

B.A. Programs in the Near Eastern Studies Department

The Undergraduate Major Programs:

Near Eastern Languages and Literatures (588)

- I. Arabic, Hebrew, Persian
- II. Egyptology

Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art and Archaeology (5C2)

- I. Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology
- II. Egyptian Art and Archaeology

Near Eastern Civilizations (5C1)

- I. Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations
- II. Islamic Civilizations

Note: NES 10 (Introduction to the Near East) is required for all majors in the Department. All courses used to meet upper-division major requirements must be at least 3 units and taken for a letter grade.

Near Eastern Languages and Literatures

I. Arabic, Hebrew, Persian

Prerequisite: The elementary courses in the language, or their equivalent. We recommend that you begin your study of language in your freshman year. The major requires NES 10 and 27-30 units in upper-division language courses (taught in the language) and upper-division lecture courses (taught in English). Major guidelines for each language are available in the Department office. With the consent of the Major Adviser, portions of the requirements may be fulfilled by related courses in other departments.

1. Arabic Emphasis:

Lower-division Requirements	Units
NES 10: Introduction to the Near East	4
Arabic 1A-B: Elementary Arabic	5/5
Arabic 20 A-B: Intermediate Arabic	5/5
Upper-division Requirements	Units
Arabic 100A-B Arabic Grammar and Syntax	3/3
<i>Any three of the following courses</i>	
Arabic 104A: Modern Arabic Prose	3
Arabic 104B: Classical Arabic Prose	3
Arabic 105A: Modern Arabic Poetry	3
Arabic 105B: Classical Arabic Poetry	3
Arabic 107: Arabic Historical Texts	3
Arabic 108: Arabic Religious and Philosophical Texts	3
Arabic 111: Modern Arabic Literary Genres	3
<i>Any four of the following NES lecture/discussion courses</i>	
NES C121 AB: Topics in Islamic Art	4
NES 140 Topics in Islamic Thought and Institutions	3
NES 146A Islam: Sources, Doctrines, Institutions	3
NES 146B: Islam: Historical Developments	3
NES 147 The Rise of Islamic Civilization	4
NES 150 A: Arabic Literature in Translation, classical	3
NES 150 B: Arabic Literature in Translation, Modern	3
NES 152: Cultural Encounters in Arabic Literature	3
NES 153: The Medieval Frametale Genre: Its Hispano-Arabic Roots	4
NES 155: The 1001 Nights in World Literature	3
NES 190E: Special Topics in Arabic (when relevant)	4
Total Upper-division Units	27-28

Near Eastern Languages and Literatures

2. Hebrew Emphasis:

Lower-division Requirements	Units
NES 10: Introduction to the Near East	4
Hebrew 1 A-B: Elementary Hebrew	5/5
Hebrew 20 A-B: Intermediate Hebrew	5/5
Upper-division Requirements	Units
Hebrew 100 A-B Advanced Hebrew	3/3
<i>Plus 2 additional semesters from the following courses</i>	
Hebrew 102 A-B: Post-biblical Hebrew Texts	3/3
Hebrew 103 A-B: Later Rabbinic and Medieval Hebrew Texts *	3/3
Hebrew 104 A-B: Modern Hebrew Texts	3/3
Hebrew 105 A: The Structure of Modern Hebrew *	3
Hebrew 107 A-B: Biblical Hebrew Texts	3/3
<i>Plus 4 additional semesters from the following courses</i>	
Hebrew 111: Intermediate Biblical Texts *	3
Hebrew 148 A-B: Art and Culture of the Talmud: Advanced Textual Analysis *	3/3
NES 131: Aspects of Biblical Religion	3
NES 132: Judaism and Hellenism *	4
NES C133: Judaism in Late Antiquity (<i>Relig St C133</i>)	4
NES C135: Jewish Civilization - The Biblical Period (<i>Relig St C132</i>)	4
NES 136: History and Historiography in the Hebrew Bible	3
NES 137: Modern and Contemporary Jewish Thought *	4
NES 138: The Hero in the Bible and the Ancient Near East	3
NES 139: Modern Jewish Literatures	3
Religious Studies C134. Jewish Civilization: Middle Ages	4
Religious Studies C135. Jewish Civilization: Modern Period	4
Total Upper-division Units	24-28

Notes:

* indicates courses that are offered infrequently

Students who wish to concentrate in Biblical Hebrew without taking Modern Hebrew may major in Near Eastern Civilizations, Ancient emphasis.

Near Eastern Languages and Literatures

3. Persian Emphasis:

<u>Lower-division Requirements</u>	<u>Units</u>
NES 10: Introduction to the Near East	4
Persian 1A-B: Elementary Persian OR	5/5
Persian 11 A-B: Reading and Composition for Students with Knowledge of Spoken Persian	5/5
<u>Upper-division Requirements</u>	<u>Units</u>
Persian 100 A-B Intermediate Modern Persian*	5/5
Persian 101 A-B: Selected Readings in Persian Literature	3/3
<i>One of the two following courses required (for 6 upper-division units)</i>	
Persian 102 A-B: Readings in Classical Persian Prose	3/3
Persian 103A-B: Classical Persian Poetry	3/3
<i>(104 AB may be repeated for credit and may be substituted for one semester of 101AB, 102AB, or 103AB)</i>	
Persian 104 A-B: Contemporary Persian Literature	3/3
<i>Either of the two following courses required for at least 6 upper-division units</i>	
NES 143 A-B: Islam in Iran	3/3
NES 162 A-B: History of Persian Literature	4/4
Total Upper-division Units	28

*Note: credit by exam can fulfill prerequisites, but does not fulfill the unit requirements for the major. Three Persian courses at the upper-division or graduate level would be required to replace the 10 units of Persian 100AB if Persian 100AB is not taken.

Near Eastern Languages and Literatures

II. Egyptology

The major requires 22-24 upper-division language units plus 7 upper-division lecture units.

<u>Lower-division Requirements</u>	<u>Units</u>
NES 10: Introduction to the Near East	4
<u>Upper-division Requirements</u>	<u>Units</u>
Language courses:	
Egyptian 100 A-B: Elementary Egyptian	5/5
Egyptian 101 A-B: Intermediate Egyptian	3/3
<i>and either</i>	
Egyptian 102 A-B: Elementary Coptic	4/4
<i>or</i>	
Two additional semesters work in Egyptian language	3/3
<i>And any combination of an "A" or "B" portion of the following, totaling 8 upper-division lecture units</i>	
NES 102 A-B: Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	4/4
NES 112: History of Ancient Egypt	4
Total Upper-division Units	30-32

Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art and Archaeology

Emphasis I: Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology [*Formerly Mesopotamian Archaeology*]

Lower-division Requirements Units

NES 10: Introduction to the Near East	4
NES 15: Introduction to Near Eastern Art and Archaeology	4

Lower-division Recommendations Units

NES 25: Ancient Babylonian Legends and Myths	3
NES 18: Introduction to Ancient Egypt	4
Anthro 2: Introduction to Archaeology	4

Upper-division Requirements Units

Eight upper-division courses are required from the following selection:

NES 108: Topics in the Ancient Mediterranean (when relevant)	4
NES C120A-B: Art of Ancient Mesopotamia	4
NES 122A-B: Iranian Archaeology	4/4
NES 123A-B: Mesopotamian Archaeology	4/4
NES 124A-B: Archaeology of the Southern Levant	3/3
NES 125: Archaeology and the Bible	4
NES 126: Silk Road Art and Archaeology	3
NES 127: Art and Archaeology of Ancient Syria	4
NES 128: The Art and Archaeology of Ancient Turkey	4
NES C129: Minoan and Mycenaean Art	4
NES 190A: Special Topics in Fields of Near Eastern Studies	4
NES 192A: Undergraduate Seminar in Ancient Near Eastern Studies	4

Total Upper-division Units 29

Note: If, and only if, the courses listed above are not available during your junior and senior years, you may select courses from any ancient language or lecture course in the ancient field of Near Eastern Studies.

Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art and Archaeology

Emphasis II: Egyptian Art and Archaeology

Lower-division Requirements Units

NES 10: Introduction to the Near East	4
NES 18: Introduction to Ancient Egypt	4

Lower-division Recommendations Units

NES 15: Introduction to Near Eastern Art and Archaeology	4
Anthro 2: Introduction to Archaeology	4

Upper-division Requirements Units

Egyptian 100 A-B: Elementary Egyptian	5/5
NES 102A-B: Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	4/4
Egyptian 101 A-B: Intermediate Egyptian	3/3

and two courses (total of at least 6 units) of any of the following:

NES 112: Survey of Ancient Egyptian History	4
NES C103: Religion of Ancient Egypt	3
NES 106A-B: Art and Architecture of Ancient Egypt	4/4
NES 124A-B: Archaeology of the Southern Levant	3/3

Total Upper-division Units 30

Note: Some background in French, German, and/or Arabic is recommended for students who undertake this major.

Near Eastern Civilizations

Emphasis I: Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations

Lower-division Requirements	Units
NES 10: Introduction to the Near East	4
<i>One of the following lower-division courses is required:</i>	
NES 15: Introduction to Near Eastern Art and Archaeology	4
NES 18: Introduction to Ancient Egypt	4
NES 25: Babylonian Legends and Myths	3
NES 34: Hebrew Bible in Translation	3
Upper-division Requirements	Units
<i>Eight upper-division courses from the following list:</i>	
NES 102 A-B: Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	4/4
NES C103: Religion of Ancient Egypt	3
NES C104: Babylonian Religion	3
NES 106A-B: Art and Architecture of Ancient Egypt	4/4
NES 108: Topics in the Ancient Mediterranean World (when relevant)	4
NES 109: Mesopotamian History	3
NES 110: Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt First Millennium B.C.	3
NES 112: Survey of Ancient Egyptian History	4
NES 113: Gilgamesh: King, Hero, and God	4
NES C120A-B: Art of Ancient Mesopotamia	4/4
NES 122A-B: Iranian Archaeology	4/4
NES 123A-B: Mesopotamian Archaeology	4/4
NES 124A-B: Archaeology of the Southern Levant	3/3
NES 125: Archaeology and the Bible	4
NES 126: Silk Road Art and Archaeology	3
NES 127: Art and Archaeology of Ancient Syria	4
NES 128: The Art and Archaeology of Ancient Turkey	4
NES C129: Minoan and Mycenaean Art	4
NES 130A-B: History of Ancient Israel	3
NES 131: Aspects of Biblical Religion	4
NES C133: Judaism in Late Antiquity	4
NES C135: Biblical Civilization	4
NES 136: History and Historiography in the Hebrew Bible	3
NES 138: The Hero in the Bible and the Ancient Near East	3
NES 160: Religions of Ancient Iran	3
NES 190A-C: Special Topics in Fields of Near Eastern Studies	4
NES 192A-C: Undergraduate Seminar: Problems and Research in NES	4
Cuneiform 100A-B: Elementary Akkadian	5/5
Cuneiform 101A-B: Selected Readings in Akkadian	3/3
Cuneiform 102A-B: Elementary Sumerian	4/4
Cuneiform 103A-B: Selected Readings in Sumerian	3/3
Cuneiform 106A-B: Elementary Hittite	4/4
Egyptian 100A-B: Elementary Egyptian	5/5
Egyptian 101A-B: Intermediate Egyptian	3/3
Egyptian 102A-B Elementary Coptic	4/4
Hebrew 106A-B: Elementary Biblical Hebrew	3/3
Hebrew 107A-B: Biblical Hebrew Texts	3/3
Iranian 110A-B: Middle Persian	3/3
Iranian 111A-B: Old Iranian	3
Semitics 100A-B: Aramaic	3
Total Upper-division Units	24-30

Note: Up to two courses on the list for Islamic Civilizations may be substituted with the approval of the NES department undergrad advisor.

Near Eastern Civilizations

Emphasis II: Islamic Civilizations

Note: The honors track requires two years of Arabic, Persian, or Turkish.

<u>Lower-division Requirement</u>	<u>Units</u>
NES 10: Introduction to the Near East	4
<u>Lower-division Recommended Courses</u>	<u>Units</u>
NES C26: Introduction to Central Asia	3
NES C92: Imagining Arab Civilization	4

<u>Upper-division Requirements</u>	<u>Units</u>
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A total of nine (semester) courses from these categories:

Religion

NES 146A-B: Islam	3/3
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NES 146 A-B is required of all students in this emphasis. If NES 146A-B is not offered, two of the following (semester) courses may be substituted.

GEOG 107: Geography of Religions	4
NES 140: Topics in Islamic Thought and Institutions	3
NES 141: Modern and Contemporary Islamic Thought	3
NES 142: Shi'ite Islam	3
NES 143A-B: Islam in Iran	3
NES 144: Sufism: The Mysticism of Islam	3
NES 160: Religions of Ancient Iran	3

History and Culture

NES 147/HIST 109A: Rise of Islamic Civilization	4
HIST 109B: Middle East, 1000-1750	4
HIST 109C: Middle East from the 18th Century	4
ANTH 181: Themes in the Anthropology of the Middle East and Islam	4
NES 173A-B: Topics in the History of Central Asia and the Turks	3/3
NES 174: Law and Society in the Early Modern Middle East	3
NES 175: History and Culture of Afghanistan	3

Arts and Literature

ARCH 175B: Islamic Architecture	3
MUSIC 132: Music of the Middle East	4
NES C121 AB: Topics in Islamic Art	4
NES 126: Silk Road Art and Archaeology	3
NES 150A-B: Arabic Literature in Translation	3
NES 151: Folktales of the Middle East	4
NES 152: Cultural Encounters in Modern Arabic Literature	3
NES 155: Wonder and the Fantastic: The Thousand and One Nights	3
NES 162A-B: History of Persian Literature	3/3
NES 170A-B: Turkish Literature in Translation	3/3

Near Eastern Languages

Arabic - any upper-division language course from the major list

Persian - any upper-division language course from the major list

Turkish 100AB, 101AB	5, 3
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Total	27
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Notes: You can substitute upper-division courses in Urdu and Indonesian for the language courses.

The honors track requires two years of courses in upper-division Arabic, Persian, or Turkish.

Up to two courses on the list for Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations may be substituted with the approval of the NES department undergrad advisor.

Honors Program

With the consent of the Major adviser, a student in any of the majors with an overall grade point average of 3.3 or higher in all coursework taken at the University and a grade point average of 3.51 or higher in courses completed in the major may apply for admission to the honors program for his or her senior year.

- a. The student must maintain a GPA of 3.3 in all subjects and 3.51 in the major in order to remain eligible for honors.
- b. The student must complete and submit an honors thesis of not less than 20 double-spaced, typewritten pages.

No later than the beginning of his/her senior year, the student must choose a faculty supervisor for the thesis. The student must take course H195 during one semester of the senior year, in order to receive credit for preparation for the thesis. The final draft of the honors thesis must be read and evaluated by a two-member committee consisting of the thesis supervisor and another member of the NES faculty, to be chosen at the discretion of the student and the thesis supervisor. The thesis must be deemed to be of at least B+ quality in order to qualify the candidate for graduation with the lowest degree of honors. Assignment of the distinctions "high honors" and "highest honors" is at the discretion of the evaluating committee.

College of Letters and Science Requirements

All students should be familiar with the College requirements for graduation with the Bachelor of Arts degree, as they are listed in Earning Your Degree, a bulletin of the College of Letters and Science, found online at <http://ls-advise.berkeley.edu/fp/EYD.pdf>.