Middle Eastern Studies: Paper Combinations

Middle Eastern Studies Pathway

At Part IA (first year) and Part IB (second year) and Part II (fourth year) in the Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos Arabic, Persian, Hebrew and Aramaic courses have been integrated into one ‘Middle Eastern Studies’ pathway. There is a separate pathway for those students combining Middle Eastern Studies (Arabic, Persian, Hebrew) with a modern language from the Modern and Medieval Languages Tripos. Such students must have a qualification to at least A Level standard in the Modern European Language to be offered.

**Persian must be combined with another Middle Eastern or European language in Years 1 and 2.**

The papers that can be taken in the Middle Eastern Studies Pathway are laid out below. There is a separate guide for the Middle Eastern Studies with a Modern Language Pathway.

Please note: this is a general guide. The papers and topics on offer may vary from year to year. For more information please contact ug_progadmin@ames.cam.ac.uk
Middle Eastern Studies Pathway

Part IA (first year)

The regulations say:

Candidates shall offer:

either

(i) Papers MES.1 and MES.2;
(ii) one paper chosen from MES.6-7;
(iii) one further paper chosen from MES.3-7 and X.1-2.

or

(i) two papers chosen from MES.3-5;
(ii) one paper chosen from MES.6-7;
(iii) one further paper chosen from MES.6-7 and X.1-2.

Candidates offering any of papers MES.2, MES.3, and MES.5 shall also offer an oral examination associated with that paper and under conditions set out by the Faculty Board from time to time. Candidates offering two of these papers shall offer two oral examinations.

There is a visual representation of this below. It must be read in conjunction with the information above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option 1</th>
<th>Option 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Both:</td>
<td>Two papers from:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MES.1</strong> Elementary Arabic Language A</td>
<td><strong>MES.3</strong> Elementary Persian Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td><strong>MES.4</strong> Elementary Hebrew Language A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MES.2</strong> Elementary Arabic Language B</td>
<td><strong>MES.5</strong> Elementary Hebrew Language B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Either:</td>
<td>Either:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MES.6</strong> Introduction to the history and culture of the Middle East</td>
<td><strong>MES.6</strong> Introduction to the history and culture of the Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MES.7</strong> Introduction to the contemporary Middle East</td>
<td><strong>MES.7</strong> Introduction to the contemporary Middle East</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

plus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One paper from:</th>
<th>One paper from:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MES.3</strong> Elementary Persian Language</td>
<td><strong>MES.6</strong> Introduction to the history and culture of the Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MES.4</strong> Elementary Hebrew Language A</td>
<td><strong>MES.7</strong> Introduction to the contemporary Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MES.5</strong> Elementary Hebrew Language B</td>
<td>X.1 Akkadian language I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.1 Akkadian language I</td>
<td>X.2 Egyptian language I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.2 Egyptian language I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Middle Eastern Studies Pathway

Part IB (second year)

The regulations say:

Provided that no more than two languages may be offered in total, candidates shall offer:

(i) one paper chosen from Papers MES.11-13;

(ii) either

(a) four further papers chosen from MES.11-20, AMES.1, X.3-8 and the additional papers announced by the Faculty Board under Regulation 8, providing that no more than two papers may be chosen (i) from papers MES.11-13, or (ii) from papers X.3-8 and that no candidate may offer both papers X.6 and X.7.

or  
(b) one paper from MES.1, MES.3-5, and three further papers chosen from MES.14-20, AMES.1, and X.3-5, X.8, and the additional papers announced by the Faculty Board under Regulation 8, providing that no more than two papers may be chosen from Papers X.3-5, X.8 and that no paper previously offered in Part IA may be offered in Part IB.

Candidates offering any of Papers MES.3, 5, 11-13 shall also offer an oral examination associated with that paper and under conditions set out by the Faculty Board from time to time. Candidates offering two of the papers shall offer two oral examinations.

* Paper X.6 can only be taken at Part IB if a candidate has taken paper X.1 at Part IA

* Paper X.7 can only be taken at Part IB if a candidate has taken paper X.2 at Part IA

There is a visual representation of this below. The representation must be read in conjunction with all the information above.

---

**Option (ii)(a)**

**One paper from:**

**MES.11** Intermediate Arabic Language  
**MES.12** Intermediate Persian Language  
**MES.13** Intermediate Hebrew Language  
plus  
**Four papers from:**

**MES.11** Intermediate Arabic Language  
**MES.12** Intermediate Persian Language  
**MES.13** Intermediate Hebrew Language  
**MES.14** Intermediate Literary Arabic  
**MES.15** Intermediate Literary Persian  
**MES.16** Hebrew Literature/Culture  
**MES.17** The formation of Islam  
**MES.18** Topics in Hebrew studies  
**MES.19** Formation of the modern Middle East  
**MES.20** Themes in the Anthropology of Islam  
**MES.21** Elementary Hindi Language  
**AMES.1** Cinema East  
**X.3 to X.8**

---

**Option (ii)(b)**

**One paper from:**

**MES.11** Intermediate Arabic Language  
**MES.12** Intermediate Persian Language  
**MES.13** Intermediate Hebrew Language  
plus  
**One paper from:**

**MES.1** Elementary Arabic Language A  
**MES.3** Elementary Persian Language  
**MES.4** Elementary Hebrew Language A  
**MES.5** Elementary Hebrew Language B  
plus  
**Three papers from:**

**MES.14** Intermediate Literary Arabic  
**MES.15** Intermediate Literary Persian  
**MES.16** Hebrew Literature/Culture  
**MES.17** Formation of Islam  
**MES.18** Topics in Hebrew studies  
**MES.19** Formation of the modern Middle East  
**MES.20** Themes in the Anthropology of Islam  
**MES.21** Elementary Hindi Language  
**AMES.1** Cinema East  
**X.3 to X.5 and X.8**
**Middle Eastern Studies Pathway: Part II (fourth year)**

The regulations say:

**Provided that no more than two languages may be offered in total,** candidates shall offer:

(i) One paper chosen from Papers MES.31-33;

(ii) *either* (a) three further papers chosen from MES.31-36 and the additional papers announced by the Faculty Board under Regulation 8, providing that no more than two papers may be chosen (i) from MES.31-33 or (ii) from those papers offered by other Faculties.

*or* (b) one paper chosen from MES.11-13 and two papers chosen from MES.34-36 and the additional papers announced by the Faculty Board under Regulation 8, providing that (i) no more than two papers may be chosen from those papers offered by other Faculties; and (ii) that no paper previously offered in Part IB may be offered in Part II.

(iii) a dissertation, under conditions set out in Regulation 23.

Candidates offering any of Papers MES.11-13, 31-33 shall also offer an oral examination associated with that paper and under conditions set out by the Faculty Board from time to time. Candidates offering two of the papers shall offer two oral examinations.

There is a visual representation of this on the next page. The representation must be read in conjunction with all the information above.
Part II (fourth year)

Option (ii)(a)
One paper from:
MES.31 Advanced Arabic Language
MES.32 Advanced Persian Language
MES.33 Advanced Hebrew Language

plus

Three of the following papers:
MES.31 Advanced Arabic Language
MES.32 Advanced Persian Language
MES.33 Advanced Hebrew Language
MES.34 Advanced Literary Arabic
MES.35 Advanced Literary Persian
MES.36 Advanced Literary Hebrew
MES.37 History of the pre-modern Middle East
MES.38 History of the modern Middle East
MES.39 Special subject in the pre-modern Middle East
MES.40 Special subject in the contemporary Middle East
MES.41 Comparative Semitic Linguistics
MES.42 Elementary Sanskrit
MES.43 Intermediate Hindi Language
MES.44 Economy/Culture in the Middle East and Beyond
X.9  X.11  X.15

plus

Dissertation

Option (ii)(b)
One paper from:
MES.31 Advanced Arabic Language
MES.32 Advanced Persian Language
MES.33 Advanced Hebrew Language

plus

One paper from:
MES.11 Intermediate Arabic Language
MES.12 Intermediate Persian Language
MES.13 Intermediate Hebrew Language

plus

Two papers from:
MES.34 Advanced Literary Arabic
MES.35 Advanced Literary Persian
MES.36 Advanced Literary Hebrew
MES.37 History of the pre-modern Middle East
MES.38 History of the modern Middle East
MES.39 Special subject in the pre-modern Middle East
MES.40 Special subject in the contemporary Middle East
MES.41 Comparative Semitic Linguistics
MES.42 Elementary Sanskrit
MES.43 Intermediate Hindi Language
MES.44 Economy/Culture in the Middle East and Beyond
X.9  X.11  X.15

plus

Dissertation