While the Middle East and North Africa have been prominent in media and public debate for decades, the region continues to be presented as an enigma in which modernity cannot hold and where mystery and irrational zealotry rule the day.

An academic understanding must always find a way around mysteries and enigmata, and in this minor we will therefore address these head-on, dispelling common misunderstandings and oversimplifications.

This interdisciplinary minor is focussed on the cultures and societies of the contemporary Middle East. The region is approached from both a humanities and a social science point of view and discusses the Middle East in its cultural, social and political complexity.
Enrolment and admission
Admission requirement:
The following admission requirement applies for this minor: you need a positive university BSA (Binding Study Advice).

Applying for admission to the minor
Once you’ve decided that you’ll be taking a minor, you’ll need to do two things. First, you must apply for admission to the minor. After you’ve been admitted to the minor, you can register for the minor courses.

Non-UvA students must first register as a guest student through Studielink. You can find more information at uva.nl/bachelor-s/minors/

After you’ve completed the application form that can be accessed by clicking on the link, you’ll receive the outcome by email within five working days.

Information:
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The minor programme consists of an opening course (The Middle East: History, Politics & Economy 6EC) with weekly lectures and work group meetings. Next to this opening course, students choose four additional courses from the various courses on offer, with topics ranging from revolution to sharia, and from literature to Islamic art.