PART A

I. Information

A. Exact Program Designation: Middle East Studies Minor

B. Department(s): Foreign Languages, Geography and Anthropology, History, Philosophy and Religious Studies, Political Science

C. College: Arts and Sciences

D. Degree Title: Middle East Studies Minor

II. Unit Approvals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approval</th>
<th>Signature</th>
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<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
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A. Department Chairs

- Foreign Languages
  - Signature: 
  - Date: ___

- Geography and Anthropology
  - Signature: 
  - Date: ___

- History
  - Signature: 
  - Date: ___

- Philosophy and Religious Studies
  - Signature: 
  - Date: ___

- Political Science
  - Signature: 
  - Date: ___

B. Dean of College

- Signature: 
  - Date: ___

C. Chair, Academic Policies Committee

- Signature: 
  - Date: ___

D. Chair, University Senate

- Signature: 
  - Date: ___
PART B

I. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION

A. Exact Designation of Proposed Program: Middle East Studies Minor

B. Department: Foreign Languages (administrative home); other contributing departments: Geography and Anthropology, History, Philosophy and Religious Studies, Political Science.

C. College: Arts and Sciences

D. Program Objectives: Students will examine issues in the Middle East from a variety of perspectives

E. Timetable for Initiation: Fall 2009

II. CONTEXT

A. History of Program: Provide a brief chronology of any predecessor program(s) (e.g., minor currently available under existing degree).

This is a new multidisciplinary minor.

B. Instructional Setting of Program: Describe the relationship of the proposed program to present programs. State why the proposed program cannot be offered within existing minors.

This minor draws together courses from a number of disciplines that focus on the Middle East.

C. Relation to Mission Statement and Academic Plan: Describe how the proposed program relates to the mission and goals of the Baccalaureate Degree at UWEC.

This minor addresses all of the goals of the baccalaureate degree: Knowledge of Human Culture and the Natural World, Creative and Critical Thinking, Effective Communication, Individual and Social Responsibility, Respect for Diversity Among People. It is also consistent with the Centennial Plan which calls for globalization of the curriculum.
III. NEED

A. Student Demand—Future Enrollment: Indicate anticipated enrollment. Is this based on students who previously opted for topical minors? What majors would be expected to elect this minor?

While only one student is enrolled in a topical minor thus far, in a survey of students in the departments that will contribute to the minor and certificate completed this past spring (n=226), 68% of those who responded reported that they were interested or very interested in a Middle East Studies minor.

B. Special Interests in the Proposed Program: Describe any special interest in the program by local groups, state agencies, industry, research centers, etc.

The local Arab American community has endowed the Arab World Lecture Fund which will help support the minor. The L.E. Phillips Foundation supports the course on Judaism which will also contribute to the minor.

IV. CURRICULUM

A. Course Requirements Sequence: Provide a listing of requirements and sample sequence of courses, marking with an asterisk new courses proposed. Indicate course level by designating proposed courses as 100-200 (Freshman-Sophomore), or 300-400 (Junior-Senior).

Minor in Middle East Studies
Required:
FLG 101 and 102 (created to offer infrequently taught languages) 8
Students must complete this requirement in Arabic, Turkish, Persian or Modern Hebrew

Electives: Students will complete at least 16 credits from the list below with a minimum of two courses from the background category and a minimum of three courses from the Middle East category. Students can take no more than three courses with a single prefix, and a minimum of nine credits at the 300 or 400 level.

The Background
RELS 100 Introduction to World Religions
RELS 307 Judaism
RELS 309 Islam
HIST 192 Origins of Current World Conflicts
HIST 302 Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations
POLS 334 International Political Economy
The Middle East
GEOG 319  Geography of the Middle East and North Africa
POLS 321  Politics of the Middle East
POLS 336  Arab-Israeli Conflict
HIST/WMNS 385  The History of Middle Eastern Muslim Women
HIST 366  The Middle East Since Muhammad

Note: ENGL 330 Topics in World/Postcolonial Literature may be substituted for any course in The Middle East Today category if the topic is Middle Eastern.

Students are encouraged to complete a study abroad program in a Middle Eastern country and will be able to transfer credits from that program into the minor.

Students may substitute an independent study, special topics, or directed studies course with a focus on the Middle East for a course from either category with consent of the minor adviser.

B. Interrelationship with Other Curricula: Give a brief statement about how the new program will provide support for and draw support from other campus programs.

The new program draws upon established departments and courses that are already part of the curriculum.

V. PERSONNEL

A. Faculty Participating Directly in the Program: List present faculty members who will participate directly in the proposed program.

Matt Waters, Paul Kaldjian, Ali Abootalebi, Kate Lang, all faculty teaching relevant sections of FLG 101 and 102, Steven Fink, Jonathan Paradise, and all of the faculty teaching RELS 100 and HIST 192.

VI. ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

A. Library Resources: How adequate are current library resources for the proposed program? Indicate additional library resources, the estimated cost, and how costs are to be accommodated.

Resources are adequate.

B. Special Resources: Identify special resources, such as computers, unique laboratories, equipment, etc., currently available. Indicate special resources needed, the estimated costs to support the proposed program, and how these costs are to be met.
No special resources will be required.

VII. FACILITIES - EQUIPMENT

A. Facilities and Capital Equipment: List and comment on facilities and capital equipment currently available (other than those listed in VI. B.).

No additional facilities or equipment are necessary.

B. Additional Facilities Required: List and comment on facilities (special classrooms, laboratories, additional space, minor construction, etc.) needed.

No additional facilities are required.

VIII. FINANCE

A. Budgetary Requirements: Provide a description of funding requirements and any budgetary allocation required to initiate this program and to fund it for the first two biennia.

The university will need to continue to offer Arabic or assure that it is available to students at UW-Eau Claire.

B. Resource Reallocation: If the funding requirements outlined above are to be met, in part or in total, by reallocation of resources, indicate the source and the amount as well as identify courses or program areas that will be eliminated. Append documented evidence of consultation with Deans and Departmental Chairs.

Resource considerations are explained in the attached memo from the Dean of Arts and Sciences.

C. Student Financial Aids: List any special student aids (scholarships, etc.) which are believed to be available to students in the proposed program.

None.

D. Research Support: Indicate sources and amounts of extramural funding support expected to be available for research related to the proposed program.

None at present, although faculty could apply for research grants from a number of funding agencies such as Social Science Research Council or National Endowment for the Humanities.
TO: Reviewers of Middle East Studies Minor
FROM: Donald Christian, Dean
DATE: September 14, 2008
SUBJECT: VIII, B. Resource Reallocation

As noted in VIII, A. Budgetary Requirements, UW-Eau Claire will need to continue offering Arabic, taught for the first time on campus during 2008-2009 through the Fulbright FLTA program. We are exploring multiple options to continue Arabic instruction in the future. We will apply again for funding through the FLTA program to support Arabic instruction beyond 2008-2009. Additionally, we will consider applying to participate in a well-regarded online Arabic instructional program offered through Montana State University (MSU). The FLTA and MSU programs will initially be treated as alternatives, but we would consider both programs if student demand for Arabic instruction warrants (the waiting list for Arabic I in fall 2008 was nearly 50 students). Additionally, we are on a waiting list for Arabic I instruction through the UW System’s Collaborative Language Program, but resources for that program are very constrained and there is little likelihood that UWEC students will gain access to first-year Arabic instruction through that program. There is a better chance of second-year instruction for interested students.

Each of these programs entails costs that are less than the tuition revenue generated. The College of Arts and Sciences will place a priority on reallocating resources within the College to support first-year Arabic instruction, and will work with Academic Affairs to share in these instructional costs. Furthermore, I will encourage, indeed likely insist, that the Department of Foreign Languages reallocate a future retirement position to support the development of “strategic languages,” to include Asian and Middle-east languages. Arabic is certainly a high priority for that reallocation. As the strategic plan of the University highlights global education, we also will be seeking reallocated funding to support expanded language instruction.