

Department of History and Archaeology

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| Chairperson: | Meloy, John L. |
| Professors: | Abuhusayn, Abdul Rahim A.; Genz, Hermann P.; Meloy, John L.; Sader, Helen S.; Seikaly, Samir M.; Saliba, George |
| Associate Professors: | Du Quenoy, Paul; Newson, Paul G.; Wick, Alexis N. |
| Assistant Professor: | Armstrong, Lyall R. ; Malleson, Claire |

The department offers programs leading to the BA, MA and PhD in Arab and Middle Eastern History. The department also offers programs leading to the BA and MA in Archaeology. For admission and graduation requirements, refer to the faculty and department web pages. In addition, all MA and PhD program applicants must submit an official GRE score with the application.

MA in History

Mission Statement

By means of a broad and diversified curriculum, our graduate program introduces students to the richness and complexity of Arab and Middle Eastern history. That program is intended to develop not only essential knowledge of the past, but also awareness of the methodological and theoretical complexities involved in the study of history as a discipline in the humanities. Students are motivated to be reflexive, to read, research and write critically, analytically and without prejudice or preconceptions.

Requirements

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.

Doctor of Philosophy in Arab and Middle Eastern History

Mission Statement

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, which will enable them to achieve excellence in their chosen field of specialization.

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 academicians or professional researchers in local, regional and international universities; 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 to become eligible for administrative, journalistic, diplomatic and non-governmental posts as well.

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 faculty Graduate Studies Committee. Applicants normally hold an MA and have demonstrated outstanding academic ability (minimum average grade of 3.2 (or 80) or its equivalent) and the potential to conduct scholarly research. In certain cases, BA recipients whose academic performance is superior (minimum average grade of 3.7 (or 85) or its equivalent) will be considered for admission into 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. In addition to a housing subsidy, it will also assist in covering the cost of language education and research should this be sought outside the AUB campus. Student participation in scholarly conferences, which can lead to publications, is encouraged and will be supported financially.

Study and Course Requirements

18 credits of graduate level courses are required for MA holders. 36 credits of graduate level courses are required for BA holders admitted directly into 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 thesis.

Admission to Candidacy

See section entitled Admission to Candidacy on page 71.

Graduate 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 adopts a problem-solving approach to historical research and writing, enabling graduates to think critically, work independently and take conscious ownership of their learning activity and align it with their own educational, academic and career aspirations.

Course Description

Following is a list of existing graduate courses offered by the department:

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

A collaborative investigation of select topics in Arab and Middle Eastern 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 HIST 303 and HIST 304.*

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

In-depth analysis of selected topics entailing extensive research and the submission of a final analytical term paper. *Students can receive credit for both HIST 305 and HIST 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 HIST 321 and HIST 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 and secondary sources; the techniques for their retrieval and modes of incorporation into a historical account. *Students can receive credit for either HIST 323 or HIST 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 HIST 325 and HIST 326.*

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

A detailed analysis of socioeconomic transformations in the modern Middle East based upon primary sources, considered in view of recent theories of development, modernization and globalization. *Students can receive credit for both HIST 327 and HIST 328.*

HIST 330 Advanced Historical Interpretation 3.0; 3 cr.
A systematic examination of key modern interpretations of history and their impact upon historical methodology and historiography.

HIST 331 Tutorial Topics in Arab and Middle Eastern 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.

HIST 332 Special Topics in History 3.0; 3 cr.
An in-depth course involving a detailed and systematic analysis of the history of a particular topic, area or region. *May be repeated for credit.*

HIST 395A/B Comprehensive Exam 0 cr.
Prerequisite: Consent of advisor.

HIST 399 MA Thesis 9 cr.

HIST 480 Qualifying Exam Part I: Comprehensive Exam 0 cr.
Every term.

HIST 481 Qualifying Exam Part II: Defense of Thesis Proposal 0 cr.
Every term.

HIST 484¹ PhD Thesis 30 cr.
Every term. To be taken by regular track PhD students. Taken at first thesis registration, then registered for every subsequent term with sequential letter annotations (A-L; 0 credits) until completion of thesis work.

HIST 488¹ PhD Thesis 42 cr.
Every term. To be taken by accelerated track PhD students. Taken at first thesis registration, then registered for every subsequent term with sequential letter annotations (A-L; 0 credits) until completion of thesis work.

1) The choice to register for HIST 484 should be done in consultation with the thesis advisor to ensure that the total number of PhD thesis credits and PhD course credits are met as per AUB rules and regulations.

MA in Archaeology

Mission Statement

The graduate program in Archaeology provides students with advanced working knowledge and critical understanding of the methodological and theoretical principles of archaeological investigation and fieldwork. In addition to developing essential knowledge about the material and cultural roots of past societies, the program enhances student awareness about the value and relevance of Lebanon's and the region's archaeological heritage.

Requirements

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.

Course Description

AROL 301 Graduate Seminar: Introduction to Theory in Archaeology 3.0; 3 cr.
A seminar to introduce students to key theories and debates in archaeology. *Alternate years.*

AROL 302 Advanced Seminar in Current Approaches to Archaeological Theory 3.0; 3 cr.
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. *Alternate years.*

AROL 303 Readings in Ancient Texts I 3.0; 3 cr.
An introduction to ancient Semitic epigraphy in general, and to one of the ancient Eastern or Western Semitic languages in particular. Alternately, Akkadian, Phoenician or Aramaic texts are studied. *Occasionally.*

AROL 304 Readings in Ancient Texts II 3.0; 3 cr.
An in-depth study of a particular ancient Semitic language based on grammar and text analysis. Alternately, Akkadian, Phoenician or Aramaic texts are studied. *Occasionally.*

AROL 305 Artifact Technology and Representation 3.0; 3 cr.
A technical analysis and representation of archaeological artifacts, including composition, production technique, description and drawing for publication of ceramic, metal, stone and bone artifacts. *May be repeated for credit.*

AROL 307 Seminar in the Bronze Age Archaeology of the Near East 3.0; 3 cr.
A seminar that examines selected problems of the Bronze Age in the Levant during the 3rd and 2nd millennia BC. The course addresses topics such as the development of complex societies in urban communities and incipient territorial states, the incorporation of the Levant into larger empires, the development of palace economies, craft specialization, international trade and political relations as well as the breakdown of the Bronze Age system during the last centuries of the 2nd millennium BC. *May be repeated for credit.*

AROL 308 Seminar in Iron Age Archaeology of the Near East 3.0; 3 cr.

A seminar that examines important features of the material culture of the Near East from the 12th to the 4th century BC. The course addresses questions such as state formation, trade expansion and networks, international political relations, and the creation of new forms of art and architecture. *May be repeated for credit.*

AROL 309 Seminar in Graeco-Roman Archaeology of the Near East 3.0; 3 cr.

A seminar that examines important features of the material culture of the Near East from the 12th to the 4th century AD. The course addresses questions such as the growth of urbanization, local responses to Greek and Roman cultural institutions and the creation of new forms of art and architecture. *May be repeated for credit.*

AROL 310 Seminar in Mediterranean Archaeology 3.0; 3 cr.

This seminar explores the richness and complexity of past societies of the Mediterranean through aspects of the material culture. Through analysis of the development of prehistoric and historic Mediterranean peoples, the seminar considers how archaeological evidence reflects encounters and developments in major issues such as exchange, migration, identity and colonialism. *May be repeated for credit.*

AROL 321 Graduate Tutorial 3.0; 3 cr.

A study of particular sites and materials to train students in archaeological research and analysis.

AROL 323 Advanced Fieldwork and Data Collection 3.0; 3 cr.

A course of advanced training in archaeological surveys, excavations, artifact recording or ethnographic data collection related to archaeological fieldwork. *May be repeated for credit.*

AROL 327 Special Topics in Archaeology 3.0; 3 cr.

An in-depth course involving the detailed and systematic analysis of the archaeology of a particular area, region (e.g. Anatolia, the Arabian Peninsula, Egypt, Iran, the Mediterranean, etc.) or subject. *May be repeated for credit.*

AROL 395A/B Comprehensive Exam 0 cr.

Prerequisite: Consent of advisor.

AROL 399 MA Thesis 9 cr.