



**University Graduate School  
2007-2008  
Academic Bulletin**

**Near Eastern Languages and Cultures**

**College of Arts and Sciences  
Bloomington**

**Chairperson**  
John Walbridge\*

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**Graduate Faculty**

(An asterisk [\*] denotes membership in the University Graduate School faculty with the endorsement to direct doctoral dissertations.)

**Core Faculty**

**Ruth N. Halls Professor**  
Suzanne Pinckney Stetkevych\*

**Professors**  
Salman H. Al-Ani\*, Salih Altoma\* (Emeritus), John Walbridge\*

**Adjunct Faculty**

**College Professor**  
Henry Glassie\* (Folklore and Ethnomusicology)

**Professors**  
Gustave Bayerle\* (Emeritus, Central Eurasian Studies), Christopher Beckwith\* (Central Eurasian Studies), Devin DeWeese\*, Hasan El-Shamy\* (Folklore and Ethnomusicology), W. Eugene Kleinbauer\* (Emeritus, Fine Arts), Consuelo Lopez-Morillas\* (Spanish and Portuguese), Christine Ogan\* (Journalism), Ruth Stone\* (Folklore and Ethnomusicology), Steven Weitzman (Religious Studies)

**Associate Professors**  
Jane Goodman\* (Communication and Cultures), John Hanson\* (History), Steven Katz\* (Jewish Studies), Paul Losensky\* (Central Eurasian Studies, Comparative Literature), Herbert Marks\* (Comparative Literature), Martha P. Vinson

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## Special Departmental Requirements

(See also [general University Graduate School requirements.](#))

### Admission Requirements

International applicants (non-U.S. citizens, non-green card holders) are required to submit TOEFL scores only. U.S. applicants (U.S. citizens or green card holders) are required to submit GRE scores only.

### Exceptions:

- a. International applicants who have their bachelor's degree from an American institution in the U.S. should normally submit GRE scores only. Consult the director of graduate studies or chair.
- b. U.S. citizens who have been educated abroad (e.g., dual nationals from the Arab world) and have their bachelor's degree from non-U.S., non-English language institutions, should normally submit TOEFL scores only. Consult the director of graduate studies or chair.

## Master of Arts in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (NELC)

### Language Requirements

The department specializes in Arabic and Hebrew. All master's students must gain third-year proficiency in one of these languages, and either second-year proficiency (at least 6 credit hours at the Intermediate level or above) in another of them or reading proficiency in an appropriate European language, as stipulated in the "General Requirements" section of the bulletin. In consultation with the director of graduate studies, other Middle Eastern languages may be used to satisfy the major or minor language requirement.

In departmental language tracks that have a two-year sequence, graduate-level courses using the appropriate language may, with the approval of the director of graduate studies, count toward the third-year requirement. Biblical and modern Hebrew may be combined to make up the three years, with the approval of the director of graduate studies.

### Course Requirements

A minimum of 36 credit hours of graduate work. Of these 36 credit hours, a minimum of 18 credit hours must be in courses involving use of the major language (Arabic or Hebrew).

### Degree Requirements

Thirty-six (36) credit hours plus written M.A. examinations. The exams will consist of three 2-hour exams: one in the student's major language and two in fields chosen with the M.A. advisor. Students must notify the director of graduate studies and M.A. advisor no later than July 31 for the following fall examinations, and November 30 for the following spring examinations. The examining committee will be composed of a minimum of two faculty members. The student may retake a failed exam once. On the basis of the student's performance, the student's M.A. examination committee will prepare a recommendation for possible admission to the Ph.D. program that will be submitted along with the student's dossier, if the student requests admission to the Ph.D. program. In addition to the stated requirements, a student can, with the permission of the director of graduate studies, opt to write an M.A. thesis by signing up for (normally) 6 credits of N710 and N720 M.A. Thesis.

## Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (NELC)

### Admission Requirements

The Graduate Record Examination General Test is required. Students should hold an M.A. for admission to the Ph.D. program. Students holding an M.A. from another institution should include a writing sample as part of their application for admission. Students with an M.A. from the Indiana University Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures will be asked to submit a statement of their Ph.D. plans as part of their admission dossier to the Ph.D. program.

### **Course Requirements**

A minimum of 75 credit hours of graduate work (including credits earned for the M.A.), plus dissertation. The student's courses must be approved by the student's Ph.D. advisor and the director of graduate studies.

### **Language Requirements**

Three languages are required for the NELC Ph.D.:

1. The major NELC language (normally Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, or Turkish): a minimum of 12 credit hours beyond the 18 required for the M.A. for continuing students or above the third-year level for incoming students, in courses approved by the director of graduate studies.
2. The minor NELC language (normally, Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, Turkish, or Urdu): minimum of 6 credit hours at the third-year level or above in courses approved by the director of graduate studies. Biblical and Modern Hebrew at the elementary and intermediate levels can be combined to satisfy the third-year level requirement with the approval of the director of graduate studies.
3. A European research language (normally, French, German or Spanish), tested according to the graduate school's rules.

The choice of languages must be pertinent to the student's graduate curriculum and approved by the director of graduate studies. Other languages may be substituted where deemed appropriate by the director of graduate studies.

### **Outside Minor**

Students are required to minor in an outside department or program. This minor should be selected so that it enriches and logically supports the student's major field. Students must fulfill the relevant department's rules for outside minors.

### **Qualifying Examination**

Students will be examined on one major and two minor fields. The three fields should be chosen in consultation with the student's Ph.D. advisor and approved by the director of graduate studies.

Written examinations will be given by at least two professors, the major field lasting for three hours, and the minor field exams for two hours each. Upon successful completion of the written examinations, a student will take the oral examination within four weeks of the written examination. These examinations may be retaken once in whole or in part at the discretion of the examination committee.

### **Final Examination**

Oral defense of the dissertation.

### **Ph.D. Minor in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures**

Students from other departments are welcome to minor in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures as part of their doctoral program. To do so, they are required to take at least 12 credit hours of graduate-level course work, to be approved by the director of graduate studies so as to form a coherent program. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average for the minor as a whole.

### **Termination of Enrollment in the Doctoral Program**

If a doctoral student fails the written qualifying examinations twice, fails the oral qualifying exam twice, falls below a 3.5 average, or fails to complete the written and oral examinations by the end of the approved length of time, the director of graduate studies, in consultation with the research committee, can initiate steps to terminate the student's enrollment in the program.

## Courses

### Arabic Language and Literature

**A500-A550 Elementary Arabic I-II (2-2 cr.)** This course is an introduction to Modern Standard Arabic as it is used in contemporary literature, newspapers, and radio. The course will focus on grammar, reading, dictation, composition, penmanship, conversation, and translation.

**A600-A650 Intermediate Arabic I-II (3-3 cr.)** P: A500-A550. This course emphasizes grammar, reading, composition, conversation, and translation using materials from medieval classical and modern literary Arabic.

**A660-A670 Advanced Arabic I-II (3-3 cr.)** P: A600-A650. This course focuses on the continued development of speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in Modern Standard Arabic. Materials drawn from classical prose will be introduced for study.

**A610 Arabic Dialects I (3 cr.)** P: A150/A550 or N182. This course will focus on a particular regional dialect (Egyptian, Iraqi, North African) teaching the students to speak every-day language.

**A620 Arabic Dialects II (3 cr.)** P: NELC A610. Language course which focuses on a particular regional dialect (Egyptian, Iraqi, North African) and teaches students to speak the everyday language. May be repeated with a different language for a maximum of 6 credit hours.

**A698 Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language I (1 cr.)** Helps students develop and practice skills and techniques for teaching Arabic as a foreign/second language to adults.

**A699 Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language II (1 cr.)** Helps students develop and practice skills and techniques for teaching Arabic as a foreign/second language to adults.

**N502/N552 Qur'anic Arabic I-II (3-3 cr.)** Introduces the specialized language of the Qur'an, its vocabulary and grammar. Covers related materials such as Qur'anic commentary, history, and Hadith. Teaches students to read classical and Qur'anic Arabic through a foundation in syntax and morphology.

**N510 Arabic Composition I (3 cr.)** P: consent of instructor. This course is designed to focus on instruction and practice in writing and reading Arabic. It is intended to develop skills in writing correct Arabic sentences, paragraphs, and themes related to a variety of subjects.

**N512 Classical Arabic Grammar (3 cr.)** P: consent of instructor. This course provides a systematic treatment (in Arabic) of the principal features of classical Arabic grammar. The technical Arabic terms and the concepts associated with them will be introduced, analyzed, and illustrated.

**N523 Conversational Arabic I (3 cr.)** Formal spoken or "polite" Arabic, with attention to divergences in Arabic dialects.

**N524 Introduction to Arabic Linguistics (3 cr.)** Concise history and description of the structure of Arabic. Special emphasis on the written and selected spoken varieties of modern Arabic, phonology, grammar, and basic vocabulary.

**N529 Arabic Phonetics and Phonology (3 cr.)** This course presents a systematic study of Arabic phonetics and phonology utilizing scientific phonetics, both practical and theoretical, and the phonological processes of generative phonological theory.

**N555 Multimedia Arabic (3 cr.)** Modern literary Arabic as found in printed and non-printed contemporary media. Materials selected from leading newspapers and magazines from the Arab world covering a

variety of current political and cultural topics. Documentaries and live and taped television newscasts will also be utilized.

**N570 Qur'anic Studies (3 cr.)** The Qur'an in its historical role as the Islamic revelation. Particular attention will be paid to its formation and compilation, the structural and stylistic characteristics of the text, and its role and function in Islam as well as the different schools of interpretation throughout history, and comparative studies between the Qur'an and the Judeo-Christian scriptures.

**N590 Directed Readings in Arabic (1-6 cr.)** In this course students will read and analyze Arabic or translated texts that are selected in accordance with the student's level and interests.

**N598 Individual Readings in Arabic Language and Linguistics (1-6 cr.)** Analysis of materials in the fields of Arabic language and linguistics. Students may register to research certain aspects of these fields that are not covered by the regular sequence of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures courses.

**N690 Research in Classical Arabic Texts (3 cr.)** This course provides intensive training in classical Arabic. Emphasis is placed on the accurate reading and translation of classical texts, their grammatical and stylistic features, and the use of modern and classical lexical. The course also includes a survey of relevant bibliographic and secondary sources. Variable topic; may be repeated for credit.

**N701 Topics in Arabic Literature (2-3 cr.)** Examination of translated Arabic literature of the Middle East and North Africa, as well as relevant modern Western works. All works read in English. May be repeated for credit when topic varies.

**N707 Seminar in Classical Arabic Literature (3-4 cr.)** P: ability to read classical Arabic texts. Intensive study of selected literary movements, periods, or genres. Individual research papers required. May be repeated for credit when topic varies.

**N709 Seminar in Modern Arabic Literature (4 cr.)** P: ability to read classical Arabic, study classic Arabic literature during nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with special emphasis on Western influence.

**N710 M.A. Thesis (cr. arr.)\*\***

**N810 Ph.D. Thesis (cr. arr.)\*\***

## Hebrew Language and Literature

**H500-H550 Elementary Hebrew I-II (2-2 cr.)** Introduction to Hebrew as it is used in conversation, radio, press, and popular literature. Emphasis is given to phonetic and structural drills, grammar, reading, writing, and composition.

**H575 Introductory Readings in Hebrew Literature (3 cr.)** Introductory survey, in Hebrew, of selected readings—poetry and prose—of the leading writers in Modern Hebrew Literature. Emphasis on familiarization and mastery of varying styles, forms and themes of Hebrew literature to serve as bridge to fluency and further study on advanced levels.

**H590 Intensive Elementary Hebrew (4 cr.)** An intensive course in elementary modern Hebrew, combining ulpan with standard language instruction techniques. The course covers an equivalent of one full year of elementary Hebrew in one term, and is open to those desiring to acquire all facets of language communication, morphology, phonology, and syntax.

**H600-H650 Intermediate Hebrew I-II (3-3 cr.)** P: H500-H550 or equivalent. Continuation of H500-H550. The course is designed to enable students to add classical and medieval Hebrew at a later stage.

**H670-H680 Advanced Hebrew I-II (3-3 cr.)** P: H600-H650 or other sufficient preparation. The course focuses on the completion of grammar and introduction to literature of all ages (biblical, midrashic, medieval, and modern), including grammar, style, vocabulary, technical terms, and literary forms.

**N471-N472 Biblical Hebrew I-II (3-3 cr.)** This course is an accelerated introduction to Biblical Hebrew. Emphasis is placed on grammar, morphology and syntax.

**N473-N517 Biblical Hebrew III-IV (3 cr.)** In this course students will study various genres of biblical writings through a careful examination of such passages in the original language.

**N587 Modern Hebrew Literature in English (3 cr.)** This course examines nineteenth- and twentieth-century fiction, poetry, and essays, under such headings as assimilation (ideal or aberration); ghetto and world, secularism vs. tradition; ethnicity, land and universalism; nation, religion, state; utopias and revolution; nostalgia, self-hate, rejuvenation; and portrayal of anti-Semitism in literature.

**N588 Recent Hebrew Literature in English (3 cr.)** In this course students will analyze contemporary Hebrew fiction, poetry and essays with relevance to contemporary issues, such as the past (burden or asset?); the meaning of Europe and Near East; the kibbutz; ideal and reality; Jews, Arabs, Canaanites; diaspora and center; the personal and collective; inwardness or realism; wars, holocaust, and peace.

**N591 Directed Readings in Hebrew (1-6 cr.)** In this course students will read and analyze Hebrew or translated texts that are selected in accordance with the student's level and interests.

**N675 The Kibbutz in Fact and Fiction (3 cr.)** A survey of representative readings and community in Hebrew fiction and in anthropological and sociological studies. A comparison of early representation of the kibbutz with its recent transformations so as to acquaint students with the impact of this social system on Israeli society and culture.

**N687 Modern Hebrew Literature in Hebrew (3 cr.)** P: grade of C or better in any Hebrew course above H680 (such as N695, when taught in Hebrew), or equivalent. A survey of nineteenth- and twentieth-century fiction, poetry, essays in the original Hebrew under such headings as universalism, assimilation, ghetto and world; secularism versus tradition; ethnicity and land nation, religion, state; utopia and revolutions; nostalgia, self-hate, rejuvenation; portrayal of anti-Semitism in literature. Readings, assignments, and discussion in Hebrew.

**N691 Research in Medieval Hebrew Texts (3 cr.)** This course provides intensive training in the use of medieval Hebrew as a research tool. Emphasis will be placed on the accurate reading and translating of medieval texts, on grammatical and stylistic characteristics of the texts, and on the use of appropriate lexical. Variable topic; may be repeated for credit.

**N708 Seminar in Judaic Literature (4 cr.)** P: consent of instructor. This course emphasizes the study of selected representative literary works of classical, medieval, and modern periods; original texts or translation.

## **Persian Language and Literature**

**P500-P550 Elementary Persian I-II (2-2 cr.)** Covers the basic grammar of modern Persian, along with conversation, composition, reading, and translating from selected materials dealing with Iranian civilization.

**P600-P650 Intermediate Persian I-II (3-3 cr.)** Continuation of the elementary Persian level. Review of grammatical structures and vocabulary, reading, and translating short literary and expository texts.

**P565 Introduction to Persian Literature in English (3 cr.)** Covers development of Persian literature from its earliest stages in the tenth century A.D. to the present. Although the course covers a period of

some 1,000 years, it does so in a way that seeks to provide background information for graduate students who may have an interest in Persian literature.

**N592 Directed Readings in Persian (1-6 cr.)** Readings in Persian or translated texts selected in accordance with the student's level and interests.

**N685 Persian Mystical Literature in Translation (3 cr.)** Examines the Persian literature of Islamic mysticism in English translation. Following an introduction to the history and doctrines of Sufism, the class will turn to detailed readings and discussions of works in several prose and poetic genres: hagiography, biography, allegorical epic, mystical lyric, and Gnostic meditation.

**N692 Research in Classical Persian Texts (3 cr.)** P: P550 or reading knowledge of Persian. Intensive training in classical Persian. Emphasis on the accurate reading and translation of classical texts, their grammatical and stylistic features, and the use of modern and classical lexica. Survey of relevant bibliographic and secondary sources. Variable topic; may be repeated for credit.

### **Other Iranian Languages**

**P660 Middle Iranian Languages (3 cr.)** This course provides an introduction to the alphabets, grammar, vocabulary, and texts of various Iranian languages. It emphasizes reading, transcription, and translation. Religious, commercial, and political documents are examined. Variable topic; may be repeated for credit.

### **Other Islamic Languages**

**K500 Introduction to Kurdish I (2 cr.)** Basic communication skills in Kurdish taught using the Kurmanji Kurdish dialect. Functional knowledge of sentence structures and vocabulary.

**K550 Introduction to Kurdish II (2 cr.)** P: K100 or equivalent proficiency. A continuation of K500. Familiarity with the grammar of Kurmanji Kurdish will be strengthened through readings, conversation, and an introduction to Kurdish music, literature, and popular culture.

**U500 Elementary Urdu I (2 cr.)** An introduction to Urdu, the most important literary language of Islamic India and the national language of modern Pakistan. Designed for students with no previous knowledge of the language. Begins with the alphabet, then moves gradually to develop various language skills: reading, writing, and speaking.

**U550 Elementary Urdu II (2 cr.)** P: U500 or consent of instructor. Continues skills developed in U500.

### **General Courses**

**N511 Foreign Study in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (2-8 cr.)\***

**N545 Introduction to the Ancient Near East (3 cr.)** Introduces ancient Near Eastern cultures from early farmers around 8000 B.C. to the Iron-Age kingdom of the Babylonians, Assyrians, and Iranians. Places emphasis on agriculture, literacy, state formation, sociopolitical and religious institutions; legal and economic developments. Archaeological and textual information will be utilized in conjunction with visual aids.

**N565 Introduction to Islamic Civilization (3 cr.)** Covers basics of Islamic religion and literature in historical context. Topics include the life of Mohammad, Qur'anic and other teachings of Islam, conquests and caliphates, early successor states, law, sects, theology, philosophy, and the relationship between the state and religion.

**N597 Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (3 cr.)** General anthropological introduction to social institutions and cultural forms of the Arab countries of North Africa and the Near East, Israel, Turkey, Iran, and Afghanistan. Topics include ecology, development of Islam and Muslim empires, traditional adaptive

strategies, consequences of colonialism, independence and rise of nation-states, impact of modernization, changing conceptions of kinship, ethnicity, and gender. Credit given for only one of ANTH E600, CEUS U520, or NELC N597. (S&H, CSA)

**N640 Prophets, Poets, and Kings: Iranian Civilization (3 cr.)** Traces the culture, society, and beliefs within Iran from ancient times through the Muslim conquest until 1800. Focuses on politics, religions, administrative/social institutions, secular/ecclesiastic relations, status of minorities, devotional/communal changes, and Iranian influence on Islamic culture. Dynasties covered include Achaemenian through Safavid. Analysis of primary texts in translation.

**N650 Modern Iran (3 cr.)** Examines the history and culture of Iran from 1500 to the present, with an emphasis on developments in the last century, in particular the role of Shi'ism in shaping the history of modern Iran. Readings will cover the historical, religious, and cultural background; the two great revolutions of the twentieth century; and the role of Iran in recent events in the Middle East.

**N680 Islamic Philosophy (3 cr.)** Islamic philosophy, a link between classical and medieval European philosophy, has influenced the development of the western philosophical tradition. Its contributions to the philosophy of religion reflect its contemporary value today as a living tradition in Iran. The course will introduce the major philosophers, schools, and issues of Islamic philosophy.

**N695 Graduate Topics in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (1-4 cr.)** Special readings in Near Eastern issues and problems within an interdisciplinary format. Variable topics; may be repeated under different topics for credit. Previous topics include, "Modern Middle East," "Texts and Authors," "Cultural History of Turkey," "Classical Arabic Rhetoric," and "Modern Persian Literature in Translation."

**N710 M.A. Thesis (cr. arr.)\*\***

**N720 M.A. Thesis (cr. arr.)\*\***

**N810 Ph.D. Thesis (cr. arr.)\*\***

\*\*These courses are eligible for a deferred grade.