



MIDDLE EAST STUDIES PROGRAMME

Programme Outline

SPRING 2020 (26 Jan- 21 May)

The programme

The bachelor semester Middle East Studies programme at NVIC targets second and third year bachelor students of the humanities, social sciences or related fields. The interdisciplinary programme aims to familiarize students with various topics on the region with a particular focus on Egypt. The programme is made up of 5 modules, three of which explore political, economic, and cultural issues taught in English, and two Arabic language classes at various levels. Students will attend guest lectures by experts in their fields, and weekly excursions are an integral part of the programme.

In certain cases, MA students can apply for the programme with permission from their departments and with different assessment criteria. Please inquire about this.

The programme consists of the following courses:

<i>Course module</i>	<i>Hours /week</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
1. Contextualising Contemporary Egypt	2	5
2. Development and Egypt	2	5
3. Gender in Egypt	2	5
4. Egyptian Colloquial Arabic	6	10
5. Modern Standard Arabic	2	5
TOTAL	14	30

Important Note: Please be advised that the content courses (1-3) are subject to change. All modules will be based on Middle East politics, history, and culture.

Egyptian Colloquial Arabic (three entry levels): 10 ECTS

The focus in this module is to develop the students spoken Arabic. Egyptian colloquial Arabic is the most widely understood dialect in the Middle East. Students will be placed in classes depending on their individual levels.

Modern Standard Arabic (three entry levels): 5 ECTS

The focus in this module is to develop reading and writing skills. There will be a focus on media Arabic. Students will be placed in classes depending on their individual levels.

Language Level

Students will be placed in classes depending on their level of Arabic. Levels start from beginners.



Admission

Admission to the programme is subject to the following conditions :

- The student has successfully completed at least three semesters of in a relevant programme;
- The student has the written permission (on the registration form) of a lecturer at the home university to join the programme;
- The student is registered at one of the affiliated universities during her/his stay in Cairo

If maximum capacity is reached, an admission test will be organized.

Costs and charges

Participants are charged a EUR 160 registration fee at the beginning of the programme. Additional costs may be incurred for excursions outside of Cairo.

Dates

26 January: Orientation Day

27 January: Classes begin

22-26 March: Mid-term exams for long programme/ Final exams for short programme students

29 March – 2 April: Alexandria trip

5 April: Classes resume

12 April: Western Eastern, NVIC closed

19 April – 23 April: Break

27 April: Kings Day, NVIC closed

10-14 May: StuVac

17-21 May: Final Examinations

About NVIC

The Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo (NVIC) is an academic institute located on the island of Zamalek, in the heart of Egypt's bustling capital. It is one of five Dutch Scientific Institutes Abroad (NWIB) and is supported by the Research Fund–Flanders (FWO–Vlaanderen). NVIC provides services to six Dutch and two Flemish universities. It offers undergraduate and graduate programmes in Arabic & Islamic Studies as well as Egyptology & Archaeology. For more information on NVIC, its staff, its activities, and its teaching programmes, visit <http://www.institutes.leiden.edu/nvic/>

Security and safety in Cairo

In all its activities, NVIC adheres to the security and travel advice of the Dutch and Belgian Embassies in Egypt. We forward any travel or security notice to the students. The student's stay in Cairo is, however, voluntary and their own responsibility. NVIC is not accountable for any harm or damage caused by students to third parties during their stay in Cairo, nor for any physical harm or material loss or damage suffered by the students during their stay. Upon arrival, participants of the programme will be required to sign an indemnification statement. Participants also agree to inform NVIC of any physical or psychological condition that could cause problems during their stay in Cairo or harm NVIC in any way. This information is treated confidentially. Travel and health insurance are not covered by the programme. Please inquire with your public or private insurance provider and take the necessary measures.

Cost of living

Students who previously participated in the programme report that they spend on average EGP 2000-3500 per month on rent (room in a flat shared with other students) and EGP 200-300 per month on utilities (electricity, water, gas, phone/internet, doorman if present) per student in a shared flat. They pay



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an average of EGP 70 per month for mobile phone costs, and estimate the local cost of living (food and transport) at EGP 75-100 per day. In due time, NVIC will provide practical information on living and finding housing in Cairo.

Application/registration

Application forms (found on our website) must reach the institute (info@nvic.leidenuniv.nl) by 1 December 2019.