



University of
TEHRAN

About the prospectus

This prospectus is for prospective students interested in applying for the two-year postgraduate taught Masters program in Middle East Studies at the Department of Regional Studies (DRS), Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Tehran.

It introduces the Faculty of Law and Political Science, including its facilities and information on how to apply for the Middle East Studies program for Fall 2021.



Welcome to DRS

The Faculty of Law and Political Science (FLPS), University of Tehran, provides a nurturing environment for innovative learning, training and research to ensure it combines the latest world-leading research into its programs. As one of the Middle East's leading regional studies departments, the Department of Regional Studies (DRS), at the Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Tehran, welcomes postgraduate students from across the world.

Our students are taught by scholars and professors who are experts in their fields and whose knowledge is called on by governments, the private sector and media in Iran and across the Middle East. We pride ourselves on assisting our postgraduates to become independent researchers armed with the critical skills they need.

Our commitment to excellence in education, learning and research as well as objectivity in understanding developments around the world is uncompromising and lived out in practice every day in our classes, lectures and seminars.

The Department of Regional Studies (DRS) at the FLPS is commencing a new Middle East Studies program exclusively for non-Iranian students to put our valuable experience and expertise into practice. We believe that Middle East Studies needs a new approach and that regional developments should be seen from a neutral but scientific position.

For that aim, we welcome diverse students who have the desire and ability to bring new insights that shift our understanding of the region around us to join our community and be part of a friendly, international group of students with interests in the culture, politics and history of the Middle East. We offer the opportunity to develop a deep and thorough knowledge of the diversity of the Middle East.



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The Middle East Studies MA Program will help students acquire a better understanding of the political, economic and cultural developments of the region. It will also provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to put regional events in a global context. This will enable students to examine how the Middle East affects the political, economic, and social dynamics of the world.



About the FLPS

The Faculty of Law and Political Science (FLPS) at the University of Tehran is one of the oldest institutions of higher education in Iran. It was initially established as the School of Politics in 1899 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Later in 1926 it was joined by the school of Law (est. 1919) and in 1930 by the School of Commerce (est. 1925) and in 1934 the School of Law, Politics, and Commerce became a part of the University of Tehran as the Faculty of Law, Political Science, and Economics.

After the formation of the Faculty of Economics in 1961, it was renamed the Faculty of Law and Political Science.

The Faculty is known to be the most prestigious faculty of law and political science in Iran and has trained most of the country's prominent lawyers, judges, diplomats, and civil servants, many of whom have been very influential in the political life and the judicial system of the country. Alumni include high-ranking politicians and statesmen as well as high-profile legal scholars who have engineered the legal developments of modern Iran.

The Faculty offers two undergraduate programs in Law and Political Science. Over time, it has developed graduate programs in Criminal Law and Criminology, Islamic and Civil Law, Public Law, Political Science, and International Relations. More recently, Regional Studies, Public Policy, Human Rights, Intellectual Property Rights, International Trade and Economic Law, Oil and Gas Law as well as Medical Law

The Middle East as a dynamic region has attracted the attention of many scholars from various disciplines for decades. Both its history and its current condition can be regarded as a test for different sociological, political, and IR theories. Having the experience of living in an important country of the region gives one a better understanding and the ability to apply theoretical knowledge to the realities of the region in a more accurate way.

Homeira Moshirzadeh

Associate Professor

Department of International Relations

Assistant Dean for International Affairs

and Aviation Law have been added to the existing programs.

Faculty members are actively involved in teaching, research, and supervising theses and dissertations. Faculty members are also pioneers in the publication of scholarly books and articles, and are active in various legal and political research institutes affiliated with the Faculty.

The Faculty admits the most talented students at the BA, MA, LL.B., LL.M., and Ph.D. levels and prepares them for a dynamic and competitive job market.

Facilities in the FLPS

Research Centers

- Center for Graduate International Studies (CGIS), established in 1965
- Institute of Criminal Science and Criminology (ICSC), established in 1966
- Institute of Comparative Law (ICL), established in 1974
- Institute for Public Law Studies, established in 2006
- Center for Central Eurasian Studies, established in 2017 (Formerly Eurasia Program established in 2005)
- Public Policy Studies Institute
- Center for Energy Law Studies

Journals

1. Central Eurasia Studies
2. Iran and Central Eurasia Studies
3. Comparative Law Review
4. Law Quarterly
5. Political Quarterly
6. Public Law Studies Quarterly
7. Public Policy
8. Quarterly of Criminal Law and Criminology Studies

Educational and Research Facilities

■ Libraries

1. Main Library

Language	Books (volumes)	Journals (titles)
Persian	54,790	120
English	34,000	72
French	25,130	16
Arabic	33,640	-

2. CGIS Library with more than 40,000 books and dozens of journal titles
3. IICL Library with more than 60,000 books and dozens of journal titles
4. UN Depository Library including thousands of UN Documents

■ Auditorium

Sheik Morteza Ansari Hall with a capacity of 250



About DRS

Regional Studies academic programs have gained increasing importance in the last half-century at universities and research centers around the world. Regional Studies, as a subdiscipline of political science, is one of the most practical programs of this field.

In Iran, the regional studies MA program was initially established in 2001 as a subfield of the International Relations program at the University of Tehran's Faculty of Law and Political Science. In 2007, with the formation of the Department of Regional Studies, the academic program was formally and independently established. The department is the first regional studies department in Iran.

MA Programs

- Middle East and North African Studies
(in English)
- North American Studies
- Middle East Studies
- European Studies
- Central Asia and Caucasian Studies
- Southeast Asian Studies

Iran is situated at the center of the new Middle East, while the University of Tehran, as the nation's first and the oldest modern university over the years, ranked as one of the most prestigious universities in the Middle East. A master's degree in the Middle Eastern Studies focus exclusively on West Asia and North Africa. If you're interested in pursuing an MA in the Middle East studies, then start searching online right now!

Seyed Mohammad Houshisadat

Assistant Professor, Regional Studies Department

Ph.D. Programs

- Middle East and North African Studies
- North American Studies
- European Studies
- Central Asia and Caucasian Studies

About the Middle East Studies MA Program (in English)

The two-year postgraduate taught (Masters) in Middle East Studies is an excellent opportunity to expand and deepen your knowledge of the Middle East and gain an advantage in your chosen career. The two-year program in English is exclusively for non-Iranian students who are interested in Middle East Studies. This program will give you access to distinguished Iranian professors and experts with diverse and insightful perspectives. The main purpose of the newly-established Middle East Studies program is to provide a path to better understand the region.

Please note that due to coronavirus there will be no face-to-face lectures at the University of Tehran over the course of the next academic semester and lectures will be available to students online. The University of Tehran will review the decision if advice on social distancing changes.

For queries or to apply for admission to the Middle East Studies Program, please contact mames.lawpol@ut.ac.ir

or visit

<https://lawpol.ut.ac.ir/en/admission>.



Professors in the Middle East Studies Program

Faculty Members



Elaheh Koolaee

Professor at the faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Tehran. She is currently director of The Center for Central Eurasia Studies and chair of the Iranian Regional Studies Association. She was a visiting professor at East Carolina University (USA) in 2012.

“Because of its global credibility, I chose the University of Tehran to continue my graduate studies. Before enrolment in the Faculty of Law and Political Science at the University of Tehran, I reviewed the CVs of its scholars and professors and I understood that they studied in top universities in Iran and in the world and have published valuable and highly-cited monographs and academic articles. All in all, I am quite satisfied with my decision.”

Merve Kaya (from Turkey)

PhD student in Middle East Studies

Professor Koolaee has written many books and articles about Central Eurasia, Iran’s Foreign Policy and women issues. She was a member of Iran’s Islamic Parliament (1999-2003) leading the Iran-Russia Parliamentary Friendship Group and was a spokesperson of the National Security and Foreign Affairs Commission.



Hamed Mousavi

Assistant professor at the Department of Regional Studies, Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Tehran. Prior to that, he was an adjunct professor at the Faculty of Political Science, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. His research interests include international security, US foreign policy, Israeli foreign policy and Middle East politics. He is currently writing a book on the role of ideology in Israeli foreign policy. Dr. Mousavi regularly appears as a political analyst on various news channels including CNN, BBC, Aljazeera, CGTN and RT.



Seyed Mohammad Houshisadat

Assistant professor at the Department of Regional Studies, University of Tehran. He was a Research Scholar at the State University of New York, the United States of America, and the University of Toronto, Canada. He held his doctorate (PhD) in Middle East Politics from the Institute for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies at Durham University, England, in August 2013. He is the author of several scholarly books and academic articles both in English and Persian.



Mohammad Jamshidi

Assistant professor at the Department of Regional Studies, University of Tehran. His teachings, writings and research interest focus on U.S Foreign Policy especially regarding Middle East, U.S- Iran Relations, Iran's Foreign Policy and International Security. He is now focused on a new book on the US- Iran relations from Obama to Trump. He was the director of Foreign Policy at the Islamic Republic of Iran's Parliament Research Center from 2005 to 2012. He was a member of Iran's nuclear negotiating team from 2010 to 2013.



Seyed Hamzeh Safavi

Assistant professor at the faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Tehran. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Sociology from the Allameh Tabataba'i University and teaches PhD & M.A courses in Middle East Studies. He is a specialist in Iran's foreign policy, the relation between Middle East countries and politics and security in the Middle East. Dr. Safavi has authored several books on Islamic countries, including Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Egypt, Turkey, Pakistan, United Arab Emirates and Malaysia

Cross-Appointed Faculty Members



Homeira Moshirzadeh

Associate Professor at the Department of International Relations, University of Tehran. She is currently assistant dean for International Affairs, Faculty of Law and Political Science,

University of Tehran. Her main scholarly interests are IR theory, theories of social movements, and Women's Studies. She has published many books and articles in Farsi. Some of her articles have been published in English in *Security Dialogue*, *International Political Sociology*, *All Azimuth*, and *the Iranian Journal of International Affairs*. Her articles on IR theories, Iran's foreign policy, dialogue of civilizations, cultural studies, and Women's Studies have appeared in edited volumes in Persian and English.

“As an Iraqi national, I decided to continue graduate education in Middle East Studies so that in the future I could help resolve my country's problems and decrease tensions between Iran and Iraq, if any, through proposing practical and academic recommendations”

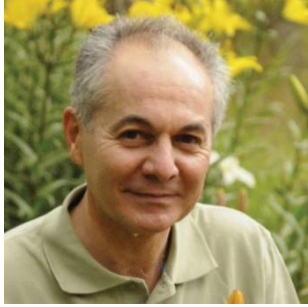
Masoumeh Abu-Haroun (Iraq)

MA in Middle East Studies



Saideh Lotfian

Professor of political science at the Faculty of Law and Political Science at the University of Tehran. She is the women's affairs adviser to the University of Tehran's Chancellor. She received her Ph.D. from Michigan State University in political science, and taught at the University of Iowa, TCU and Boston University from 1985 to 1991. Professor Lotfian has written on non- proliferation and nuclear disarmament in the Middle East, security of the Persian Gulf and Central Asia, foreign and defense policies of Iran.



Farhad Atai

Professor of regional studies at the Department of International Relations, Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Tehran. He received his Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies from UC Berkeley in 1992. Professor Atai was an honorary fellow at Harvard's Center for Middle Eastern Studies in 2000-2001. He has taught graduate courses and seminars on government and politics, history, and political economy of Central Asia, the Caucasus, and the Middle East regions. His recent works include "Turkey and Iran in Post-Soviet Central Asia" (Seoul, 2016), "Soviet Cultural Legacy in Tajikistan" (Oxford, 2012) and "The Energy Factor in Iran-Turkmenistan Relations" (Oxford, 2012).



Hamid Ahmadi

Professor of political science at the University of Tehran. He got his Ph.D. at Carleton University in 1995. He was a visiting professor of political science in Middle East technical University (METU) in Turkey (2003-2004) and a visiting professor of political science at Carleton University (2011-2012). Hamid Ahmadi's area of studies and research includes Middle Eastern and Iranian politics. His main area of research is ethnicity, nationalism and identity.



Ariabarzan Mohammadi

Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Tehran. He holds a Master in Middle East Studies (MA) and a Doctorate (PhD) in Middle East Studies from Durham University. He was a postdoctoral research fellow at Durham University, UK, from 2013 to 2017. Ariabarzan Mohammadi's research interests include Middle East Politics and the Middle East in the International System. He is the author of several academic articles on topics related to his area of research.



Middle East Studies Curriculum

The core modules include:

- Research Methods in Regional Studies
- Theories of International Relations, Globalization, & Regionalism
- Political Economy of the Middle East and North African
- History of Socio-Political Development in the Middle East and North Africa
- Government and Politics in the Middle East and North Africa
- The Middle East and North Africa Economic Issues
- Elementary Arabic
- Dissertation.

“The University of Tehran enjoys high prestige and standards and its certificates and degrees are valid in other universities across the world. Usually, Iran’s top and distinguished scholars in political science and international relations are teaching at the Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Tehran.”

Ahmad Haroun Najm-Pour

(Afghanistan)

PhD candidate in International Relations

The optional modules include:

- Relations between Iran and Middle Eastern and North African Countries
- Energy and Natural Resources Economics in the Middle East
- Regional Organizations of the Middle East and North Africa
- Culture, Nationality, and Identity in the Middle East and North Africa
- Middle Eastern and North African Security Environment
- The Political Geography of the Middle East and North Africa
- Seminar on the Current Developments of the Middle East and North Africa
- Advanced Arabic