Programme overview

The two-year international, interdisciplinary Master’s Programme in Middle Eastern Studies at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) in Lund offers highly qualified students an opportunity to learn about the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). In addition, our educational programme offers opportunities for personal development, giving our students the necessary training and support to be successful in their careers after their graduation from Lund University.

In 2009, CMES was selected by the Swedish government to initiate the research programme “The Middle East in the Contemporary World” as part of the Swedish Research Council’s strategic research areas. Since then, CMES has rapidly expanded into an international centre for research, education and public outreach focusing on the Middle East and North Africa.

Master’s students work closely with our experts on their research projects and are therefore offered opportunities for internships connected to research. International experts frequently visit CMES for joint ventures and guest lectures that are integrated into the Master’s programme. CMES collaborates with a number of Middle Eastern and European academic institutions and our students can take advantage of existing structures to spend a semester at a leading Middle Eastern institution, such as the American University of Beirut, The American University in Cairo, the University of Jordan in Amman and Teheran University. CMES also has good relations with international and local NGOs in addition to development agencies active in the Middle East and North Africa.

The academic culture of openness and outreach is very important to us. CMES organises public lectures, film festivals, exhibitions and concerts. CMES actively participates in both current debates on Middle Eastern issues and national debates on multiculturalism.

Programme modules/courses

COURSES AND NUMBER OF CREDITS: First semester: The Formation of Middle Eastern Modernities (7.5), Introduction to Middle Eastern Debates (7.5), Key Theories in Middle Eastern Studies (7.5), Key Methods in Middle Eastern Studies (7.5).

Second semester: A mandatory and four elective courses (30). The electives will focus on research currently conducted at CMES. The main research themes are (1) Democratisation and Social Development in the Middle East; (2) Environment and Sustainable Development in the Middle East; (3) Middle East Migrations: Diasporas and Minorities in Globalised Societies and (4) Religion, Processes of Interpretation and Identity formation in the Middle East.

Third semester: individual focus course (7.5), individual methodology course (7.5) and an internship/fieldwork (15).

Fourth semester: Master’s degree thesis (30).

Career prospects

The programme offers courses in multiple focus areas and language training in the Middle East. It provides a solid foundation for a career in Middle Eastern analysis, diplomacy, government, development, culture, or enterprise, as well as for further academic research and PhD studies.

“...The programme gave me the amazing opportunity to carry out fieldwork and do an internship in Lebanon. Doing research both independently and with a research institute in the region provided me with valuable experience for my future career. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of the programme, I could explore my different areas of interest and combine them in my Master’s thesis project.”

Elisa Giannozzi from Italy
Entry requirements and how to apply

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
A Bachelor’s degree and a high level of proficiency in English. IELTS with a minimum of 6.5 and no section below 5.5 is required. Knowledge of a major Middle Eastern language is recommended but not required. See www.lunduniversity.lu.se for details on English proficiency levels.

HOW TO APPLY
1. Apply online: Go to www.lunduniversity.lu.se/middle-eastern-studies. Click on “Apply” and follow the instructions for the online application at the Swedish national application website www.universityadmissions.se. Rank the chosen programmes in order of preference.
2. Submit your supporting documents:
   - General supporting documents: Check what documents you need to submit (i.e. official transcripts, degree diploma/proof of expected graduation, translations, proof of English, passport) and how you need to submit them at www.universityadmissions.se
   - Programme-specific supporting documents: When applying for the Master’s in Middle Eastern Studies, you must also submit a statement of purpose (800 words), a CV, three letters of recommendation and two short writing samples (less than 2000 words) directly to the Centre.
3. Pay the application fee (when applicable).

SELECTION CRITERIA/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Selection of students is based on statement of purpose, transcripts, letters of recommendation, CV and two short writing samples.

TUITION FEES
There are no tuition fees for EU/EEA citizens. For non-EU/EEA citizens, the tuition fee for this programme is SEK 110 000 per year. See www.lunduniversity.lu.se for details on tuition fees.

About the Center of Middle Eastern Studies
The Center for Middle Eastern Studies was founded in 2007 in an effort to support and coordinate research on the region at Lund University. Research on the Middle East has existed in Lund since the University’s founding in 1666. Over the last few decades, an increasing amount of disciplines across all faculties of the university have begun conducting research and teaching courses on the region. CMES will continue to support these efforts by becoming an international hub in Scandinavia for interdisciplinary research on the Middle East.

About Lund University
Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world’s top 100 universities. The University has 40,000 students and 7,400 staff based in Lund, Helsingborg and Malmö. We are united in our efforts to understand, explain and improve our world and the human condition.

Lund is the most popular study location in Sweden. The University offers one of the broadest ranges of programmes and courses in Scandinavia, based on cross-disciplinary and cutting-edge research. The University has a distinct international profile, with partner universities in over 70 countries.

Lund University has an annual turnover of SEK 8 billion, two-thirds of which are destined for research. Our eight faculties conduct strong research in many different areas, including over thirty research fields in which we are world-leading. Many scientific breakthroughs and pioneering innovations have originated from Lund University.

Learn more at www.lunduniversity.lu.se
Ask questions and follow news at facebook.com/lunduniversity

CONTACT
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