



CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN AND NORTH AFRICAN STUDIES

Promoting a broader and deeper understanding of the region through research, education, and outreach programs

The Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies (CMENAS) at the University of Michigan is one of the nation's premier institutions for interdisciplinary research and training on the MENA region. With over 80 area specialists and growing undergraduate and M.A. programs, CMENAS brings to the university community an important perspective on this vitally important region of the world. CMENAS is one of three National Resource Centers at U-M, a prestigious designation earned in national peer-reviewed competitions and awarded by the U.S. Department of Education Title VI program. As a member of this program, CMENAS strives to develop the nation's capacities with regard to this region in international studies, area studies, foreign languages, and international business education.

The center's undergraduate major is an interdisciplinary program that incorporates faculty and courses from across LSA to give students a broad background of the MENA region, including history, language, and culture, to inform their understanding of past and present issues. The graduate program provides broad area and language training for academic or professional careers. CMENAS sponsors student groups, hosts workshops and lectures, supports visiting scholars, and provides a venue for artists and performers.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS

The very best way a student can gain a thorough knowledge of a language and a culture is to spend time studying abroad to experience full linguistic and cultural immersion. CMENAS seeks \$10,000 to \$50,000 annually to provide students with fellowships to support language study, research, workshops, and internship/collaborations in the region.

ENDOWED LANGUAGE LECTURESHIP IN TURKISH

The University of Michigan is among the very few institutions in the country that provide instruction in Turkish at the elementary, intermediate, and advanced level on a regular basis. Due to Congress's deep cuts to international education funding, including support for the less commonly taught languages such as Turkish, outside support is crucial to secure Michigan's role as a preeminent institution for the study of Turkey. An endowed lectureship of \$1M will ensure continuity for instruction in Turkish language in perpetuity.

NAMED ENDOWED CENTER

With increasingly limited funding from the Department of Education, the center's future may be in peril. An endowment of \$5M will ensure the center's ability to solidify and expand a wide variety of programs in perpetuity. Funds will support language instruction, innovative courses, lectures and other regional programming, programs for K-16 educators, and will provide flexible funding to address rapidly emerging opportunities.

- Visiting scholars: \$1M endowed
- Conferences: \$600,000 endowed
- Special events: \$450,000 endowed
- Two graduate fellowships: \$1M endowed each
- Directorship: \$200,000 endowed
- Program staffing: \$750,000 endowed

WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

CONTACT INFO

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“The most valuable element of my Middle East studies degree as a student was the ability to explore many different disciplines and to concurrently pursue a Master of Public Policy, marrying my two academic interests. I loved my courses on Iranian religion and society, which were especially fulfilling to me as an Iranian-American student. And I also had the opportunity to work transliterating the bibliographic information of Persian and Arabic lithographs for the collection at Hatcher Graduate Library, which was just plain fun!”

***–Shireen Smalley, M.A. '18, M.P.P.
Ford School '18***