

Arab Studies, MA and History, PHD (Joint program)

Modality

On Campus

Program URL

<https://grad.georgetown.edu/arab-studies/#about-the-program>
<https://history.georgetown.edu/programs/doctoral/>

The joint program in Arab Studies and History provides students with the opportunity to earn a Master of Arts degree in tandem with a Doctor of Philosophy degree. Students gain comprehensive interdisciplinary training in politics, culture, history, economics, and language of the contemporary Arab Middle East and North Africa while developing the ability to evaluate scholarly arguments by analyzing responses to previous contributions, investigation use of primary evidence, weighing logical construction and development, and assessing rhetorical style.

Academic Policies

Students in the joint program in Arab Studies and History are expected to comply with the policies outlined in the program handbooks and the Graduate Bulletin.

Requirements

Program Requirements

Arab Studies

Students have considerable flexibility in designing their program in order to meet their academic and professional goals and interests. To complete the program, students must meet the following requirements:

Code	Title	Credits
ARST 5500	Constructing the Modern MENA	3
ARST 5501	Studying the Arab World	3
Select three of the following:		9
ARST 6525	Politics & Society in MENA	
ARST 6519	International Politics: ME	
ARST 6518	Culture & Society: Arab World	
ARST 6532	Women&Gender in Arab World	
ARST 6540	Development in Arab World	
ARST 6564	Political Economy: Middle East	
HIST 6602	Social Cultrl Hist ME & N Afr	
7 Electives		21

A minimum of three electives should be offered through the Arab Studies Program, Department of History, or the Department of Arabic & Islamic Studies.

A maximum of four electives may be taken from other departments within the university.

Pass the oral and written Arabic Language Proficiency Examinations

Pass the Oral Comprehensive Exam OR Complete a Thesis

Total Credits

36

History

Students must complete 36 credit hours of graduate coursework, along with taking the Core Colloquium course and a two-semester research seminar sequence in their major fields. One course students take as part of their coursework must be a theory and/or methods class. Doctoral students must demonstrate competence in two foreign languages relevant to their research. Electives from the Arab Studies program may be applied to some of the credit requirements, per approval from the History Department.

Required Examinations

Arab Studies

Students must pass the program's oral and written exams for Modern Standard Arabic by the end of their tenure in the program.

Additionally, students have the option of taking an oral comprehensive examination in lieu of a thesis. The exam is designed to provide a cross-disciplinary conclusion to the student's coursework and total educational experience in the program. The exam is administered by a panel of three faculty members and takes place after the student as completed all course requirements.

History

Comprehensive Examinations are administered during the third year of doctoral study and are intended to test a student's knowledge and analytical ability in each of the three fields of study. The exams combine one written examination covering the major and research fields, one essay or portfolio of work with accompanying bibliography covering the minor field, and an oral examination covering all three fields.

Thesis Requirements

Arab Studies

Students may opt to write a master's thesis in lieu of the oral comprehensive examination. The thesis is written in the final semester of the program. Students are required to take a methods course and enroll in the three-credit Thesis Colloquium. Both courses count as electives.

History

Once students have completed the comprehensive exams, they must form a Dissertation Committee who have special competence in the area or topic and who collectively can help with the theoretical, methodological, and empirical dimensions of the student's research.

Students will spend at least two years researching and writing the dissertation. Results of the research will be presented at a public dissertation defense