PROPOSED CHANGES TO DEGREE PROGRAMS IN THE
UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2010-2012
or
LAW SCHOOL CATALOG, 2010-2012

NAME OF DEGREE PROGRAM(S):

BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

EXPLAIN CHANGE(S) TO DEGREE PROGRAM:

• Add the clarifying phrase “not cross-listed with Middle Eastern Studies” to the statement allowing Middle Eastern language courses to apply to the degree.
• Add a statement restricting the number of Islamic Studies cross-listed courses that can be applied to the Middle Eastern Studies degree.

Indicate pages in the Undergraduate Catalog where changes will be made.
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GIVE A DETAILED RATIONALE FOR CHANGE(S):
The first change listed above serves to clarify that the six-hour limit on upper-division Middle Eastern language courses applies only to those that are not cross-listed with Middle Eastern Studies. This allows us to distinguish between language courses such as Arabic 420K, Third-Year Arabic I; Arabic 325K, Egyptian Arabic; and Arabic 322K Levantine Arabic, and content-driven topics courses such as Arabic 360L, Topics in Arabic Literature and Culture and Arabic 372, Topics in Arab History and Society. Only the latter would be cross-listed as Middle Eastern Studies courses and should not be included in the six-hour limit on the applicability of language courses.

Our primary motivation underlying the second change is to create a firmer demarcation between the Islamic Studies and Middle Eastern Studies degree plans. In achieving this goal, we will restrict the number of courses that are cross-listed with Islamic Studies that can be counted towards the Middle Eastern Studies major. Students will therefore be required to take at least nine hours of Middle East-focused coursework that has minimal Islamic studies content and that is chosen from a variety of disciplines, such as history, political science, and literature.

SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED CHANGE(S):
Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? If yes, then how?
No.

Has the other college(s)/school(s) been informed of the proposed change? If so, please indicate their response.
Person communicated with: n/a
Date of Communication: n/a
Will this proposal change the number of required hours for degree completion? If yes, please explain.
No.

Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? If yes, please explain.
No.

**COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS:**
(Circle yes or no)
Department: Yes  Date:  June 23, 2009
College: Yes  Date:  
Dean: Yes  Date:  

Please include a draft of the catalog copy on an attached page. The draft should be based on the text of the current catalog available at [http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/pages/catalog_chgs/catcopy.html](http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/pages/catalog_chgs/catcopy.html).

**CHANGES IN REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS CHAPTER OF THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2010-2012**

On page 326, under the heading **DEGREES**, in the **MAJORS AND MINORS** subsection of the College of Liberal Arts chapter of the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2008-2010*, make the following changes:

**Middle Eastern Studies**

*Majors:* Twenty-four semester hours of coursework in Middle Eastern studies, consisting of Middle Eastern Studies 301K and 301L and eighteen hours of upper-division coursework. Up to six hours of upper-division coursework in a Middle Eastern language not cross-listed with Middle Eastern Studies may be counted toward the major. No more than fifteen hours of upper-division Middle Eastern Studies coursework that is cross-listed with Islamic Studies may be counted toward the major. No more than six hours in upper-division conference courses may be counted toward the major.

Students must complete the equivalent of at least two years of a Middle Eastern language (normally Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, or Turkish). Credit used to fulfill this requirement may also be used to fulfill the foreign language requirement.