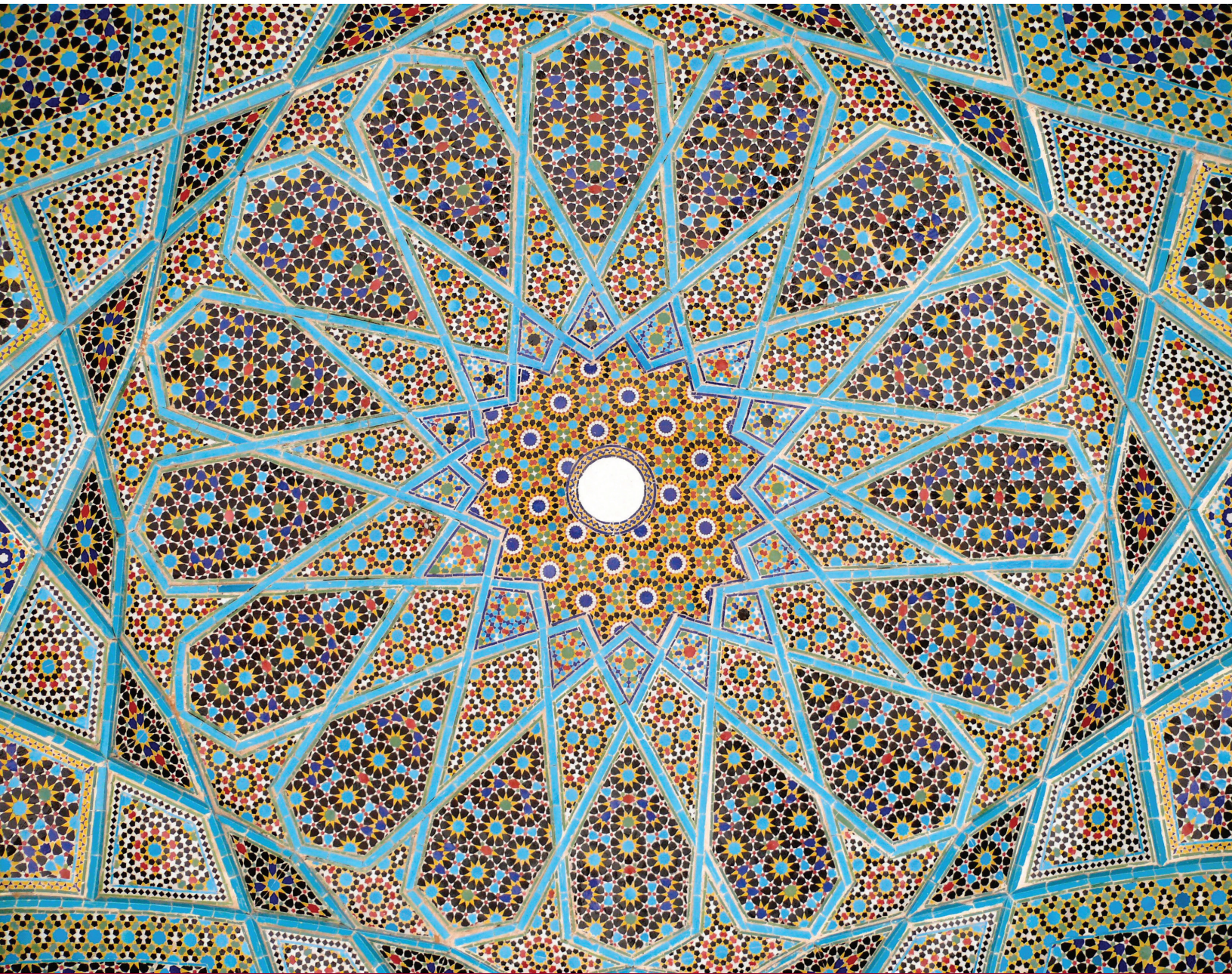




BOSTON COLLEGE

Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences



GRADUATE PROGRAM

Middle Eastern Studies

WELCOME TO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

The graduate program in Middle Eastern Studies offers an interdepartmental, interdisciplinary curriculum designed for students who wish to acquire a broad background in Middle Eastern history, cultures, and politics. The program seeks to prepare candidates for a variety of post-graduate opportunities in diplomacy, human rights, government, and public service, business, media, non-governmental organizations, and cultural institutions in the United States and abroad. Graduate students contribute to the intellectual life of the Boston College community and are encouraged to participate in colloquia and conversations across the University.

The master’s program in Middle Eastern Studies (MES) offers two areas of focus: Politics and International Relations, and Religion, Culture and Society. Students have considerable flexibility in designing their programs of study and have access to resources of all relevant departments, such as Fine Arts, Music, History, Political Science, Slavic and Eastern Languages and Literatures, Theology, and other departments of

the University. In addition to the wide range of courses offered within the MES program and its affiliated departments at Boston College, students have the opportunity to utilize the resources of the outstanding network of scholars in the Boston area, including those of our Boston Area Consortium partners at Boston University, Tufts University, and Brandeis University.

The Middle Eastern Studies program admits about 10 students a year—a number small enough to allow for personal attention, close contacts with the faculty, and an environment of collegiality, as well as small class sizes. Graduate students are encouraged to attend extra-curricular events, such as our lecture series, alumni networking workshops, and informal discussions. Program faculty, with the assistance of the Office of International Programs, direct students toward opportunities for language immersion, internships abroad, and other invaluable opportunities for professional development outside the classroom.

You are most welcome to visit the Boston College campus to learn more about the Middle Eastern Studies program. We hope you will consider joining our thriving intellectual community.

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

PROGRAM OF STUDY

M.A. Program

REQUIREMENTS

The M.A. in Middle Eastern Studies is a two-year interdisciplinary program. Students are required to take 10 courses (30 credits). If a student chooses to write a thesis, eight courses of study are required and the written comprehensive examination is waived. As a general introduction to the field, all students are required to take a yearlong proseminar, the History, Culture, and Politics of the Middle East. Students in the program may focus their remaining coursework in one of the two areas of concentration. Students are required to demonstrate an intermediate level of competency in at least one Middle Eastern language: Arabic, Persian, Turkish, or Hebrew.

FACULTY PROFILES

MARSIN ALSHAMARY

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Religion and politics in the Middle East
- Civil society in Iraq
- Women and politics in Iraq

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ "Iraqi Elections 2021: Independents and New Political Parties." The Konrad Adenauer Foundation, 2022.
- ❖ "Post-war Development of Civil Society in Iraq's Mid-Euphrates Region." The Brookings Institution, 2022.
- ❖ "Religious Peacebuilding in Iraq: Prospects and Challenges from the Hawza." *The Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding* (2021).
- ❖ "Reimagining the Hawza and the State." *POMEPS Studies* 35 (2019).

KATHLEEN BAILEY

Professor of the Practice

Ph.D., Boston College

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Central Asian politics
- Russian politics
- Balkans
- Politics in the Middle East
- Women in the Middle East

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ *Politics and Clan: The Case of Uzbekistan*. Frank Cass Publishers (forthcoming).
- ❖ Ed., "Central Asia and Afghanistan." In *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Islam*. Oxford University Press, 2015.
- ❖ "The Plight of Women in the USSR." *Journal of Women's Studies* (Spring 1989).

BENJAMIN BRAUDE

Associate Professor

Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Race and the construction of collective identities in the Middle East and Europe
- Ottoman history
- Jewish history

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ "Cham et Noé. Race, esclavage et exégèse entre Islam, Judaïsme, et Christianisme." *Annales. Histoire, Sciences Sociales* (2002).
- ❖ "The Myth of the Sefardi Economic Superman." In *Trading Cultures: The Worlds of Western Merchants Essays on Authority, Objectivity and Evidence*, eds. J. Adelman and S. Aron. David Brown Book Company, 2001.
- ❖ Co-ed., *Christians and Jews in the Ottoman Empire, The Functioning of a Plural Society: Volume I: The Central Lands; Volume II: The Arabic-Speaking Lands*. Holmes & Meier, 1982.

FACULTY PROFILES

NATANA J. DELONG-BAS

Assistant Professor of the Practice

Ph.D., Georgetown University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Modern and contemporary Islamic thought and practice
- Saudi Arabia and the Arabian Gulf countries
- Islamic-Christian relations
- Women and gender
- Comparative religious extremism (Islam and Christianity)
- Islamic law
- Religion and sustainability (Islam and Christianity)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ Co-author, *Shariah: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford University Press, 2018.
- ❖ Ed., *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Islam and Women*. Oxford University Press (2 vols.), 2013.
- ❖ *Wahhabi Islam: From Revival and Reform to Global Jihad*. Oxford University Press, 2008.
- ❖ *Notable Muslims: Muslim Builders of World Civilization and Culture*. Oxford/OneWorld, 2008.
- ❖ Co-author, *Women in Muslim Family Law*. Syracuse University Press, 2001.

DAVID M. DIPASQUALE

Associate Professor of the Practice

Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Islamic political thought
- Medieval Islamic, Jewish, and Christian philosophy
- Alfarabi
- The transmission of Greek science to the Muslim world
- Islam and the West

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ "Al-Fārābī." In *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Religion*, eds. S. Goetz and C. Taliaferro. Wiley & Sons, 2021.
- ❖ *Alfarabi's Book of Dialectic (Kitāb al-Jadal): On the Starting Point of Islamic Philosophy*. Cambridge University Press, 2019.
- ❖ "Averroes: Abu al-Walid Muhammad ibn Ahmad ibn Muhammad ibn Rushd." In *The Encyclopedia of Political Thought*, ed. M. Gibbons. Wiley-Blackwell, 2014.
- ❖ "The End of Aristotle's Topics and the Beginning of Islamic Philosophy." In *La lumière de l'intellect: La pensée scientifique et philosophique d'Averroès dans son temps*, ed. A. Hasnawi. Peeters, 2011.

EMINE FETVACI

Norma Jean Calderwood University Professor in Islamic and Asian Art

Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Islamic art and architecture
- Painting and arts of the book
- Ottoman, Safavid and Mughal art and architecture
- Early modern courtly societies
- Artistic patronage and identity

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ *Nusretname: Bir Gazaname Yazmasının Sultani İhtişamı / Nusretname: Imperial Magnificence in a Gazaname Manuscript*. Mas Matbaa Publishing House (forthcoming).
- ❖ *The Album of the World Emperor: Cross-Cultural Collecting and the Art of Album Making in Seventeenth-Century Istanbul*. Princeton University Press, 2019.
- ❖ *Osmanlı Sarayında Tarih Yazımı* (Turkish translation of *Writing History at the Ottoman Court*). Tarih Vakfı Yurt Yayınları, 2014.
- ❖ *Picturing History at the Ottoman Court*. Indiana University Press, 2013.

ALI KADIVAR

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Comparative historical analysis
- Social movements
- Global sociology
- Middle East
- Iran

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ *Popular Politics and the Path to Durable Democracy*. Princeton University Press, 2022.
- ❖ "Revolution and Social Development in Iran." *Sociology of Development* (2022).
- ❖ "Electoral Activism in Iran: A Mechanism for Political Change." *Comparative Politics* (2020).
- ❖ "The Long March: Deep Democracy in Cross-National Perspective." *Social Forces* (2020).
- ❖ "Sticks, Stones and Molotov Cocktails: Unarmed Collective Violence and Democratization" (with N. Ketchley). *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* (2018).
- ❖ "Mass Mobilization and the Durability of New Democracies." *American Sociological Review* (2018).
- ❖ "Preelection Mobilization and Electoral Outcome in Authoritarian Regimes." *Mobilization: An International Quarterly* (2017).

PETER KRAUSE

Associate Professor

Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- International security
- Middle East politics
- Political violence
- National movements

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ Co-author, "Knowing is Half the Battle: How Education Decreases the Fear of Terrorism." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (2022).
- ❖ "The Strategies of Counter-Secession: How States Prevent Independence." *Nations and Nationalism* (2022).
- ❖ Co-author, "Blowback Operations as Rebel Strategy: How Sectarian Violence Spread from Syria into Lebanon 2013-2014." *Terrorism and Political Violence* (2022).
- ❖ Co-author, "COVID-19 and Fieldwork: Challenges and Solutions." *PS: Political Science and Politics* (2021).
- ❖ "You Can't Get There From Here: Biden Negotiating the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict." *Political Violence at a Glance* (2021).
- ❖ Co-ed., *Stories From the Field: A Guide to Navigating Fieldwork in Political Science*. Columbia University Press, 2020.
- ❖ Co-author, "It Comes with the Territory: Why States Negotiate with Ethnopolitical Organizations." *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* (2019).
- ❖ *Rebel Power: Why National Movements Compete, Fight and Win*. Cornell University Press, 2018.
- ❖ "The Structure of Success: How the Internal Distribution of Power Drives Armed Group Behavior and National Movement Effectiveness." *International Security* (Winter 2013/2014).
- ❖ "The Political Effectiveness of Non-State Violence: A Two-Level Framework to Transform a Deceptive Debate." *Security Studies* (Summer 2013).
- ❖ Co-author, "Intervention in Syria: Reconciling Moral Premises and Realistic Outcomes." *Middle East Brief* (2012).

JONATHAN LAURENCE

Professor

Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Western European politics
- North African politics
- Turkish politics

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ *Coping with Defeat: Sunni Islam, Roman Catholicism and the Modern State*. Princeton University Press, 2021.
- ❖ "Wie der Salafismus in unsere Welt kam." *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* (2016).
- ❖ "Laïcité without Égalité?" *Foreign Affairs* (2015).
- ❖ "Tunisia, The Courage of Compromise." *Reset Dialogue of Civilizations* (2015).
- ❖ "The Algerian Legacy, How France Confronts its Past." *Foreign Affairs* (2015).
- ❖ "The 21st Century Impact of European Muslim Minorities on 'Official Islam' in the Muslim-majority World." *Philosophy and Social Criticism* (Summer 2014).
- ❖ "Muslims and Social Democrats." *Dissent* (Fall 2013).
- ❖ *The Emancipation of Europe's Muslims: The State's Role in Minority Integration*. Princeton University Press, 2012.
- ❖ Co-author, *Integrating Islam: Political and Religious Challenges in Contemporary France*. Brookings Press, 2006.

ANN LUCAS

Associate Professor

Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Ethnomusicology
- Iranian folk music
- Relationship between cultural upheaval and musical change

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ "Ancient Music, Modern Myth: Persian Music and the Pursuit of Methodology in Historical Ethnomusicology." In *Theory and Method in Historical Ethnomusicology*, eds. J. McCollum et al. Lexington Books, 2014.
- ❖ "The Creation of Iranian Music in the Age of Steam and Print, c. 1880-1914." In *Global Muslims in the Age of Steam and Print*, eds. J. Gelvin and N. Green. University of California Press, 2013.
- ❖ "Between Heaven and Hell: The Relationship Between Music and Islam in Persian and Sufi Treaties, c. 1040-1800." *Asian Music Journal* (2012).

FACULTY PROFILES

DANA SAJDI

Associate Professor

Ph.D., Columbia University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Pre-modern Middle Eastern history
- Popular and learned literary cultures
- Historiography
- Literary topographies and urban history
- Book history

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ “In Other Worlds? Mapping Out the Spatial Imaginaries of 18th-Century Chroniclers from the Ottoman Levant.” In *The Journal of Ottoman Studies*, ed. V. Aksan. Ondokuz Mayıs University, 2014.
- ❖ *The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Levant* (translated into Arabic and Turkish). Stanford University Press, 2013.
- ❖ “Print and its Discontents: A Case for Pre-Print Journalism and Other Sundry Print Matters.” *The Translator* (2009) [Special Issue: “Nation and Translation in the Middle East,” ed. S. Selim].
- ❖ “Re-Visiting Layla’s al-Akhyaliyya’s Trespass.” In *Transforming Loss into Beauty: Essays on Arabic Literature and Culture in Memory of Magda Al-Nowaihi*. American University in Cairo Press, 2008.
- ❖ Ed., *Ottoman Tulips, Ottoman Coffee: Leisure and Lifestyles in the 18th Century*. IB Taurus, 2008.

FRANCK SALAMEH

Associate Professor

Ph.D., Brandeis University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Near Eastern history
- History of ideas and political thought in the modern Middle East
- Minorities, language, and identity formation
- Arabic language pedagogy, conflict, and planning
- Politics of language and pluralism

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ *Lebanon’s Jewish Community; Fragments of Lives Arrested*. Palgrave-Macmillan, 2019.
- ❖ “A Man for Others; The Life and Times of Lebanese Jesuit Henri Lammens (1862-1937).” *The Journal of the Middle East and Africa* (2018).
- ❖ *The Other Middle East; An Anthology of Levantine Literature*. Yale University Press, 2018.
- ❖ *Charles Corm: An Intellectual Biography of a Twentieth Century “Young Phoenician.”* Lexington Books, 2015.
- ❖ “Adonis, the Syrian Crisis, and the Question of Pluralism in the Levant.” *Bustan: The Middle East Book Review* (Spring 2012).
- ❖ *Language Memory and Identity in the Middle East; The Case for Lebanon*. Lexington Books, 2010.

MATT SIENKIEWICZ

Associate Professor

Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Global cinema and television
- Middle Eastern media cultures
- Comedy studies
- Representation of race and religion

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ “The Carnival’s Edge: Charlie Hebdo and Theories of Comedy.” *Jewish History* (2018).
- ❖ *The Other Air Force: America’s Efforts to Reshape the Post 9/11 Middle East Through Broadcast Media*. Rutgers University Press, 2016.
- ❖ “The Spotlight and the Shadows: Israeli Film Distribution and the Global Festival Circuit.” *Film Festival Yearbook* (2014).
- ❖ “Here to Help? Western Intervention and Gender in the Palestinian Public Sphere.” *International Journal of Cultural Studies* (2013).
- ❖ “Straight News from the Citizens Of Syria: How Reporters Sort, Organize—and Verify—a Flood of Information from a Chaotic Civil War.” *Columbia Journalism Review* (2012).

PETER SKERRY

Professor

Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Racial and ethnic politics
- Immigration policy

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ “Why ‘Black Lives Matter’ Matters.” *National Affairs* (2021).
- ❖ “Puritans’ Progress: Lawrence Mead and the Question of American Culture.” *The Hedgehog Review* (2021).
- ❖ “Regaining Control.” *The American Interest* (2020).
- ❖ “Will the Real Populists Please Stand Up or Perhaps Sit Down and Chill.” *The American Interest* (2019).
- ❖ “Explaining the Indefensible.” *The American Interest* (2018).

JASON WELLE

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Georgetown University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Comparative theology: Islam and Christianity
- Sufism
- Interreligious dialogue

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ Co-translated, "Treatises on the Sufi Path, by Abū'Abd al-Rahmān al-Sulamī." *Islamic Texts Society*, 2023.
- ❖ "Didactics of Blame and Tactics to Tame: al-Sulamī's 'Uyūb al-nafs wa-mudāwātuhā." In *Key Classical Works in Islamic Ethics*, ed. M.A. Al-Khatib. Brill, 2022.
- ❖ "Mind the Gap: The Spiritual Progress of Early Sufi Women." In *Les enjeux de l'écriture mystique*, ed. N. Khalfallah and A. El Aloui. Éditions des archives contemporaines, 2020.

COURSES

The combined and varied interests of the faculty, as indicated in the faculty profiles, ensure that the department offers a wide range of graduate course electives. While the number and content of the graduate electives vary from year to year, the following courses are illustrative of the range offered.

FALL 2024

Islamic Civilizations	DiPasquale
Social Movements in the Middle East	Kadivar
Anatomy of Dictatorship	Bailey
Religion-State Relations in the Modern Middle East	Alshamary
History and Historiography of the Arab-Israeli Conflict	Sajdi
Islam in Europe	Laurence
Terrorism and Political Violence	Krause
International Relations of the Middle East	Krause

SPRING 2025

Politics and Society in the Middle East	Delong-bas
Jews and Islamic Civilization	Braude
The Political Philosophy of Alfarabi	DiPasquale
Christianity and Islam in Dialogue	Welle
Language, Memory and Identity in the Middle East	Salameh
Comparative Politics of the Middle East	Bailey
Women and Gender in Islam	DeLong-Bas
Politics of Middle Eastern Art	Al-Qasemi

MORRISSEY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

The oldest and largest of the University's eight schools and colleges, the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences offers graduate programs in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, leading to the degrees of Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Arts, and Master of Science. In addition, numerous dual-degree options are offered in cooperation with the Carroll School of Management, the Boston College Law School, the Lynch School of Education and Human Development, and the School of Social Work.

With approximately 900 graduate students and more than 500 full-time faculty, the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences is small enough to know you as a person, but large enough to serve you and prepare you for a rewarding life and satisfying career.

Academic Resources

BOSTON AREA CONSORTIUM

The Boston Area Consortium allows graduate students to cross-register for courses at Boston University, Brandeis University, and Tufts University.

BOSTON COLLEGE LIBRARIES

The University is home to eight libraries, containing nearly 3 million volumes; more than 700 manuscript collections, including music, photos, art, and artifacts; 625,000 e-books; and more than 600 electronic databases. O'Neill Library, Boston College's main library, offers subject-specialist librarians to help with research, to set up alerts to publications in areas of interest and to answer any research- and library-related questions.

THE BOSTON LIBRARY CONSORTIUM

The Boston Library Consortium allows Boston College students access to millions of volumes and other services at 19 area institutions in addition to the world-class resources available through the Boston College Library System.

THE GRADUATE CONSORTIUM IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

The Graduate Consortium in Women's Studies (GCWS) brings together scholars and teachers at nine degree-granting institutions in the Boston area: Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, Simmons University, Tufts University, and the University of Massachusetts Boston. The GCWS is devoted to graduate teaching and research in Women's Studies and to advancing interdisciplinary Women's Studies scholarship. Students can engage in the community and cross-disciplinary study promoted by the GCWS in myriad ways. Through courses, attending events, and organizing conferences, these initiatives provide a learning environment unlike any other.

STUDENT LIFE AND CAMPUS RESOURCES

Boston College is located on the edge of one of the world's most vibrant cities. Just six miles from downtown Boston—an exciting and dynamic place to live and learn—Boston College is an easy car or “T” ride away from a booming center for trade, finance, research, and education.

Home to some of New England's most prestigious cultural landmarks, including the Museum of Fine Arts, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston Symphony Hall, and the Freedom Trail, Boston provides a rich environment for those passionate about art, music and history. For sports fans, Boston hosts a number of the country's greatest sports teams: the Celtics, Patriots, Bruins, and, of course, Fenway Park's beloved Red Sox. Found within a short drive from Boston are some of New England's best recreational sites, from the excellent skiing in New Hampshire to the pristine beaches of Cape Cod.

Boston also offers a wide range of family friendly attractions, including the Children's Museum, New England Aquarium, Franklin Park Zoo, and the Museum of Science. There are roughly 50 universities located in the Boston area, and the large student population adds to the city's intellectually rich and diverse community. Events, lectures and reading groups hosted by world-renowned scholars abound on area campuses, providing abundant opportunities to meet and network with other graduate students and faculty throughout the Boston area.

The University

Boston College is a Jesuit university with 15,000 students, 880 full-time faculty, and more than 190,000 active alumni. Since its founding in 1863, the University has known extraordinary growth and change. From its beginnings as a small Jesuit college intended to provide higher education for Boston's largely immigrant Catholic population, Boston College has grown into a national institution of higher learning that is consistently ranked among the top universities in the nation. Boston College is ranked 36th among national universities by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Today, Boston College attracts scholars from all 50 states and over 80 countries, and confers more than 4,300 degrees annually in more than 50 fields through its eight schools and colleges. Its faculty members are committed to both teaching and research and have set new marks for research grants in each of the last 10 years. The University is committed to academic excellence. As part of its most recent strategic plan, Boston College is in the process of adding 100 new faculty positions, expanding faculty and graduate research, increasing student financial aid, and widening opportunities in key undergraduate and graduate programs.

The University is comprised of the following colleges and schools: Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences, Carroll School of Management, Connell School of Nursing, Lynch School of Education and Human Development, Woods College of Advancing Studies, Boston College Law School, School of Social Work, and Clough School of Theology and Ministry.

General Resources

HOUSING

While on-campus housing is not available for graduate students, most choose to live in nearby apartments. The Office of Residential Life maintains an extensive database with available rental listings, roommates, and helpful local real estate agents. The best time to look for fall semester housing is June through the end of August. For spring semester housing, the best time to look is late November through the beginning of the second semester. Additionally, some graduate students may live on campus

STUDENT LIFE AND CAMPUS RESOURCES

as resident assistants. Interested students should contact the Office of Residential Life.

JOHN COURTNEY MURRAY, S.J., GRADUATE STUDENT CENTER

One of only a handful of graduate student centers around the country, the Murray Graduate Student Center is dedicated to the support and enrichment of graduate student life at Boston College. Its primary purpose is to build a sense of community among the entire graduate student population and cultivate a sense of belonging to the University as a whole. Its amenities include study rooms, a computer lab, two smart televisions, kitchen, deck and patio space, complimentary coffee and tea, and more. Throughout the year, the center hosts programs organized by the Office of Graduate Student Life and graduate student groups. The Murray Graduate Student Center also maintains an active job board (available electronically), listing academic and non-academic opportunities for employment both on and off campus.

MCMULLEN MUSEUM OF ART

Serving as a dynamic educational resource for the national and international community, the McMullen Museum of Art showcases interdisciplinary exhibitions that ask innovative questions and break new ground in the display and scholarship of the works on view. The McMullen regularly offers exhibition-related programs, including musical and theatrical performances, films, gallery talks, symposia, lectures, readings, and receptions that draw students, faculty, alumni, and friends together for stimulating dialogue. Located on the Brighton campus, the McMullen Museum is free to all visitors.

CONNORS FAMILY LEARNING CENTER

Working closely with the Graduate School, the Connors Family Learning Center sponsors seminars, workshops, and discussions for graduate teaching assistants and teaching fellows on strategies for improving teaching effectiveness and student learning. Each fall, the Learning Center and the Graduate School hold a one-and-a-half day “Fall Teaching Orientation” workshop

designed to help students prepare for teaching. The center also hosts ongoing seminars on college teaching, higher learning and academic life; assists graduate students in developing teaching portfolios; and provides class visits and teaching consultations, upon request. Through these and other activities, the Connors Family Learning Center plays an important role in enhancing the quality of academic life at Boston College.

MARGOT CONNELL RECREATION CENTER

The Margot Connell Recreation Center redefines the future of fitness and recreation at Boston College. The 244,000-square-foot, four-story structure offers our community an inspired space to play, pursue sports, gather with friends, and work out. This facility includes a fitness center, rock climbing wall, jogging track, aquatics center, wood-floor basketball courts, tennis courts, multi-activity courts, multi-purpose rooms for spin, yoga, and fitness classes, and so much more.

BOSTON COLLEGE CAREER CENTER

The Boston College Career Center works with graduate students at each step of their career development. Services include self-assessment, career counseling, various career development workshops, resume and cover letter critiques, and practice interviews. In addition to extensive workshop offerings, Career Center staff members are available throughout the year for one-on-one advising about any aspect of the career path. The Career Resource Library offers a wealth of resources, including books, periodicals, and online databases.

ADMISSION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The application deadline for fall admission is February 1 for the M.A. program in Middle Eastern Studies. Please visit bc.edu/gsas for detailed information on how to apply.

Application requirements Include:

❖ Application Form:	Submitted online, via the MCGS website.
❖ Application Fee:	\$75, non-refundable.
❖ Abstract of Courses Form:	A concise overview of background and related courses completed in an intended field or proposed area of study.
❖ Official Transcripts:	Demonstrating coursework completed/degree conferral from all post-secondary institutions attended.
❖ GRE General Test:	Official score report (optional).
❖ Three Letters of Recommendation:	From professors or supervisors. It is highly advisable that at least one letter be from an academic source.
❖ Statement of Purpose:	A brief (1–2 page) discussion of an applicant's preparation, motivation, and goals for their proposed course of study.
❖ Writing Sample:	A sample of an applicant's best work (usually a course paper or equivalent) related to their proposed field of study.
❖ Proof of English Proficiency: (international only)	Official TOEFL/IELTS reports accepted.

Financial Assistance

FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID

Graduate students can apply for federal financial aid using the FAFSA. The loans that may be available to graduate students are the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan and Perkins Loan, based on eligibility. If additional funds are needed, student may apply for a Grad Plus Loan. For more information, see the Graduate Financial Aid website www.bc.edu/gradaid or contact the Graduate Financial Aid Office at 617-552-3300 or 800-294-0294.

OFFICE FOR SPONSORED PROGRAMS

The Office for Sponsored Programs (OSP) assists both faculty and graduate students in finding sources of external funding for their projects and provides advice in the development of proposals. OSP maintains a reference library of publications from both public and private sectors listing funding sources for sponsored projects. In the recent past, graduate students have received research support from prominent agencies, corporations and organizations such as the Fulbright Commission, the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the American Political Science Association, the American Chemical Society, and the American Association of University Women.

BOSTON COLLEGE

Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences

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