Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

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Faculty of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

Professors  John Darnell, Benjamin Foster, Eckart Frahm, Beatrice Gruendler, Dimitri Gutas, Bentley Layton, Harvey Weiss

Associate Professor  Colleen Manassa

Lecturers  Adel Allouche, Karen Foster, David Klotz, Kathryn Slanski

Senior Lectors  Ayala Dvoretzky

Senior Lectors  Sarab al-Ani, Muhammad Aziz, Aaron Butts, Moulay Youness Elbousty, Shiri Goren, Dina Roginsky, Farkhondeh Shayesteh

Lectors  Etem Erol, Hasmik Tovmasyan

The major in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations is a liberal arts major that gives students a sound competence in a Near Eastern language and a broad knowledge of the literatures, civilizations, history, and archaeology of the Near East. The major also provides essential preparation for graduate or professional work in which a knowledge of Near Eastern languages, history, and archaeology is required.

Depending on the student’s interests, the major is built around study of one or more Near Eastern languages, leading to a concentration in the ancient Near East (Mesopotamia, Egypt, or Syria-Palestine), in Hebrew language and literature, or in Arabic and Islamic studies.

Requirements of the major  Twelve term courses in the department, or their equivalent, are required for the major, including the senior essay course. No more than six course credits from other institutions will be accepted toward this requirement. The course work includes at least two years of study of a Near Eastern language and no fewer than three term courses in the history and civilizations of the Near East, at least one term of which must be in the ancient and one in the Islamic Near East. Students should develop coherent programs of study in one of three areas of concentration:

1. Ancient Near Eastern languages and civilizations, with emphasis on Mesopotamia, Egypt, or Syria-Palestine. Students interested in Mesopotamia take at least two years of Akkadian, as well as courses in the history and civilizations of the ancient Near East. Students interested in Egypt take at least two years of Egyptian, as well as courses in the history and civilizations of ancient Egypt. Students interested in Syria-Palestine take at least two years of biblical Hebrew, as well as courses in the history and civilizations of the ancient Near East.

2. Hebrew language and literature. Students take two years or more of Hebrew (ancient or modern, but in any case at least two years of one period of the language), and courses in Hebrew literature, the history and civilizations of the ancient Near East, and Near Eastern Judaism.

3. Arabic and Islamic studies. ARBC 120 is a prerequisite for this area and counts as one term course toward the twelve required. Students take at least two years of Arabic beyond the prerequisite, and courses selected from Arabic literature, Arab civilization, Islamic religion, Near Eastern history, and Persian or Turkish language. In their senior year, students take NELC 490, Introduction to Arabic and Islamic Studies. Majors in this area of concentration are strongly advised to begin their language training as early as possible, and certainly not later than the sophomore year. Students should consult Dimitri Gutas, 316 HGS, 432-2947.

Well-qualified students who have acquired the requisite background in undergraduate courses may, with the permission of the instructor, the director of undergraduate studies, and the director of graduate studies, be admitted to graduate courses where no suitable undergraduate courses exist. In addition, courses from such other departments and programs as Archaeological Studies, History, History of Art, Judaic Studies, Political Science, and Religious Studies, as well as college seminars, are routinely accepted for credit toward the major if they deal with Near Eastern topics.

All course schedules must be approved by the director of undergraduate studies.

Senior essay  To derive full benefit from the major, students should acquire practical experience in using Near Eastern languages for research purposes. Therefore all students in the major undertake a senior essay that involves substantial use of materials in one or more Near Eastern languages. The senior essay is a research paper of at least thirty pages prepared under the supervision of a departmental faculty member. It may be written under the rubric of NELC 492 and/or 493, or as an extended seminar paper in a departmental seminar course, in which case the instructor serves as the essay adviser. The topic and a prospectus signed by an adviser are to be submitted to the director of undergraduate studies by the end of the fourth week of classes in either term of the senior year. The particular subject matter and theoretical approach of the essay are decided by the student after consultation with the faculty adviser.

In cases in which students demonstrably need more time for an extensive essay, the senior essay may be approved as a year course after consultation with the adviser and the director of undergraduate studies. Only those students who have advanced language skills and
whose project is considered to be of exceptional promise are eligible. The requirements for the two-term essay are the same as for the one-term essay, except that the essay should be at least sixty pages.

Languages currently offered by the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations include Akkadian, Arabic, Egyptian, Hebrew, Persian, Syriac, and Turkish. Students who take a foreign language during a term, year, or summer abroad must complete a departmental placement examination after they return to Yale; there are no exceptions to this requirement.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

**Prerequisites**
- Arabic and Islamic studies — ARBC 120; *All other areas* — none

**Number of courses**
- 12 term courses (incl prereq and senior essay)

**Distribution of courses**
- 2 years of a Near Eastern lang; 3 courses in Near Eastern hist and civ; incl 1 in ancient and 1 in Islamic Near East; area of concentration as specified

**Specific course required**
- Arabic and Islamic studies — NELC 490

**Senior requirement**
- Senior essay using materials in 1 or more Near Eastern langs (in NELC 492 and/or 493 or in dept sem)

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Near Eastern History and Civilizations

**INTRODUCTORY AND SURVEY COURSES**

**NELC 102a / HUMS 440a / MMES 102a, Introduction to the Middle East**  Benjamin Foster
Introduction to the history and cultures of the Middle East from the rise of Islam to the present, including the Arab world, Iran, Turkey, and Israel. Emphasis on factors important for understanding the Middle East today.  **HU**

**ANCIENT, CLASSICAL, AND MEDIEVAL**

**NELC 106b / ARCG 235b / HSAR 235b / HUMS 245b, The Worlds of Homer**  Karen Foster
Interdisciplinary study of the artistic, literary, and cultural worlds of Homer’s *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, beginning in the Bronze Age of the Trojan War heroes and ending with the Homeric legacy in Western civilization. Topics include Homeric myth and reality, new archaeological evidence, the emergence of Greek art and thought, and Mediterranean and Near Eastern interconnections.  **HU**

**NELC 108a \(^G\) / ARCG 237a / HSAR 237a, Ancient Painting and Mosaics**  Karen Foster
Developments in wall painting, vase painting, and mosaics as seen in ancient Egypt, the Aegean Bronze Age, and the Greek, Etruscan, and Roman world.  **HU**

**NELC 116a \(^G\) / HUMS 244a, Myth and Ritual in the Ancient Near East**  Kathryn Slanski
Introduction to ancient Near Eastern tales about gods and heroes. Topics include creation, the cosmic order, sacred marriage, divine battles, death, and the interaction between gods and humans. Focus on myths from Mesopotamia, with comparison to Egyptian, biblical, and classical traditions.  **WR, HU**

**NELC 156a / HUMS 420a / LITR 178a / MMES 201a, Classics of the Arabic-Islamic World**  Beatrice Gruendler
Survey of the literary tradition of the Arabic-Islamic world (West Asia, North Africa, and Muslim Spain), a textual conversation among diverse authors from late antiquity to the Mamluk period. Prose and poetry from the Qur’an to the *Arabian Nights*; attention to the interdependence of the works and their cultural setting, the agendas authors pursued, and the characters they portrayed.  **HU**  **Tr**

*NELC 165a \(^G\) / JDST 273a \(^G\) / RLST 221a \(^G\), Biblical, Qumranic, and Targumic Aramaic**  Aharon Maman
Survey of the historical and philological aspects of biblical, Qumranic, and Targumic Aramaic. Comparison of the dialects’ grammar and historical development; some attention to topics in comparative Semitic philology and historical linguistics; the influence of Hebrew and Aramaic on one another over time. Reading and extensive philological analysis of texts in each of the three dialects. Prerequisite: HEBR 140 or equivalent.  **HU**

**NELC 220b \(^G\) / ARCG 223b \(^G\) / WGSS 226b \(^G\), Lives in Ancient Egypt**  Colleen Manassa
Introduction to the social history of ancient Egypt from 3,100 to 30 B.C.E. Focus on the lives of particular individuals attested in the textual and archaeological record, from pharaohs and queens to artists, soldiers, and farmers. Reading of primary sources in translation; course projects integrate ancient objects in Yale collections.  **HU**

*NELC 267a \(^G\) / JDST 273a \(^G\) / RLST 221a \(^G\), Jewish Sectarianism in the Medieval Islamic World**  Eve Krakowski
Varieties of Jewish religious life in the Islamic world from the ninth through the fourteenth century. The development of medieval rabbinic and nonrabbinic (particularly Karaite) literatures in their contemporary Near Eastern contexts; scripturism, exegesis, theology, and legal writing; popular religion and religious identity in everyday life.  **HU**

**NELC 344a \(^G\) / ARCG 346a \(^G\), Ancient Civilizations of Nubia**  Maria Gatto
Introduction to the sociocultural history and archaeology of ancient Nubia; special attention to interconnections with Egypt and Africa. Nubia’s role in shaping both the origin of pharaonic civilization and African cultural identity; parallels and divergences with Saharan, West African, and Near Eastern cultures. Use of the Nubian collection of the Peabody Museum.  **SO**
*NELC 315b / CLCV 312b / HUMS 442b, Translating the Hero* Kathryn Slanski
Relationships between masterworks of ancient Near Eastern and Greek literature and their reworkings by Western authors and artists. Traditional notions of heroism, such as the righteous sufferer, the epic hero, and the tragic hero. Adaptation and transformation of ancient heroic themes in modern literature and film. Manipulation of ancient sources in the retelling of stories and themes; the mechanics of transmission and borrowing; questions of archetype.  

*NELC 316a / HIST 343Ja / MMES 344a / RLST 313a, Iran's Prophets of Protest* Abbas Amanat
Iranian messianic movements from ancient to modern. Emphasis on continuity in patterns of dissent, social impact and challenges to religious and political establishments, and influences on the Islamic world and beyond. Zoroastrian apocalyptic origins, Manichean moral community and Mazdakite protocommunism, emergence of the Mahdi and Shi’i movements from Isma’i’ilis to Safavids, "Universal Peace" from Mughal India to Babi-Baha’i modernity, and messianic trends from the Islamic Revolution to contemporary Iran. 

*NELC 380b / HIST 211Jb / RLST 253b, The Making of Monasticism* Bentley Layton
The social and intellectual history of Christian monasteries, hermits, ascetics, and monastic institutions and values in late antiquity and the early Middle Ages, as seen in classic texts of monastic literature and in monastic archaeology. Readings in translation. (Formerly RLST 420) 

*NELC 402a / HIST 360a / MMES 171a, The Islamic Near East from Muhammad to the Mongol Invasion* Adel Allouche
The shaping of society and polity from the rise of Islam to the Mongol conquest of Baghdad in 1258. The origins of Islamic society; conquests and social and political assimilation under the Umayyads and Abbasids; the changing nature of political legitimacy and sovereignty under the caliphate; provincial decentralization and new sources of social and religious power.  

*NELC 403b / HIST 384Jb / MMES 172b, The Middle East between Crusaders and Mongols* Adel Allouche
The impact of the Crusades and the Mongol conquests on the Islamic Middle East. Political, social, and economic changes in the region from the eleventh century to the middle of the fourteenth. Emphasis on the rise of new dynasties as a result of changes in the ethnic mosaic of the Middle East. 

*NELC 404b / HIST 398Jb / MMES 173b, Mamluk Egypt* Adel Allouche
A study of the Mamluks, manumitted slaves initially imported to Egypt for military service who established their own rule over Egypt and Syria (1250–1517). Focus on the structure and workings of the Mamluk state. Military, political, economic, and social factors that contributed to the grandeur and, later, the decline of the Mamluk period in Egypt and its conquest by the Ottoman Turks. 

Modern

*NELC 120a / ARCG 221a / HSAR 234a, Egyptomania* Colleen Manassa
Conceptual underpinnings of the use of ancient Egyptian motifs in architecture, painting, sculpture, and decorative arts throughout western Europe, the Middle East, and North America from antiquity to the present. Coordinated with the exhibit *Egyptomania* at the Peabody Museum. 

*NELC 155b / JDST 323b / MMES 160b, State and Society in Israel* Dina Roginsky
The interplay between the state and society in Israel. Current Israeli discourse on controversial issues such as civil rights in a Jewish–democratic state, Jewish-Arab relations, and right and left politics. Issues of orthodoxy, military service, globalization, and multiculturalism in Israel. Sociopolitical changes that have taken place in Israel since the establishment of the state in 1948 and that have led to the reshaping of Israeli Zionist ideology. 

*NELC 157a / JDST 306a / MMES 157a, Israeli Narratives* Shiri Goren
Close reading of major Israeli novels in translation with attention to how their themes and forms relate to the Israeli condition. Theories of war and peace, migration, nationalism, and gender. Authors include Yehoshua, Grossman, Matalon, Castel-Bloom, and Kashua. No knowledge of Hebrew required.  

Languages and Literatures of the Ancient Near East

Akkadian

*AKKD 110a, Elementary Akkadian I* Eckart Frahm and Shiyanthi Thavapalan
Introduction to the language of ancient Babylonia and its cuneiform writing system, with exercises in reading, translation, and composition. Credit only on completion of AKKD 120.  

*AKKD 120b, Elementary Akkadian II* Eckart Frahm and Shiyanthi Thavapalan
Continuation of AKKD 110. Prerequisite: AKKD 110. 

*AKKD 130a, Intermediate Akkadian I* Benjamin Foster and Eckart Frahm
Close reading of selected Akkadian texts; introduction to Akkadian dialects, cuneiform epigraphy, and research techniques of Assyriology. Prerequisite: AKKD 120. 

*AKKD 140b, Intermediate Akkadian II* Staff
Continuation of AKKD 130. Prerequisite: AKKD 130.
EGYPTIAN

EGYP 110a, Introduction to Classical Hieroglyphic Egyptian I  Tasha Dobbin-Bennett
Introduction to the language of ancient pharaonic Egypt (Middle Egyptian) and its hieroglyphic writing system, with short historical, literary, and religious texts. Grammatical analysis with exercises in reading, translation, and composition. Credit only on completion of EGYP 120. L1 RP

EGYP 117a, Elementary Biblical Coptic I  Bentley Layton and Daniel Schriever
The native Egyptian language in the Roman and Byzantine periods. Thorough grounding in grammar and vocabulary of the Sahidic dialect as a basis for reading biblical, monastic, and Gnostic texts. Credit only on completion of EGYP 127. L1 RP

EGYP 120b, Introduction to Classical Hieroglyphic Egyptian II  Niv Allon and Tasha Dobbin-Bennett
Continuation of EGYP 110. Prerequisite: EGYP 110. L1 RP

EGYP 127b, Elementary Biblical Coptic II  Bentley Layton and Daniel Schriever
Continued study of the native Egyptian language in the Roman and Byzantine periods. Thorough grounding in grammar and vocabulary of the Sahidic dialect as a basis for reading biblical, monastic, and Gnostic texts. Prerequisite: EGYP 117. L2 RP

*EGYP 131a, Intermediate Egyptian: Literary Texts  Colleen Manassa
Close reading of Middle Egyptian literary texts; introduction to the hieratic (cursive) Egyptian script. Readings include the Middle Kingdom stories of Sinuhe and the Eloquent Peasant and excerpts from Wisdom Literature. Prerequisite: EGYP 120. L3 RP

SYRIAC

Students wishing to study Syriac should consult the director of undergraduate studies.

Hebrew Language and Literature

*HEBR 110a, Elementary Modern Hebrew I  Ayala Dvoretzky
Introduction to the language of contemporary Israel, both spoken and written. Fundamentals of grammar; extensive practice in speaking, reading, and writing under the guidance of a native speaker. Credit only on completion of HEBR 120. L1 RP 1½ Course cr

HEBR 120b, Elementary Modern Hebrew II  Ayala Dvoretzky
Continuation of HEBR 110. Introduction to the language of contemporary Israel, both spoken and written. Fundamentals of grammar; extensive practice in speaking, reading, and writing under the guidance of a native speaker. Prerequisite: HEBR 110 or equivalent. L2 RP 1½ Course cr

*HEBR 130a, Intermediate Modern Hebrew I  Ayala Dvoretzky and staff
Review and continuation of grammatical study, leading to a deeper understanding of style and usage. Focus on selected readings and on writing, comprehension, and speaking skills. Prerequisite: HEBR 120 or equivalent. L3 RP

HEBR 140b, Intermediate Modern Hebrew II  Ayala Dvoretzky
Continuation of HEBR 130. Review and continuation of grammatical study leading to a deeper comprehension of style and usage. Focus on selected readings and on writing, comprehension, and speaking skills. Prerequisite: HEBR 130 or equivalent. L4 RP

*HEBR 158a / JDST 305a, Contemporary Israeli Society in Film  Shiri Goren
Examination of major themes in Israeli society through film, with emphasis on language study. Topics include migration, gender and sexuality, Jewish/Israeli identity, and private and collective memory. Readings in Hebrew and English provide a sociohistorical background and bases for class discussion. Prerequisite: HEBR 140 or permission of instructor. L5, HU RP

*HEBR 159a / JDST 409a / MMES 159a, Conversational Hebrew: Israeli Media  Shiri Goren
An advanced Hebrew course for students interested in practicing and enhancing conversational skills. Focus on listening comprehension and on various forms of discussion, including practical situations, online interactions, and content analysis. Prerequisite: HEBR 140 or permission of instructor. L5 RP

*HEBR 160a / JDST 360a / MMES 155a, Hebrew in a Changing World  Dina Roginsky
Sociological aspects of Modern Hebrew as the language is used in Israel to construct norms, expectations, and daily experiences. Readings and class discussions address changes in Israeli society and culture at large. Prerequisite: HEBR 140. L5

HEBR 161b / JDST 407b / MMES 156b, Israeli Popular Music  Dina Roginsky
Changes in the development of popular music in Israel explored as representations of changing Israeli society and culture. The interaction of music and cultural identity; modern popular music and social conventions; songs of commemoration and heroism; popular representation of the Holocaust; Mizrahi and Arab music; feminism, sexuality, and gender; class and musical consumption; criticism, protest, and globalization. Conducted in Hebrew. Prerequisite: HEBR 140 or equivalent. L5

*HEBR 162b / JDST 310b / MMES 161b, Israel in Ideology and Practice  Dina Roginsky
The social history of modern Israel from the inception of Zionism in the late nineteenth century to the present, with emphasis on the ideological processes that led to the foundation of the state in 1948. Topics include political dynamics, the complicated relationship between state and religion, Jewish-Arab relations, and contemporary Israeli society. Prerequisite: HEBR 140 or equivalent. L5 RP
Arabic and Islamic Studies

ARABIC

ARBC 110a, Elementary Modern Standard Arabic I  Sarab al-Ani and staff
Development of a basic knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic. Emphasis on grammatical analysis, vocabulary acquisition, and the growth of skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Credit only on completion of ARBC 120.  L1 RP  1½ Course cr

ARBC 120b, Elementary Modern Standard Arabic II  Sarab al-Ani and staff
Continuation of ARBC 110. Prerequisite: ARBC 110 or requisite score on a placement test.  L2 RP  1½ Course cr

*ARBC 130a, Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic I  Moulay Youness Elbousty and staff
Intensive review of grammar; readings from contemporary and classical Arab authors with emphasis on serial reading of unwoveled Arabic texts, prose composition, and formal conversation. Prerequisite: ARBC 120 or requisite score on a placement test.  L3 RP  1½ Course cr

ARBC 130b, Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic II  Sarab al-Ani and staff
Continuation of ARBC 130. Prerequisite: ARBC 130 or requisite score on a placement test.  L4 RP  1½ Course cr

ARBC 136a G, Intermediate Classical Arabic I  Dimitri Gutas and Michael Rapoport
Introduction to classical Arabic, with emphasis on analytical reading skills, grammar, and prose composition. Readings from the Qur’an, Islamic theology, and literature and history of the Middle East, as well as Jewish and Christian religious texts in Arabic. Prerequisite: ARBC 120 or permission of instructor. May be taken concurrently with ARBC 130 or 150.  L3 RP

ARBC 140b, Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic II  Sarab al-Ani and staff
Continuation of ARBC 130. Prerequisite: ARBC 130 or requisite score on a placement test.  L4 RP  1½ Course cr

ARBC 140bG, Intermediate Classical Arabic II  Dimitri Gutas and Michael Rapoport
Continuation of ARBC 136. Prerequisite: ARBC 136 or permission of instructor. May be taken concurrently with ARBC 140 or 151.  L4 RP

*ARBC 150a, Advanced Modern Standard Arabic I  Muhammad Aziz and staff
Further development of listening, writing, and speaking skills. For students who already have a substantial background in Modern Standard Arabic. Prerequisite: ARBC 140 or requisite score on a placement test.  L5 RP

*ARBC 151b, Advanced Modern Standard Arabic II  Moulay Youness Elbousty
Continuation of ARBC 150. Prerequisite: ARBC 150 or requisite score on a placement test.  L5 RP

*ARBC 161a G and b G/MMES 465a or b, Arabic Seminar  Dimitri Gutas [F] and Beatrice Gruendler [Sp]
Study and interpretation of classical Arabic texts for advanced students. Prerequisite: ARBC 146, 151, or permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit.  L5, HU RP

ARBC 163b, Modern Arabic Poetry  Sarab al-Ani
Close reading of selected poems by Naguib Mahfouz. Attention to idiomatic expressions, structural patterns, and literary analysis. Prerequisite: ARBC 151 or requisite score on a placement test. May be repeated for credit.  L5

ARBC 164b, North African Literature  Moulay Youness Elbousty
Close reading of selected works of North African fiction, drama, and poetry. Focus on contemporary texts from Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya. Idiomatic expressions and structural patterns; selections from adapted movies. Prerequisite: ARBC 151 or requisite score on a placement test.  L5, HU RP

*ARBC 165a G and b G/MMES 465a or b, Arabic Seminar  Dimitri Gutas [F] and Beatrice Gruendler [Sp]
Study and interpretation of classical Arabic texts for advanced students. Prerequisite: ARBC 146, 151, or permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit.  L5

ARBC 190b, Levantine Arabic  Dimitri Gutas and Hasmik Tovmasyan
A basic course in the Arabic dialect of the Levant (Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine). Principles of grammar and syntax; foundations for conversation and reading. Prerequisite: ARBC 130.  RP

ARBC 193b, Moroccan Arabic  Moulay Youness Elbousty
A basic course in the Moroccan dialect of Arabic. Principles of grammar and syntax; foundations for conversation and listening comprehension. Prerequisite: ARBC 130 or equivalent.  RP

*ARBC 472a or b, Directed Reading and Research  Dimitri Gutas [F] and Beatrice Gruendler [Sp]
For students who wish to pursue a topic or body of texts not available in the department’s regular curriculum. Approval of the plan of study is required from both the director of undergraduate studies and a member of the department who agrees to serve as instructor. Student and instructor meet regularly throughout the term. The course culminates in either a piece of written work or a final examination.
PERSIAN

PERS 110a$^G$, Elementary Persian I  Farkhondeh Shayesteh
Introduction to modern Persian, with emphasis on all four language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Credit only on completion of PERS 120.  L1  RP  1½ Course cr

PERS 120b$^G$, Elementary Persian II  Farkhondeh Shayesteh
Continuation of PERS 110, with emphasis on all four language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Prerequisite: PERS 110 or permission of instructor. L2  RP  1½ Course cr

PERS 130a$^G$, Intermediate Persian I  Farkhondeh Shayesteh
Continuation of PERS 120, with emphasis on expanding vocabulary and understanding more complex grammatical forms and syntax. Prerequisite: PERS 120 or permission of instructor. L3  RP  1½ Course cr

PERS 140b$^G$, Intermediate Persian II  Farkhondeh Shayesteh
Continuation of PERS 130, with emphasis on expanding vocabulary and understanding more complex grammatical forms and syntax. Prerequisite: PERS 130 or permission of instructor. L4  RP  1½ Course cr

*PERS 150b$^G$, Thematic Survey of Modern Persian Literature  Farkhondeh Shayesteh
An advanced course focusing on continuing development of language skills for nonnative speakers. Emphasis on reading and writing through modern Persian literary prose and poetry. Prerequisite: PERS 140 or permission of the instructor. L5, HU  RP

*PERS 151a$^G$, Persian Culture and Media  Farkhondeh Shayesteh
Advanced study of Persian grammar, vocabulary, and culture through the use of authentic Persian media. Examination of daily media reports on cultural, political, historical, and sporting events in Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and other Persian-speaking regions. Designed for nonnative speakers. Prerequisite: PERS 140 or permission of instructor. L5

*PERS 471a or b, Directed Reading in Persian  Staff
Independent study of Persian texts at an advanced level.

TURKISH

TKSH 110a$^G$, Elementary Modern Turkish I  Etem Erol
Development of a basic knowledge of modern Turkish, with emphasis on grammatical analysis, vocabulary acquisition, and reading and writing skills. Credit only on completion of TKSH 120. L1  RP  1½ Course cr

TKSH 120b$^G$, Elementary Modern Turkish II  Etem Erol
Continuation of TKSH 110. Prerequisite: TKSH 110 or permission of instructor. L2  RP  1½ Course cr

TKSH 130a$^G$, Intermediate Turkish I  Etem Erol
Continued study of modern Turkish, with emphasis on advanced syntax, vocabulary acquisition, and the beginnings of free oral and written expression. Prerequisite: TKSH 120 or permission of instructor. L3  RP

TKSH 140b$^G$, Intermediate Turkish II  Etem Erol
Continuation of TKSH 130. Prerequisite: TKSH 130. L4  RP

TKSH 150a$^G$, Advanced Turkish I  Etem Erol
An advanced language course focused on improving students’ reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in modern Turkish. Extensive study of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions. Readings from genres including academic articles, critical essays, literature, newspaper articles, and formal business writing. Screening of films, documentaries, and news broadcasts. Prerequisite: TKSH 140. L5  RP

TKSH 151b$^G$, Advanced Turkish II  Etem Erol
Continuation of TKSH 150. Focus on primary materials from Turkish media, short stories, and Turkish films. Development of proficiency sufficient for conducting research and presenting findings and evaluations in Turkish. Prerequisite: TKSH 150. L5  RP

*TKSH 471a or b, Directed Reading and Research in Turkish  Etem Erol
For students who wish to pursue a topic or body of texts not available in the department’s regular curriculum. Approval of the plan of study is required from both the director of undergraduate studies and a member of the department who agrees to serve as instructor. Student and instructor meet regularly throughout the term. The course culminates in either a piece of written work or a final examination.  RP
Courses for Majors

*NELC 490a / MMES 490a, Introduction to Arabic and Islamic Studies  Dimitri Gutas
Comprehensive survey of subjects treated in Arabic and Islamic studies, with representative readings from each. Methods and techniques of scholarship in the field; emphasis on acquiring familiarity with bibliographical and other research tools. Enrollment limited to senior majors in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, except by permission of instructor.

*NELC 492a and NELC 493b, The Senior Essay  Benjamin Foster
Preparation of a research paper of at least thirty pages (sixty pages for a two-term essay) under the supervision of a departmental faculty member, in accordance with the following schedule: (1) by the end of the second week of classes of the fall term, students meet with advisers to discuss the topic, approach, sources, and bibliography of the essay. Note: students planning to write the essay in the second term (NELC 493) should also meet with their prospective advisers by this deadline; (2) by the end of the fourth week of classes a prospectus with outline, including an annotated bibliography of materials in one or more Near Eastern languages and of secondary sources, is signed by the adviser and submitted to the director of undergraduate studies. The prospectus should indicate the formal title, scope, and focus of the essay, as well as the proposed research method, including detailed indications of the nature and extent of materials in a Near Eastern language that will be used; (3) at the end of the tenth week of classes (end of February for yearlong essays), a rough draft of the complete essay is submitted to the adviser; (4) two copies of the finished paper must be submitted to the director of undergraduate studies, 314 HGS, by 4 p.m. on the last day of reading period. Failure to comply with the deadline will be penalized by a lower grade. Senior essays will be graded by departmental faculty unless, for exceptional reasons, different arrangements for an outside reader are made in advance with the director of undergraduate studies and the departmental adviser.

Graduate and Professional School Courses of Interest to Undergraduates

Some Graduate School courses are open to qualified undergraduates with permission of the instructor and of the director of graduate studies. For course descriptions see www.yale.edu/oci. (Also see "Courses in the Yale Graduate and Professional Schools" under "Special Arrangements" in the Academic Regulations.)