The Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies (BMECAS) at ANU takes you through the topics, debates and developments in the Middle East and Central Asia. The history, politics, culture, and economic resources of the Middle East and Central Asia influence many parts of the world, including Australia. Events in the region often have global significance, and are central to an understanding of a number of key issues in international affairs.

This program enables you to study the role of religion and the languages of these regions. You will have the opportunity to learn Turkish, Persian or Arabic.

Career opportunities
The Middle East and Central Asia is an important region in world finance, trade, tourism, and politics. In the Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies, you will learn the complexities of the region while being able to communicate effectively in a relevant language. Many companies and organisations value the skills you will learn such as the ability to think clearly and analytically while also having an in-depth knowledge of the region. Graduates may find work in policy making, foreign affairs, government, private business, tourism, trade, journalism and many other fields.
Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies at ANU

Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies students learn to:

> Discern socio-cultural, historical and political structures of the Middle East and Central Asia
> Define and analyse the global implications of events and developments in the Middle East and Central Asia
> Understand the role of economic modernisation and themes relevant to regional security
> Communicate in a Middle Eastern or Central Asian language.

You will also learn from leading researchers with classes taught by teachers of international standing. The Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies (the Middle East and Central Asia) is Australia’s premier centre for studies in this field, with many links to major counterparts in the Arab and Muslim world. The Centre integrates the study of Middle Eastern and Central Asian contemporary politics, history, culture, political economy, and the role of Islam within the broader framework of the changing global order.

Internships & study abroad

Many students in the Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies undertake an internship during their degree. Language students may have the opportunity to include in-country courses as part of their studies.

Flexible Double Degree

The Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies can be combined with degrees in Arts, Social Sciences, Law, Business or Science as part of the ANU Flexible Double Degree program. For a full list of degree combinations see anu.edu.au/study/study-options/flexible-double

Honours

Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies students can undertake an honours year within the program. There are also many opportunities for postgraduate study including coursework and research at the Masters level.

Prizes & scholarships

There are a number of scholarships for both international and domestic students. To find out if you are eligible see anu.edu.au/students/scholarships-fees/scholarships

Sarah

Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies/ Bachelor of Law (Honours)

I was first attracted to studying at the Australian National University because of its Bachelor of Middle Eastern and Central Asian Studies and the opportunity to study Arabic. I have always been fascinated in the Middle East and sought the opportunity to develop my knowledge on the region, its languages and its culture. I am passionate about languages and after studying French I decided to learn Arabic as my next challenge. Ultimately, I am driven to study Arabic as I am an avid traveller and hope to travel extensively in the Middle East and possibly one day work somewhere in the region.

Studying the Arabic language is both challenging and rewarding. The courses move you through the language at a pace that challenges you so that you become comfortable with the language. Culturally, the lessons teach you about the Arab world and cultural practices which I find enriching to the teaching of the language and have strengthened my understanding of the modern Middle East.

Further information

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