

**PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY****Title of the proposed minor: Interdisciplinary Minor in the Study of the Islamic World****Sponsoring unit: Program in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies****Date: June 2005****Brief description of the program of study:**

The Program in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies proposes the creation of an undergraduate minor in the Study of the Islamic World. This is part of a larger project to strengthen the study of the Islamic world at the University of Illinois, which is being funded by the Department of Education's Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program during AY 2004-06. Other elements of the program have included the seeding of two new positions in Arabic literature and theory and culture, and the creation of a new general education course "Introduction to the World of Islam," which was taught in SP 05.

This interdisciplinary minor is designed for students interested in developing an expertise in one or more parts of the Islamic World or in Islamic culture generally, as a complement to their disciplinary major. There is no major in this subject area and none is planned. Students will acquire depth of knowledge in an Islamic culture by completing a fourth semester of one of the approved languages of the Islamic world and by taking at least six hours of 300- and 400- level courses. The Study of the Islamic World minor is not disciplinary but interdisciplinary. A comprehensive approach is insured by the requirement of one of three introductory courses: Intro to the World of Islam, History of the Islamic Middle East, or Introduction to Islam.

**Requirements:**

The minor will require 20 hours of course work:

- 5 hours representing completion of a fourth semester course in one of several Islamic world languages: Arabic, Turkish, Swahili or Wolof.
- 3 hours representing one of the following General Education courses: SAME 133 Intro to the World of Islam, HIST 135 History of the Islamic Middle East, or RLST 213/214 Introduction to Islam.
- 12 hours of courses chosen from an approved list of 200- to 400- level courses, 6 hours of which must be at the 300 or 400 level. The courses must come from at least two disciplines.

**Prerequisites for the minor and expected enrollment in the minor:** There are no prerequisites and there is no limit on the number of minors. We expect the number of students to reach 50, with proper advertising.



Turkish, Swahili, Wolof). Select courses from the approved course list.

3

Select one of the following:

SAME 133- Intro to the World of Islam or

HIST 135- History of Islamic Middle East or

RLST 214- Introduction to Islam (or RLST 213 Intro to Islam- ACP)

12

Additional courses chosen from the approved course list. The courses must come from at least two disciplines. At least six hours must be at the 300- or 400-level.

20

Total

**Appendix A**  
**List of approved courses that complete the fourth semester of an Islamic language**  
**Fall 2005**

ARAB 404	Intermediate Stand Arabic II
LING 404B	Turkish II
SWAH 404	Intermediate Swahili II
WLOF 404	Intermediate Wolof II

## Appendix B

### List of approved courses in language, history, and social science Fall 2005

ARAB 407	Topics Stand Arabic Lang & Lit I
ARAB 408	Topics Stand Arabic Lang & Lit II
ARAB 409	Adv Top Stand Arabic LangLit I
ARAB 410	Adv Top Stand Arabic LangLit II
ACE 453	Econ Dev in S & SE Asia
ANTH 402	Transnational Islam, Europe-US
CWL 205	Islam & West Through Lit
FR 479	Studies in Francophonie
HNDI 408	Intro to South Asian Lit
HIST 210	History North & West Africa
HIST 211	History East & Southern Africa
HIST 330	South Asian Military History
HIST 352	Europe in the World Since 1750
HIST 413	The Horn of Africa
HIST 430	India from Colony to Nation
HIST 435	Middle East 1566-1914
HIST 437	Middle East in 20 <sup>th</sup> Century
HIST 438	Egypt Since World War I
HIST 439	The Ottoman Empire
HIST 466	Southeastern Europe
HIST 498	Research and Writing Seminar (when topically appropriate)
LA 218	S. Asian Cultural Landscapes
LA 222	Islamic Gardens & Architecture
MUS 417	Area Studies Ethnomusicology (when topically appropriate)
PS 241	Comp Politics in Dev Nations
PS 345	Gov & Pol of SE Asia
PS 346	Gov & Pol of South Asia
PS 347	Gov & Pol of Middle East
RLST 213	Intro to Islam-ACP
RLST 214	Introduction to Islam
RLST 223	Qur'an Structure and Exegesis
RLST 260	Mystics and Saints in Islam
RLST 403	Women in Muslim Societies
RLST 408	Islam and Modern Society
RLST 482	Islam, Christians and the West
SWAH 407	Topics Swahili Lang & Lit I
SWAH 408	Topics Swahili Lang & Lit II
SWAH 409	Adv Topics Swahili Lang & Lit I
SWAH 410	Adv Topics Swahili Lang & Lit II
WLOF 407	Topics Wolof Lang & Lit I
WLOF 408	Topics Wolof Lang & Lit II