EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION
MAY 24, 2016

To be adopted:

Proposed Changes to Middle East and Islamic Studies Major

PRESENT:
The major requirements for the B.A. in Middle East and Islamic Studies are as follows: – (60 units of required courses):

1. Language requirement: 6 courses (24 units)
   Students are required to fulfill the language requirement by 
   taking 6 classes in a language in MEIS (Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Hebrew, Urdu) or pass the proficiency requirement 
   by taking a test administered by the department.
   Currently UCR offers only Arabic but students can take language classes either abroad (i.e. AUC in Cairo, Boğaziçi University in Istanbul), or in other UC campuses (UCLA, Irvine) upon the approval of MEIS director.

2. MEIS Senior Seminar. One (4 units) taught by an MEIS faculty preceded by a gateway or upper division course on the same topic.

3. Required courses: 3 courses (12 units) (at least one should be taken from area I and one from area II)
   I. Survey courses:
      ARLC 101, RLST 111, RLST 113, HIST 121, HIST 124
   II. Specialized courses
      POSC 156, GSST 168, GBST/ANTH 169

4. Select five from the elective courses – (20 units of elective courses)

Arabic Literatures and Cultures
ARLC 120, ARLC 151/CPLT 151/MEIS 151, ARLC 152/CPLT 152, ARLC 154/CPLT 154/PHIL 128, ARLC 156/CPLT 156/MEIS 156/RLST 156, ARLC 158/CPLT 158/MEIS

PROPOSED:
The major requirements for the B.A. in Middle East and Islamic Studies are as follows: - (56 units of required courses):

[no change]

2. Required courses: 3 courses (12 units) (at least one should be taken from area I and one from area II)
   I. Survey courses:
      ARLC 155/CPLT 155/MEIS 155/RLST 157, RLST 111, HIST 121, HIST 124
   II. Specialized courses
      ANTH 169/GBST 169, ANTH 168/GSST 168, HIST 125, HIST 126

3. Select five from the elective courses – (20 units of elective courses).

Arabic Literatures and Cultures
[no change]
158/RLST 158

**Anthropology**
ANTH 136, ANTH 140I

**Asian Studies**
AST 167/CPLT 167

**Comparative Ancient Civilizations**
CPAC 121/CLA 121/POSC 121

**Creative Writing**
CWPA 256

**Economics**
ECON 170E

**Gender and Sexuality Studies**
GSST 151, GSST 109/ANTH 109, GSST 162/RLST 162

**Global Studies**
GBST 191

**History**
HIST 030, HIST 111, HIST 125, HIST 126

**Middle East and Islamic Studies**
MEIS 199

**Media and Cultural Studies**
MCS 172

**Political Science**
POSC 107, POSC 120, POSC 133, POSC 152

**Religious Studies**
RLST 116, RLST 121, RLST 130

**Anthropology**
ANTH 136/SEAS 136, ANTH 140I

**Asian Studies**
AST 167/CPLT 167/SEAS 167

**Comparative Ancient Civilizations**
[no change]

**Creative Writing**
[no change]

**Economics**
[no change]

**Gender and Sexuality Studies**
GSST 151/ANTH 188, GSST 109/ANTH 109, GSST 162/RLST 162

**Global Studies**
[no change]

**History**
HISE 117, HISE 160

**Middle East and Islamic Studies**
MEIS 199 (taken senior year with the prior approval of the instructor or MEIS director)

**Media and Cultural Studies**
[No change]

**Political Science**
[No Change]

**Religious Studies**
RLST 113, RLST 112, RLST 116, RLST 121, RLST 130, RLST 148, RLST 149/SEAS 149

**Theatre, Film and Digital Production**
TFDP 177
Justification:

1. The MEIS major no longer requires the MEIS 199 senior seminar. This class is included in the elective list and is optional for students. If the student wishes to take this course as part of their electives, it is recommended to take the course during their senior year. Enrolling in the MEIS 199 will require pre-approval from the MEIS director or the instructor of the course to ensure the student has appropriate background.

2. Removing the senior seminar requirement reduces the total required units to 56 (from 60).

3. The content of HIST 124, HIST 125 and HIST 126 is appropriate for required specialized courses. These have been added to the Area I & II section and deleted from the elective list.

4. The content of RLST 113 is more appropriate for elective options. It has been moved from Area I to the elective list.

5. ARLC 001: Intro to Arabic Literatures and Cultures was deleted and modified to ARLC 155/CPLT 155/MEIS 155/RLST 157: Intro to Arabic Literature, but was left out of the required courses list.

6. The MEIS content majors allow students to double count up to two courses as there is minimal MEIS content for students to choose from.

7. The MEIS major has added courses to the elective options: RLST 112: Islam in America, RLST 148: Religions of the Silk Road, RLST 149: South Asian Religions, HISE 160: India and the British Empire, and HISE 117: The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire. These courses are being added in order to give students a larger variety of options in order to complete the program. All courses have MEIS content.

8. The MEIS minor has removed POSC 156 as a requirement as the professor (Ebru Erdem) who offered the courses is no longer at UCR.

9. HIST 111 has been deleted as it is no longer relevant to the major.

10. Adding the dash between 140 and I to match minor.

11. AST 167/CPLT 167 is also cross listed with SEAS 167. GSST 151 is cross listed with ANTH 188. RLST 149 is cross listed with SEAS 149.

12. TFDP 177 is relevant to the major and has been added to the list. It has always been a part of the designated emphasis.

Approvals:

Approved by the faculty of the Department of Middle East and Islamic Studies: May 28, 2015
Approved by the Executive Committee of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences: March 9, 2016
Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy: May 3, 2015