

Middle East Studies Program

Learning Goals and Assessment Plan

Learning Goals:

Students who have completed the MES minor should be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the diverse regions, perspectives, histories and identities prevalent in the Middle East, as we have defined the region in our preamble.
2. Demonstrate the ability to synthesize information about the Middle East from the perspective of two or more academic disciplines or fields.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the categories through which people in the region arrange and conceptualize their experiences.
4. Demonstrate an ability to bring their knowledge to bear on evaluating public discourse on the Middle East and/or to engage with topics related to the Middle East in their lives outside or after Carleton.

Assessment of Learning Goals:

Learning goals will be assessed by:

1. Assessment of final capstone project by the capstone instructor using a written rubric that measures success on the above four learning goals.
2. A written exit interview for graduating minors that assesses the above learning goals from their perspectives.
3. Students in three MES courses per year (at director's discretion and with agreement of instructors) will be given a survey with questions related to learning goals 1, 3 & 4. *NB that this survey will also assess to what extent learning goals 1,3 & 4 are being achieved by non-minors enrolled in these classes. We understand our impact on this group to be of similar importance to our impact on minors. In this regard, we will also assess on this survey the impact of the MES course on their work in their major and minor, if they have declared these.*

Assessment plan and schedule:

2017-8: We will implement assessments 1, 2 & 3 starting this year. As for assessment 3, three surveys have already been undertaken, though the questions might need a slight tweak, as, due to development of the above plan, the surveys predated the establishment of the learning goals.

2018-9 and forward: We will fully implement all three assessments on an annual basis.