

MIDDLE EASTERN LANGUAGES & CULTURES, BA: ANCIENT MIDDLE EAST

The major in Ancient Middle East examines the languages, history, cultures, and archaeology of the Ancient Middle East: from Prehistory through the early complex of civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Levant. Because of the interdependence of language and culture an emphasis of the major is gaining facility of one or more ancient languages, alongside courses in history, religion, and archaeology.

The minimum total course units (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/credits-needed-major/>) for graduation in this major is 34. Double majors may entail more course units.

For more information: <https://melc.sas.upenn.edu/undergraduate/major> (<https://melc.sas.upenn.edu/undergraduate/major/>)

Curriculum

For information about the General Education requirements, please visit the College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/curriculum/>) page.

Code	Title	Course Units
College General Education Requirements and Free Electives		
Foundational Approaches + Sectors ¹ + Free Electives		20
Major Requirements		
<i>Language Requirement²</i>		
Choose one of the following options:		4
4 credits in AMEL 0000-4999 courses		
4 credits in coursework (Attribute ANML) (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/anml/)		
4 credits in coursework (Attribute ANBH) (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/anbh/)		
2 credits in Language Electives (Attribute ANEL, ANML, ANBH or ANLT)		2
Attribute ANEL (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/anel/)		
Attribute ANML (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/anml/)		
Attribute ANBH (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/anbh/)		
Attribute ANLT (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/anlt/)		
<i>Breadth Requirement</i>		
MELC 0001/ ANCH 0100/ HIST 0730	Introduction to the Ancient Middle East	1
MELC 0002/ HIST 0830	The Making of the Middle East	1
<i>Concentration Requirements³</i>		
5 Credits of coursework (Attribute ANNE) (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/anne/)		5
Select 1 course unit in Concentration Paper		1
Total Course Units		34

¹ You may count no more than one course toward both a Major and a Sector requirement. For Exceptions, check the Policy Statement (<http://www.college.upenn.edu/sectors-policy/>).

² This requirement may be fulfilled by taking at least 4 course units of Egyptian or Biblical Hebrew or West Semitic languages or Akkadian/Sumerian and no more than 2 course units of appropriate literature in translation.

³ May focus on at least two ancient civilizations. To be chosen in consultation with the major advisor.

Honors

Requirements: A minimum overall GPA of 3.0 and a GPA of 3.5 in major related courses.

Code	Title	Course Units
MELC 4995	Senior Conference	1
MELC 4999	Independent Study	1

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2025 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.