January 25, 2017

TO: Ilene Harris, Chair  
Senate Committee on Educational Policy

FROM: Dana Wright, Director of Academic Program Development

I am submitting for the review and action of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy the attached Proposal to Establish the Minor in Arabic.

The proposal was approved by the Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies on May 1, 2016; the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences’ Educational Policy Committee on November 7, 2016; and the college faculty on November 14, 2016.

ATTACHMENT
Title: Proposal to Establish the Minor in Arabic

Sponsor: Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies  
School of Literatures, Cultural Studies, and Linguistics  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Executive Summary: The Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies proposes the establishment of the Minor in Arabic. The minor has two broad goals:
- Advanced language proficiency in Arabic
- Increased knowledge of Arabic literature, history, and culture

The minor will require a total of 19 credit hours and will utilize existing courses.

Description: The Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies proposes the establishment of the Minor in Arabic. The minor is designed for students who wish to continue the study of Arabic beyond the basic language program (ARAB 101 Elementary Arabic I, ARAB 102 Elementary Arabic II, ARAB 103 Intermediate Arabic I, and ARAB 104 Intermediate Arabic II or ARAB 115 Intensive Elementary Arabic and ARAB 116 Intensive Intermediate Arabic) and who desire to study Arabic culture. The minor will be housed within the Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies, under the supervision of Professor Mustapha Kamal. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Advising office has agreed to provide advising and certification of the minor in consultation with Professor Kamal.

Students interested in pursuing the Minor in Arabic must demonstrate basic proficiency in Arabic language through coursework or a placement test. If proficiency is demonstrated through coursework, students must have earned a grade of C or better in ARAB 103, Intermediate Arabic I. If proficiency is demonstrated through a placement test, students must place into ARAB 104 Intermediate Arabic II, which is the equivalent of a C or better in 103. In accordance with college policy, placement at the 200 level provides four hours of proficiency credit for the 104-level course if the student completes the 200-level course with a grade of B or higher. Additional coursework requirements are as follows:

ARAB 104, Intermediate Arabic II (4 hrs.)
OR the equivalent [e.g., ARAB 116, Intensive Intermediate Arabic (8 hrs)]

ARAB 201, Advanced Arabic through Literature (3 hrs.)
ARAB 202, Media Arabic (3 hrs.)

One course related to the history or politics of the Arab world, selected from the following:
HIST 177, Middle Eastern Civilization (3 hrs.)
HIST 277, The Middle East to 1258 (3 hrs.)
HIST 278, The Middle East Since 1258 (3 hrs.)
HIST 477, Topics in Middle Eastern History (3 hrs.)
POLS 243, Politics and Government of the Middle East (3 hrs.)

Note: See letters of support from History and Political Science departments. In AY2016-2017, 4 of the 5 courses were offered.
Proposal to Establish the Minor in Arabic

One course in the culture of the Arab world, selected from the following:
ANTH 281, Ethnography of North Africa and the Middle East (3 hrs.)
ARAB 230, Arabic Literature in Translation (3 hrs.)
ARAB 250, The Heritage of Muslim Iberia (3 hrs.)
ARAB 270, The Reel Arab (3 hrs.)
ARST 209, The Art and Architecture of the Ancient Near East (3 hrs.)
ARST 210, The Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt (3 hrs.)
CL 260, Near Eastern Myths and Epic (3 hrs.)
GKM 286, Modern Greek Cities: Modern Greek Cities: Historical-Ethnographic Survey (3 hrs.) (Includes Alexandria, Egypt.)
RELS 130, Introduction to Islam (3 hrs.)
RELS 230, Topics in Islam (3 hrs.)
RELS 279, The Qur'an: A Historical and Cultural Approach (3 hrs.)

Note: See letters of support from the Dept. of Anthropology and the Program in Religious Studies. In AY2016-2017, 2 of their 4 courses were offered. All other course subjects are controlled by the Dept. of Classics and Mediterranean studies. As a result, we can insure a sufficient number of courses will be offered each year for students to meet this component of the requirements.

Elective, chosen in consultation with the advisor (3 hrs.)

A total of 19 credit hours is required for the minor, 12 of which must be at the 200 level or above.

Justification: Since 2007, student demand for courses in Arabic has been very strong. Enrollments in all sections of the basic language sequence (ARAB 101, 102, 103, and 104) are consistently at or near capacity. In 2012, the Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies hired a lecturer in order to be able to offer additional sections of the basic language sequence. Over the last two years, the combined enrollments in ARAB 101-104 have ranged between 130 to 151 students per semester, with an average of 144 students. Courses range from three to four sections, with an approximate reduction of one section between 101 and 102. A small but consistent number of heritage students are placed into the intermediate 103 or 104 sections, replenishing enrollments to capacity or close to it.

Beyond the basic language sequence, the department has offered ARAB 201, Advanced Arabic through Literature (which is taught in Arabic), every fall since 2011, with enrollments ranging between 10 and 22 students each semester, for an average of 15. Beginning in 2017, the department plans to resume offering ARAB 202, Media Arabic, every spring semester. This course is being revised to refocus its advanced language instruction on providing students comprehension in the closely related Modern Standard Arabic, used across dialects in Arabic media and business contexts. Both ARAB 201 and 202 will be required for the proposed minor. As a result of the three required ARAB courses, students in the minor will have 10 of 19 hours that emphasize advanced language proficiency.

The department also offers a number of courses related to Arabic culture and literature, which are taught in English and will count toward the Arabic minor. These are complemented by additional course offerings by other departments, particularly the
Proposal to Establish the Minor in Arabic

An in-class survey of students currently enrolled in ARAB 101 and 103, conducted during the week of November 17, 2014, using paper questionnaires, showed strong support for a minor in Arabic. Seventy-five percent of students in ARAB 101 and nearly 88% of students in ARAB 103 (a total of 61 students) indicated that they would be interested in the new minor. Responses to the same survey from students in ARAB 201 and ARAB 230 were equally favorable, at 80% and 100%, respectively. Students were also asked whether they would be interested in an Arabic major, a potential long-range goal of the department. Forty-four percent, or 34 students, answered affirmatively.

This enthusiastic student response is not surprising and reflects the increasing importance of Arabic as a global language. It is the official language of more than 20 countries, the native language of over 300 million people, and the world's fifth most common native language overall. As the prominence of the Middle East in world affairs continues to grow, the shortage of Arabic-language speakers in the West has become more critical. Section 601(c)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) requires that the Secretary of Education consult with other federal agencies regarding areas of national need for expertise in foreign languages. In the 2013 report, Arabic was listed as an overall priority language and listed individually by almost every federal agency as a language for which there is a gap between agency needs and available expertise.

The proposed minor in Arabic will be of interest both to students of Arab or Muslim heritage who want to learn more about the Arabic language and culture and to non-native speakers who wish to study advanced Arabic in order to increase their career options in research, education, government, and business. In addition to enhancing students’ career opportunities, the Arabic minor will provide students with the language skills necessary to interact more effectively with Arabic speakers and offer a foundation for understanding the rich literature, history, traditions, and culture of the Arab world.

This minor has two main goals:

- **Advanced level language proficiency**, as described by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) ratings: B2/C1 and by the ACTFL ratings, Advanced-Mid. At this level, students will be able to communicate using Literary and Modern Standard Arabic not only on topics of home, school, and leisure but also on current affairs and public and social issues; express and support opinions; and be able to sustain interaction and contribute to interaction with others. Students will be able to comprehend and produce a wide range of spoken and written texts and genres. Their written production will display grammatical accuracy and clarity, and papers will show evidence of discourse planning for content development, coherence and cohesion, and audience awareness.

- **Increased literary, historical, and cultural knowledge**, specifically, development of a broader knowledge of Arabic literature, history, politics, and culture.

To accomplish these goals, the minor will:

- offer courses in Arabic which develop language skills through the study of literature and culture in the target language;
• draw on courses in other departments that are offered periodically and are related to Arabic history and culture, primarily courses in the Department of History and the Religious Studies program;
• include a mix of courses, some taught in English and some taught in Arabic;
• aim to attract students with interests in building language proficiency and increasing their literary, historical, and cultural knowledge of the Arab world, whether for career-building or cultural interests.

Two related minors already exist, in Religious Studies and History. There is some overlap, but the goals and content of the minors differ significantly. The minors in Religious Studies and History focus exclusively on the study of religion and history, respectively. In contrast, the Arabic minor represents a broader and more integrated approach, requiring competency in the Arabic language, and encompassing additional study of Arabic literature, history, politics, and culture, guided by the student's interests, and with an overarching aim of promoting greater international understanding.

Catalog Statement: No previous catalog statement exists.

New

Minor in Arabic

The Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies offers course work leading to the Minor in Arabic. The minor can be beneficial to students who wish to develop Arabic advanced language proficiency and broaden their knowledge of Arabic literature, history, politics, and culture.

Requirements for the Minor

To declare the minor, students must demonstrate basic proficiency in Arabic through coursework or a placement test. Those using coursework for entry into the minor must have earned a grade of C or above in ARAB 103 in order to declare the minor. Students who place into ARAB 104, which demonstrates proficiency equivalent to a C in 103, may also declare the minor. To earn the Minor in Arabic, students must complete 19 semester hours (12 of which must be at the 200 level or above) as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Courses</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARAB 104 Intermediate Arabic II or the equivalent</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB 201 Advanced Arabic through Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB 202 Media Arabic</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one course from each of the following categories

History or Politics of the Arab World
- HIST 177 Middle Eastern Civilization 3
- HIST 277 The Middle East to 1258
- HIST 278 The Middle East Since 1258
- HIST 477 Topics in Middle Eastern History
- POLS 243 Politics and Government of the Middle East

Culture of the Arab World
- ANTH 281 Ethnography of North Africa and the Middle East 3
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARAB 230</td>
<td>Arabic Literature in Translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB 250</td>
<td>The Heritage of Muslim Iberia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB 270</td>
<td>The Reel Arab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARST 209</td>
<td>The Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARST 210</td>
<td>The Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL 260</td>
<td>Near Eastern Myths &amp; Epic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GKM 286</td>
<td>Modern Greek Cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 130</td>
<td>Introduction to Islam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 230</td>
<td>Topics in Islam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 279</td>
<td>The Qur’an</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elective, chosen in consultation with the advisor  

**Total Hours:** 19

**Minority Impact Statement:** There is no anticipated impact—negative or positive—on minority students.

**Budgetary and Staff Implications:** No new courses are proposed.

The minor will require only a minimal change in Arabic offerings and no additional budget from any other department. This will result in one additional course, ARAB 202, being permanently budgeted, which can be taught by one of the current instructors. The electives in other departments are offered regularly and have the capacity to accommodate Arabic minors.

Administration of the program will primarily be handled within the Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies. Professor Kamal is currently in charge of the Arabic Basic Language Program and will provide supervision of the minor as part of that service obligation. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Advising office has agreed to advise certify the minor.

**Library Resource Implications:** The minor is comprised of current courses; and no new courses are being proposed. Therefore, current library resources are sufficient.

**Space Implications:** The number of students and courses will remain the same. Thus, there will be no impact on space resources.

**Unit Approval Date:** May 1, 2016

**College (educational policy committee, faculty) approval dates:**
- LAS Educational Policy Committee: November 7, 2016
- LAS Faculty: November 14, 2016

**Contact persons:** Mustapha Kamal, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies (mustaphk@uic.edu)  
Ourania Marinatos, Head, Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies (nannom@uic.edu)

**Proposed Effective Date:** Fall 2017
Proposal to Establish the Minor in Arabic

Courses

Revised

ARAB 104. Intermediate Arabic II. 4 hours (required for the minor)
Continuation of practice in comprehending spoken Arabic and reading Arabic with some work in speaking and writing Arabic. Prerequisite(s): ARAB 103 or adequate performance on the placement test or consent of the instructor.

ARAB 201. Advanced Arabic through Literature. 3 hours (required for the minor)
An introduction to both classical and modern Arabic literature in the original language. Arabic rhetoric. Intensive listening, speaking, reading and writing at an intermediate to advanced level. Taught in Arabic. Prerequisite(s): ARAB 104; or appropriate score on the department placement test or the equivalent.

ARAB 202. Media Arabic. 3 hours (required for the minor)
Modern Standard Arabic as used in media such as newspapers, television and the web. Different uses of Arabic in various media outlets. Prerequisite(s): ARAB 104; or appropriate score on the department placement test or if taking as an elective, the consent of the instructor.

ARAB 230. Arabic Literature in Translation. 3 hours (selective for the minor)
Introduces students to the genres and themes of classical and modern Arabic literature in translation. Taught in English. Prerequisite(s): Completion of the English Composition requirement. World Cultures course.

ARAB 250. The Heritage of Muslim Iberia. 3 hours (selective for the minor)
Examines the history, culture and scientific achievements associated with the Muslim presence in Iberia from 711 CE to the fall of Grenada in 1492 CE, and the interplay of Arab and non-Arab cultures in the Western Mediterranean. Taught in English. Past, and World Cultures course.

ARAB 270. The Reel Arab. 3 hours (selective for the minor)
Examination of how Arabs are portrayed in the cinema. Exploration of popular films (both Western and Arab) and their prominent conventions. Focus on gender issues, racial and ethnic representations, and analysis of patriarchal attitudes. Same as MOVI 270. Taught in English. Prerequisite(s): Completion of ENGL 160; or any 100- or 200-level film course. Creative Arts course.

ARST 209. The Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East. 3 hours (selective for the minor)
Introduction to the ancient cultures of Mesopotamia and neighboring regions from the first settled villages of the early Neolithic to the Persian conquest of Babylon. Same as AH 209. Prerequisite(s): Sophomore standing or above.

ARST 210. The Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt. 3 hours (selective for the minor)
Ancient Egypt from 6000 BC-400 AD. Architecture, sculpture and painting in their social and historical contexts. Same as AAST 210, and AH 210. Prerequisite(s): Sophomore standing. Creative Arts, and Past course.

CL 260. Near Eastern Myths & Epic. 3 hours (selective for the minor)
Literature and religious traditions from the ancient Near East and Egypt in the First and Second millennia BCE. All texts read in translation. Prerequisite(s): CL 102 or CL 104 or CL 208 or CL 250 or CL 251; or consent of the instructor. Individual and Society, and Past course.
GKM 286. Modern Greek Cities: Historical-Ethnographic Survey. 3 hours (selective for the minor)
This course is designed as an historical and ethnographic survey of the communities and culture of
Modern Greek urban centers, from the early modern period to the present. Taught in English. Same as
HIST 286. Past course.
Marinatos, Nanno <nannom@uic.edu>  
To: monaghan@uic.edu  
Cc: cohenh@uic.edu  

Wed, Aug 17, 2016 at 2:36 AM

August 16, 2016

To: John Monaghan, Head
    Department of Anthropology

From: Ourania Marinatos, Head
    Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies

Re: Anthropology Course and the Proposed Minor in Arabic

Dear John,

The Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies is proposing a new minor, the Minor in Arabic. We have identified an anthropology course that would be of great value to students pursuing the minor, and we request your permission to include it among courses that are selective for the minor:

ANTH 281, Ethnography of North Africa and the Middle East

The proposed effective term of the new minor is Fall 2017. If you agree to the use of the above courses, we ask that you e-mail your permission to me (nannom@uic.edu) with a cc to Heather Cohen (cohenh@uic.edu) by August 31, 2016.

Thank you.

Nanno Marinatos  
Professor and Head, Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago  
UH 1800  
Tel. 312 996 2291

Monaghan, John D <monaghan@uic.edu>  
To: "Marinatos, Nanno" <nannom@uic.edu>  
Cc: cohenh@uic.edu  

Wed, Aug 17, 2016 at 10:07 AM

Dear Nanno,

Please feel free to add Anthropology 281 to the minor in Arabic.

Sincerely,

John Monaghan
August 16, 2016

Dear Chris,

Do you approve of the following cross-listings with History for the creation of a Minor in Arabic Studies to be housed in Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies?

To: Christopher Boyer, Head
    Department of History

From: Nanno Marinatos, Head
    Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies

Re: History Courses and the Proposed Minor in Arabic

The Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies is proposing a new minor, the Minor in Arabic. We have identified several history courses that would be of great value to students pursuing the minor, and we request your permission to include them among courses that are selective for the minor:

    HIST 177, Middle Eastern Civilization
    HIST 277, The Middle East to 1258
    HIST 278, The Middle East Since 1258
    HIST 477, Topics in Middle Eastern History

The proposed effective term of the new minor is Fall 2017. If you agree to the use of the above courses, we ask that you e-mail your permission to me (nannom@uic.edu) with a cc to Heather Cohen (coenh@uic.edu) by August 31, 2016.

Thank you in advance,

Nanno Marinatos
Professor and Head, Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago
UH 1800
Tel. 312 996 2291

Chris Boyer <crboyer@uic.edu>  
To: "Marinatos, Nanno" <nannom@uic.edu>  
Cc: Heather Cohen <coenh@uic.edu>, Mary Parks <angel@uic.edu>, "Kevin M. Schultz" <schultzk@uic.edu>  
Wed, Aug 17, 2016 at 10:11 AM
Dear Nanno,

We would be thrilled to approve these courses inclusion in the new minor. Congratulations on establishing it!

Best wishes,
Chris

Christopher Boyer
Professor and Chair of History
Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies

[Quoted text hidden]
August 16, 2016

To: Evan McKenzie, Head
Department of Political Science

From: Nanno (Ourania) Marinatos, Head
Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies

Re: Political Science Course and the Proposed Minor in Arabic

The Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies is proposing a new minor, the Minor in Arabic. We have identified a political science course that would be of great value to students pursuing the minor, and we request your permission to include it among courses that are selective for the minor:

POLS 243, Politics and Government of the Middle East

The proposed effective term of the new minor is Fall 2017. If you agree to the use of the above courses, we ask that you e-mail your permission to me (nannom@uic.edu) with a cc to Heather Cohen (coenh@uic.edu) by August 31, 2016.

Thank you.

Nanno Marinatos
Professor and Head, Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago
UH 1800
Tel. 312 996 2291

Wed, Aug 17, 2016 at 2:24 PM

Evan McKenzie <mckenzie@uic.edu>

To: "Marinatos, Nanno" <nannom@uic.edu>
Cc: Dick Simpson <Simpson@uic.edu>, Stephanie Whitaker <swhitake@uic.edu>, Marilyn Getzov <getzov@uic.edu>, coenh@uic.edu

Dear Prof. Marinates—I have consulted with our Director of Undergraduate Studies, Prof. Dick Simpson, and our administrative personnel, and we agree that this course would be a valuable addition to your proposed minor in Arabic. You have my permission to include POLS 243, Politics and Government in the Middle East, as a selective course in the proposed new minor.

Best,
Evan

Evan C. McKenzie
Thank you very much

NM
Sept. 6, 2016

To: Imke Meyer Director

Religious Studies Program

From: Ourania Marinatos, Head

Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies

Re: Religious Studies Courses and the Proposed Minor in Arabic

The Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies is proposing a new minor, the Minor in Arabic. We have identified several religious studies courses that would be of great value to students pursuing the minor, and we request your permission to include them among courses that are selective for the minor:

- RELS 130, Introduction to Islam
- RELS 230, Topics in Islam
- RELS 279, The Qu'ran: A Historical and Cultural Approach

The proposed effective term of the new minor is Fall 2017. If you agree to the use of the above courses, we ask that you e-mail your permission to me (nannom@uic.edu) with a cc to Heather Cohen (coenh@uic.edu) ASAP.

Thank you.
Dear Nanno and Heather,

Nanno, thank you very much for sending your query regarding the Religious Studies courses. As we look for new leadership for our Religious Studies program, I serve as its Acting Coordinator. In this capacity, I am very happy to approve your request to list RELS 130, RELS 230, and RELS 279 as selectives for the proposed Minor in Arabic.

With best regards to all,

Imke.

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Imke Meyer
Director, School of Literatures, Cultural Studies & Linguistics
Professor of Germanic Studies
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ixmeyer@uic.edu