

Middle East and North African Studies Guidelines for Completing the Minor

Thanks for your interest in the Middle East and North African Studies (MENA) minor! Faculty who teach in the program look forward to sharing their enthusiasm for MENA studies. Our aim is to provide a challenging and supportive context in which to develop our joint interest in the region.

Learning about the Middle East and North African Studies Minor

The best way to begin learning about the MENA program at Lewis & Clark College is to take language and topics courses that contribute to the minor. These courses introduce students to the scope of topics, variety of disciplinary approaches, and expertise of instructors within the program. MENA themed conferences, lectures and other campus events provide further opportunities for students to explore their interests in the regions as they consider the MENA minor. The MENA program webpage (<http://college.lclark.edu/departments/...>) also provides important information about the minor.

If you are interested in exploring the MENA minor further, a next step is to make an appointment to speak with the program director or an affiliated faculty member with whom you've taken a course.

Declaring the Middle East and North African Studies Minor

As with other academic programs, declaration of the MENA minor and selection of the minor advisor take place at the same time. This process involves setting up a meeting with an affiliated faculty member with whom you can serve as your advisor. This meeting begins an advising process that includes completing the minor declaration form, planning for completion of the course requirements and discussion of opportunities for the capstone project.

Completing Coursework for Middle East and North African Studies Minor

The MENA minor requires the completion of five courses and a capstone project. Full information about the minor requirements can be found on the reverse of this sheet, as well as on the program webpage and in the course catalog. Students who participate in the Lewis & Clark College Morocco Program have the opportunity to complete a significant portion of the minor as part of their overseas coursework.

The Middle East and North African Studies Capstone

The capstone provides students with the opportunity to direct their interest in the MENA region through a culminating project. These projects are informed by previous coursework and related overseas experiences, community involvements, and other research activities. There are a variety of ways to complete the capstone as a project that integrates your minor with your broader liberal arts education. Your MENA minor advisor serves as the primary mentor for the capstone.

Preliminary discussion of the capstone process begins upon declaration of the minor. Subsequent advising meetings provide opportunity for continued mentorship as students make their way through the program and begin to develop substantive ideas for the project. A concrete plan and timeline for completing the capstone should be confirmed with your minor advisor no later than the fall semester of your senior year.