6. Special Consideration

**College of Liberal Arts**
Arabic and Asian Language Office
Minor in Arabic Studies
Texas A&M University
Proposed Minor Field of Study

Name of Minor Program: Minor in Arabic Studies

Department: Arabic & Asian Language Office

College: Liberal Arts

Will grant a minor ☑ Yes ☐ No Academic Year: 2009-2010

A selection from among the following courses will constitute a minor field of study.

A. The following 12 hours of course work are required.
   ARAB 202
   ARAB 221
   ARAB 301
   ARAB 302 or approved substitute

B. Select 3 hours from the following courses.
   HIST 221
   HIST 348
   HIST 329
   GEOG 320
   HIST 347
   SOCI 350
   LBAR 484 or approved substitute

Please indicate further requirements such as grade point requirement, prerequisites, resident (if above the minimum 6 hours at the 300- to 400-level), capstone or methods courses.

Minimum of 3 hours required.

Minimum of 6 hours at 300- to 400-level

Capstone Project

Reviewed and approved by:

Department Head/Program Director Date

AOC Dean of College Date
College of Liberal Arts (TAMU)
Arabic & Asian Language Office
Minor in Arabic Studies

Rationale

The demand for Arabic classes at Texas A&M University continues to increase, as evidenced by enrollment data from the last two years. Such an increase is in line with the national trend in foreign language enrollment, as reported by the Modern Language Association in 2007. A growing number of TAMU students in different majors (History, Political Science, International Studies, Anthropology, Chemistry, among others) have inquired about and expressed interest in pursuing a minor in Arabic or Arabic studies that would enable them to advance their careers. Recognizing the growing demand for proficiency and expertise in the Arabic language and culture, the Arabic and Asian Language Office will start offering advanced-level courses in these subjects. In addition to proposing advanced courses, the Arabic and Asian Language Office will be offering faculty-led study abroad courses starting the summer of 2009, thus allowing A&M students to enhance their intercultural knowledge and bolster their communication skills. In addition, there is a number of courses being offered through the departments of History, Sociology, Religious Studies and other departments that would be relevant to an Arabic studies minor. TAMU students interested in pursuing a minor in Arabic studies will have access to a variety of interdisciplinary courses dealing with the Arabic language and culture and the Arab world in general. A minor in Arabic studies will be of great benefit for TAMU students seeking to enhance their knowledge about the Arab World and/or advance their careers.
General Requirements

- A Minor in Arabic Studies is an academic program available through the Arabic and Asian Language Office and is open to all students in the university.
- This minor is interdisciplinary in nature, with 12 credits of coursework in Arabic language and culture offered through AALO.
- To minor in Arabic Studies, students will need three credits (see list of electives) offered through another department (such as the Departments of History, Religious Studies, Sociology and International Studies).
- To minor in Arabic studies, students need to complete a capstone project and earn three credits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Core courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ARAB 202: Intermediate Arabic II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ARAB 301: Reading &amp; Composition I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ARAB 302: Reading &amp; Composition II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ARAB 221: Arabic Language &amp; Society (or a substitute chosen in consultation with the Director of AALO)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Elective Courses (choose one in consultation with the Director of AALO)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>HIST 221: History of Islam (cross-listed with RELS 221)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>HIST 329: Modern Mediterranean World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>HIST 347: Rise of Islam (cross-listed with RELS 347)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>HIST 348: Modern Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>SOCI 350: Sociology of Islamic Societies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>GEOG 320: Geography of the Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>INTS 484: (internship in an Arabic-speaking country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>LBAR 484</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For details, contact the Director of the Arabic and Asian Language Office at 979-458-1342
Capstone Project

A capstone project that is completed in an approved upper-division Arabic Studies course (such as ARAB 491: Research, when approved) is required of all students pursuing a minor in Arabic studies during their final year of the program. It consists of a substantial research paper (15 – 20 pages) on an original topic and is conducted under the direction of a faculty member with the approval of the Director of Arabic and Asian Language Studies. Through the capstone course and project, students get a chance to integrate their classroom knowledge about the Arab world and use their study-abroad experiences and internships in an Arabic-speaking country, if any, to address an issue of interest to them. Issues that students can choose to address could be of linguistic, cultural, historical, religious, or political nature, among others. Upon its completion, and in coordination with the Director of the Arabic & Asian Language Office, the final project will be presented orally to Arabic classes in order to maximize its benefits.
Salah Ayari, Ph.D.
Director
Arabic and Asian Languages
4224 TAMU, 103B Academic
College Station, Texas 77843-4224
979-458-1342 Fax: 979-458-3581
http://aalo.tamu.edu

Salah Ayari, Ph.D.
Director
Arabic and Asian Languages
4224 TAMU, 103B Academic
College Station, Texas 77843-4224

Salah Ayari, Ph.D.
Director
Arabic and Asian Languages
4224 TAMU, 103B Academic
College Station, Texas 77843-4224

Salah, 

Of course, I approve.

Walter

At 09:35 AM 10/21/2008, you wrote:

Dear Professor Buenger,
My name is Salah Ayari, and I am the Director of the Arabic and Asian Language Office. Recently, our office submitted a proposal for a Minor in Arabic Studies that includes elective courses offered by the Department of History (HIST 329: Modern Mediterranean World, HIST 221: History of Islam, HIST 347: Rise of Islam, HIST 348: Modern Middle East). The proposal was passed by the Undergraduate Instruction Committee yesterday, and requires your approval in order to include the above-mentioned courses in the Arabic Studies Minor. Please let me know by this Thursday (and through e-mail) of whether you would approve of these courses to be offered as electives in the Arabic Studies Minor.
Thank you so much and I look forward to hearing from you soon.
Salah Ayari
Walter Buenger
Professor & Head
Department of History
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-4236
(979) 845-7170
FAX (979) 862-4314
Salah Ayari, Ph.D.
Director
Arabic and Asian Languages
4224 TAMU, 103B Academic
College Station, Texas 77843-4224
979-458-1342 Fax: 979-458-3581
http://aalo.tamu.edu

Good morning, Salah:

The International Studies Degree Program approves the inclusion of INTS 484 (Internship) as an elective in the AALO minor program. I understand that several INTS majors who are learning Arabic will take advantage of an internship program that you are setting up in Tunisia this summer. Therefore, it is in INTS' best interest to cooperate with AALO as it designs its minor in Arabic Studies.

Michael L. Greenwald, Director
THE INTERNATIONAL STUDIES DEGREE PROGRAM
845-5144

PS: I NEED YOUR UIN AND EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO (SPOUSE AND A PHONE NUMBER) FOR THE TRAVEL FORM I'M FILLING OUT FOR OUR TRIP TO HOUSTON ON FRIDAY. THANKS!
Mike,

Recently, AALO submitted a proposal for a Minor in Arabic Studies that includes an elective course offered by INTS (INTS 484). The Minor was passed by the Undergraduate Instruction Committee yesterday, and requires your approval in order to include the above-mentioned course in the Arabic Studies Minor. Please let me know by this Thursday (and through e-mail) of whether you would approve of this course to be offered as elective in the Arabic Studies Minor.

Thanks a lot, Mike.

Salah

Salah Ayari, Ph.D.
Director
Arabic and Asian Languages
4224 TAMU, 103B Academic
College Station, Texas 77843-4224
979-458-1342 Fax: 979-458-3581
http://aalo.tamu.edu
Higginbotham, Sherry

From: Matthews, Pamela
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2008 12:01 PM
To: Ayari, Salah
Cc: Higginbotham, Sherry
Subject: RE: Arabic Studies Minor

Dear Salah,

The College of Liberal Arts will be pleased to have you include the LBAR 484 Internship as an elective for the Arabic Studies minor.

Best,

Pamela R. Matthews
Associate Dean and Professor of English
301 Coke Building
4223 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-4223
T: 979.845.8509
F: 979.845.5164

---

From: Ayari, Salah
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2008 10:16 AM
To: Matthews, Pamela
Cc: Higginbotham, Sherry
Subject: Arabic Studies Minor

Dear Pam,

Following yesterday's decision by the Undergraduate Instruction Committee to pass the Arabic Studies Minor, I am writing to request your approval to include the (LBAR 484) as an elective in the Arabic Studies Minor. Thank you so much!

Salah

Salah Ayari, Ph.D.
Director
Arabic and Asian Languages
4224 TAMU, 103B Academic
College Station, Texas 77843-4224
979-458-1342 Fax: 979-458-3581
http://aalol.tamu.edu
Salah Ayari, Ph.D.
Director
Arabic and Asian Languages
4224 TAMU, 103B Academic
College Station, Texas 77843-4224
979-458-1342 Fax: 979-458-3581
http://aalo.tamu.edu

Mark Fossett

From: Ayari, Salah
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2008 5:39 PM
To: Higginbotham, Sherry
Subject: إعاقة نوجية: Arabic Studies Minor

Salah Ayari, Ph.D.
Director
Arabic and Asian Languages
4224 TAMU, 103B Academic
College Station, Texas 77843-4224
979-458-1342 Fax: 979-458-3581
http://aalo.tamu.edu

I have good news and bad news. The good news is I will be pleased to approve SOCI 350 for use as an elective for the Arabic and Asian Language Office. The bad news is that we have not been able to offer this course in recent years and that trend is likely to continue for at least a while.

We had two faculty members who previously taught this course. One retired and the other left to go to another university. I do not anticipate being able to recruit new faculty specifically to teach this course. So it is not likely that we will be able to offer this course in the foreseeable future.

I hope this does not pose too much of a problem for your programs.

Best regards,

Mark Fossett

---

From: Ayari, Salah
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2008 9:43 AM
To: Fossett, Mark
Cc: Becvar, Barbara
Subject: Arabic Studies Minor

Dear Dr. Fossett,

My name is Salah Ayari, and I am the Director of the Arabic and Asian Language Office. Recently, our office submitted a proposal for a Minor in Arabic Studies that includes an elective course offered by the Department of Sociology (SOCI 350: Sociology of Islamic Societies). The proposal was passed by the Undergraduate Instruction Committee yesterday, and requires your approval in order to include the above-mentioned course in the Arabic Studies Minor. Please let me...
know by this Thursday (and through e-mail) of whether you would approve of this course to be offered as elective in the
Arabic Studies Minor.
Thank you so much and I look forward to hearing from you soon.
Salah Ayari

Salah Ayari, Ph.D.
Director
Arabic and Asian Languages
4224 TAMU, 103B Academic
College Station, Texas 77843-4224
979-458-1342 Fax: 979-458-3581
http://aal.tamu.edu