



Near and Middle Eastern Studies

Module descriptors for Inbound Students.

Module Code	NMU22281
Name	Approaches to Middle East History: Schools, Sources, and Arguments
Semester	1
ECTS	5
Module Coordinator	Contact NMES Study Abroad Coordinator

Module Content

This module aims to introduce students to the major historiographical traditions, methodological debates, and source bases that have shaped the academic study of Middle East history. It seeks to familiarise students with the intellectual, political, and institutional contexts in which historical knowledge about the Middle East has been produced, while equipping them with the critical tools necessary to evaluate historical arguments, sources, and interpretive frameworks.

The module also aims to prepare students for independent research by strengthening their ability to situate historical work within broader scholarly debates.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Identify and explain the major historiographical schools and debates in Middle East history.
- Critically assess historical arguments in relation to their intellectual, political, and methodological contexts.
- Demonstrate an understanding of different types of primary sources used in Middle East history and their limitations.
- Compare differing scholarly approaches to similar historical problems.
- Situate historical works within broader traditions of scholarship.



- Develop coherent, well-structured written arguments grounded in historiographical analysis.

Assessment

- Essay 1 (45%)
- Essay 2 (45%)
- Oral Presentation (10%)