

Department of History and Archaeology

Chairperson:	Butcher, Kevin E.T.
Professors:	Abu Husayn, Abdul Rahim A.; Butcher, Kevin E.T.; El-Cheikh, Nadia M; Sader, Helen S; Seeden, Helga R.; Seikaly, Samir M.
Associate Professors:	Koistinen, David P.; Meloy, John L.
Assistant Professors:	Genz, Hermann P; Schayegh, Cyrus M.
Visiting Assistant Professor:	Pedersen, Ralph

The department offers programs leading to MA degrees in Arab and Near Eastern history and in archaeology. The PhD program in Arab and Middle Eastern history will be reactivated in fall 2007–08. For admission and graduation requirements, refer to the faculty and department webpages.

History

Master's Program

Students registered in the master's program in history are required to take a minimum of 21 graduate credit hours and to present a thesis based on independent research work.

HIST 303/304 Graduate Seminar in Arab and Near East History 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

A collaborative investigation of select topics in Arab and Near East history viewed from multiple perspectives. Periodic progress reports and the incorporation of findings in an interpretive term paper are required. *Students can receive credit for both 303 and 304.*

HIST 305/306 Graduate Seminar in European History 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

An in-depth analysis of a selected topic entailing intensive research and the submission of a final analytical term paper. *Students can receive credit for both 305 and 306.*

HIST 321/322 The Arab Historians, I and II 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

A systematic analysis of a select Arab historian in the context of his time, employing primary sources and recent secondary literature on the subject. *Students can receive credit for both 321 and 322.*

HIST 323/324 Advanced Documentation and Research, I and II 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

An applied training course in the identification, critical evaluation, and utilization of primary sources and the techniques for their retrieval and modes of incorporation into a historical account. *Students can receive credit for both 323 and 324.*

HIST 325/326 Social and Intellectual History of the Arabs, I and II 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

A systematic study of social and intellectual trends in Arab history. Primary sources and recent theories and interpretations are emphasized. *Students can receive credit for both 325 and 326.*

HIST 327/328 Social and Economic History of the Middle East, I and II 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

A detailed analysis of socio-economic transformations in the modern Middle East based on primary sources, considered in view of recent theories of development and modernization. *Students can receive credit for both 327 and 328.*

HIST 330 Advanced Historical Interpretation 3.0; 3 cr.

A systematic examination of select modern interpretations of history and their impact upon historical methodology and historiography.

HIST 331/334 Tutorial Topics in Modern Middle East History 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

A directed individual examination of a selected topic entailing an intensive reading program, research, and the submission of a model term paper. *May be repeated for credit.*

HIST 399 MA Thesis 9 cr.

Doctor of Philosophy in Arab and Middle Eastern History

Mission

The doctoral program in Arab and Middle Eastern History aims to create top-rank professional historians. Students in this program will acquire critical, interpretive and research skills, and will contribute to deepening and enriching their preferred fields of specialization in terms of teaching excellence, historical writing and analytical flexibility.

Learning Outcomes

Upon receiving their degree, graduates of the program will be equipped with the methodological, language and research skills that will qualify them to serve as teachers or professional researchers in local, regional and international universities and in other advanced centers of higher learning in their fields of specialization or in related cultural and inter-disciplinary studies. Their training will enable them as well to be eligible for other academic, administrative, journalistic and diplomatic posts.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the doctoral program is competitive and selective, and is dependent upon the recommendation of the Department of History and Archaeology and the approval of the University Board of Graduate Studies. Applicants normally hold an MA and have demonstrated outstanding academic ability (minimum average grade of 85 or its equivalent) and the potential to conduct scholarly research. In certain cases, BA holders whose academic performance is superior (minimum average grade of 80 or its equivalent) will be considered for admission to the program. Depending on their point of entry, the completion of the program will extend between 3 to 5 years.

Financial Assistance

The University will cover the cost of tuition and will provide stipends to PhD candidates, in the form of Graduate Assistantship support on a merit or need basis. It will also assist in covering the cost of language education should this be sought outside Campus.

Study and Course Requirements

12 credits of graduate level courses are required for MA holders. 30 credits of graduate level courses are required for BA holders admitted directly to the program. The department may require students to take additional graduate or undergraduate courses if necessary. The language of instruction is English. Arabic, however, may be substituted for English depending on the area of specialization. Additionally, all students are required to attain working knowledge of either French or German and any other language required by their field of specialization. All students must submit a dissertation.

Admission to Candidacy

For admission to candidacy, students must

- submit a study program approved by the Board of Graduate Studies
- complete at least 12 credits of graduate courses and required language courses
- attain a cumulative average of at least 85 in all courses taken
- pass the comprehensive and language examinations set by the department
- submit and defend a dissertation proposal

Students with an MA must achieve candidacy status not later than 5 semesters after admission to the program. In the case of BA holders directly admitted to the program, candidacy must be achieved not later than three years.

Curriculum

The history graduate curriculum is subject to periodic departmental review. Overall it is a flexible and individually-driven program, designed to build up a critical mass of knowledge based on the historical literature relating to the area of specialization. The curriculum is designed with a problem-solving approach to historical research and writing, with a view to enabling graduates to think critically, to work independently and to take conscious ownership of their learning activity and to align it with their own educational, academic and career aspirations. Following is a list of existing graduate courses on offer by the department:

HIST 303-304 Graduate Seminar in Arab and Near East History

A collaborative investigation of select topics in Arab and Near East History viewed from multiple perspectives. Periodic progress reports and the incorporation of findings in an interpretive term paper are required.

HIST 305-306 Graduate Seminar in European History

In-depth analysis of selected topics entailing extensive research and the submission of a final analytical term paper.

HIST 321-322 The Arab Historians, I and II

A systematic analysis of a select Arab historian in the context of his time, employing primary sources and recent secondary literature on the subject.

HIST 323-324 Advanced Documentation and Research, I and II

An applied training course in the identification, critical evaluation, and utilization of primary sources and the techniques for their retrieval and modes of incorporation into a historical account.

HIST 325-326 Social and Intellectual History of the Arabs I and II

A systematic study of social and intellectual trends in Arab history. Primary sources and recent theories and interpretations are emphasized.

HIST 327-328 Social and Economic History of the Islamic Middle East, I and II

A detailed analysis of socio-economic transformations in the modern Middle East based upon primary sources, considered in view of recent theories of development and modernization.

HIST 330 Advanced Historical Interpretation

A systematic examination of select modern interpretations of history and their impact upon historical methodology and historiography.

HIST 331-334 Tutorial Topics in Arab and Middle Eastern History

A directed individual examination of a selected topic entailing an intensive reading program, research, and the submission of a model term paper.

Archaeology

Master's Program

Students registered in the master's program in archaeology are required to take a minimum of 21 graduate credit hours and to present a thesis based on independent research work.

AROL 301/302 Graduate Seminar in Current Approaches to Archaeology 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

A seminar on current key theories and debates in archaeology, such as center/periphery, economics and world systems analysis, power and hierarchy, cognitive archaeology, critiques of ideology or the politics of interpretation and presentation of the past, native peoples, and gender issues. *May be repeated for credit. Students can receive credit for both 301 and 302.*

AROL 303/304 Readings in Ancient Texts 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

An introduction to ancient Semitic epigraphy in general, and to one of the ancient East or West Semitic languages in particular. Alternately, Akkadian, Phoenician, or Aramaic texts are studied. *Students can receive credit for both 303 and 304.*

AROL 305/306 Artifact Technology and Representation 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

A technical analysis and representation of archaeological artifacts, including composition, production technique, description, and drawing for publication of ceramic, metal, stone, and bone artifacts. *Students can receive credit for both 305 and 306.*

AROL 321/322 Graduate Tutorial in Near Eastern Archaeology 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

A study of particular sites and materials to train students in archaeological research and analysis. *May be repeated for credit.*

AROL 323/324 Advanced Fieldwork and Data Collection 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

A course of advanced training in archaeological surveys, excavations, artifact recording or ethnographic data collection related to archaeological fieldwork. *Students can receive credit for both 323 and 324.*

AROL 325/326 Advanced Archaeological Research 3.0; 3 cr. (each)

An analytical investigation of published and unpublished material, as in post-excavation analysis of archaeological data and information, for the purpose of presenting archaeological results to the scientific and general public. *Students can receive credit for both 325 and 326.*

AROL 399 MA Thesis 9 cr.