructor. This sequence does not meet the general education requirement in civilization studies. This three-quarter sequence deals with the history of the Jews over a wide geographical and historical range. First-quarter work is concerned with the rise of early rabbinic Judaism and development of the Jewish communities in Palestine and the Eastern and Western diasporas during the first several centuries C.E. Topics include the legal status of the Jews in the Roman world, the rise of rabbinic Judaism, the rabbinic literature of Palestine in that context, the spread of rabbinic Judaism, the rise and decline of competing centers of Jewish hegemony, the introduction of Hebrew language and culture beyond the confines of their original home, and the impact of the birth of Islam on the political and cultural status of the Jews. An attempt is made to evaluate the main characteristics of Jewish belief and social concepts in the formative periods of Judaism as it developed beyond its original geographical boundaries. Second-quarter work is concerned with the Jews under Islam, both in Eastern and Western Caliphates. Third-quarter work is concerned with the Jews of Western Europe from the eleventh through the fifteenth centuries. N. Golb. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

20539/30539. The Renaissance East and West. PQ: Advanced standing. This course examines the Renaissance (ca. 1400 to 1600) as a global rather than purely Western European phenomenon. We emphasize comparison and interaction between Christendom and Islamdom. C. Fleischer. Spring.

20580-20581/30580-30581. Poetry in Israel I, II. (=JWSC 28000-28100) PQ: Reading knowledge of Hebrew highly recommended. This course is a survey of Israeli poetry from the late 1940s (and the establishment of the state) to the present. Analysis of poetic thematic and ideological changes is introduced into the tradition of Hebrew poetry in earlier times. We focus on the work of several Israeli major poets (e.g., Gilboa, Kovner, Amichai, Zach, Pagis, Rabikovitch). M. Brinker. Autumn, Winter.

20601-20602/30601-30602. Introduction to Islamic Civilization I, II. (=SOSC 22000-22100) PQ: Completion of the general education requirement in social sciences. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies. This two-quarter sequence surveys the social, religious, and cultural institutions of the Islamic world, from Spain to India. We cover the period from the rise of Islam to early modern times.

20601/30601. Introduction to Islamic Civilization I. (=SOSC 22000) The first quarter (roughly 600 to 1100) concentrates on the career of the Prophet Muhammad; Qur'an and Hadith; the Caliphate; the development of Islamic legal, theological, philosophical, and mystical discourses; sectarian movements; and Arabic literature. W. Kadi. Autumn.
20602/30602. Introduction to Islamic Civilization II. (=SOSC 22100)
The second quarter (roughly 1100 to 1800) surveys Islamic political, social, and cultural development in the eras of the Crusades, the Mongol invasions, and the "gunpowder empires" of the Ottomans, the Safavids, and the Mughals, as represented in works of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish literature (in translation) and the art and architecture of selected regions. R. Dankoff, J. Perry. Winter.

20621-20622-20623/30621-30622-30623. History of the Islamic Middle East: 600 to the Present. (=HIST 25700-25800-25900/35700-35800-35900) May be taken in sequence or individually. This sequence does not meet the general education requirement in civilization studies. This sequence surveys the main trends in the political history of the Middle East (Near East), including North Africa, with some attention to economic, social, and intellectual history.

20621/30621. History of the Islamic Middle East I: The Rise of Islam and the Caliphate. (=HIST 25700/35700) The course covers the period ca. 600 to 1100 C.E., including the rise and spread of Islam, the Islamic empire under the Umayyad and Abbasid caliphs, and the emergence of regional Islamic states from Afghanistan and eastern Iran to North Africa and Spain. F. Donner. Autumn.

20622/30622. History of the Islamic Middle East II: 1200 to 1700. (=HIST 25800/35800) This course surveys the main trends in the political history of the Middle (Near) East (e.g., North Africa, Central Asia, North India) with some attention to currents in economic, social, and cultural history. We cover the "middle periods," ca. 1000 to 1750 C.E., including the arrival of the Steppe Peoples (Turks and Mongols), the Mongol successor states, and the Mamluks of Egypt and Syria. We also study the foundation of the great Islamic regional empires of the Ottomans, Safavids, and Moghuls. J. Woods. Winter.

20623/30623. History of the Islamic Middle East III: The Modern Middle East. (=HIST 25900/35900) The course covers the period ca. 1750 to the present, including Western military, economic, and ideological encroachment, the impact of such ideas as nationalism and liberalism, efforts at reform in the Islamic states, the emergence of the "modern" Middle East after World War I, the struggle for liberation from Western colonial and imperial control, the Middle Eastern states in the cold war era, and local and regional conflicts (e.g., Israel-Palestine, the "Arab Cold War," and Iraq-Iran). R. Khaladi, H. Shissler. Spring.

20636/30636. Survey of Classical Arabic Literature. PQ: Knowledge of Arabic helpful but not required. This course examines classical Arabic literature in translation. The major trends in poetry and prose are reviewed, with a special focus on a few outstanding names. All work in English. Spring, 2004.

20639/30639. Survey of Modern Arabic Literature in Translation. This lecture/discussion course examines modern Arabic literature with a focus on selected topics, themes, and genres. Literary works are placed in the larger context of Arab society, history, and culture. Texts in English. F. Mustafa. Spring, 2003.
20761/30761. Introduction to the Turkic Peoples of Central Asia. (=SLAV 30300) Designed as a survey seminar, this course provides an introduction to the linguistic, cultural, and historical backgrounds of the peoples of Central Asia. Current issues and other topics of interest are also explored based on the interests of those who enroll for the course. In-class discussion and weekly presentations by guest scholars on particular areas or topics are emphasized. Central Asian films and audio materials are presented weekly in class. K. Arik. Winter, 2003.


20765/30765. Musical Folklore of Central Asia. This course explores the musical traditions of various peoples of Central Asia (e.g., Turkic, Iranian, Mongolian), both in terms of the cultural significance of various genres and the historical development thereof. Topics covered in depth include Turkic and Mongolian oral poetry and shaman performances, the epic tradition in Central Asia, the use of music for healing, instrumental genres, and the music of Sufism in Central Asia. We also look at modern musical genres in Soviet and post-Soviet Central Asia. We listen to field recordings and view original video material recorded by the instructor, but also partake of commercially available materials and of the occasional live performance. K. Arik. Winter, 2004.

20766/30766. Shamans and Epic Poets of Central Asia. This course follows NEHC 20765 and explores the rituals, oral literature, and music associated with the nomadic peoples of Central Asia. K. Arik. Spring, 2004.

20827/30827. The "Woman Question" and Reformist Thought in the Ottoman Empire. PQ: Advanced standing and consent of instructor. The course focuses on reading and discussing literature concerned with the perception among nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century Ottoman reformers and intellectuals, that the "proper" place of women in society was an urgent question. We examine why this question was regarded as urgent and fundamental, and in what ways it was seen as related to an overall framework of reform. H. Shissler. Autumn, 2002.

29700. Reading and Research Course. PQ: Consent of faculty adviser and counselor of undergraduate studies. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

29900. Senior Honors Paper. PQ: Consent of instructor and counselor of undergraduate studies. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. In consultation with a faculty member, students devote the equivalent of one or two quarter-courses to the preparation of a senior honors paper. For more information on the honors program, see the general description in the front of this catalog section. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

30852-30853. The Ottoman World in the Age of Süleyman the Magnificent I, II. (=HIST 78200) PQ: Advanced standing and consent of instructor. This sequence is a two-quarter seminar. C. Fleischer. Autumn, Winter.

Near Eastern Languages (NELG)

20301. Introduction to Comparative Semitics. (=LGLN 37900) PQ: One year of a Semitic language or Introduction to Historical Linguistics. This course examines the lexical, phonological, and morphological traits shared by the members of the Semitic language family. We also explore the historical relationships among these languages and the possibility of reconstructing features of the parent speech community. G. Gragg. Autumn, 2003