Near and Middle East

To say that we are pioneers in the field of Near and Middle Eastern Studies would be an understatement. We were the first to introduce Hittite – the oldest known Indo-European language – to our portfolio of taught programmes, the first to appoint a professor in Israeli Studies and the first to offer concurrent degrees in Israeli and Palestine Studies.

We have the highest concentration of world-class teaching and research related to one of the most historically, politically and economically significant regions in the world. Covering 5000 years of culture, our scholars have unrivalled expertise in the languages, literatures and cultures of the Ancient Near East, medieval and modern Iran, the Arab Middle East, Central Asia and the Caucasus and the Jewish and Islamic traditions.

From cuneiform and ziggurats to Arabic and Islamic revolution, there are a wealth of opportunities to explore the most ancient cradles of civilisation and the birth places of several of the world’s most significant and widespread religions. We are one of only a handful of UK universities where you can study the Akkadian and Sumerian languages, or modern and classical Persian and Turkish language and literature at full degree level.

London is also host to a myriad of Middle Eastern diasporic communities, and the resources available at the nearby British Library and British Museum are unparalleled. If you want to be part of a vibrant community that challenges convention and celebrates difference, SOAS is the place for you.

Structure and assessment
Students take taught modules to the value of 120 credits and complete a dissertation (60 credits) – unless stated otherwise

Entry requirements
Minimum upper second-class honours degree (or equivalent) – unless stated otherwise

English language requirement
Overall IELTS grade of 6.5 with 6.5 in writing and speaking and 6.0 in reading and listening. Visit www.soas.ac.uk/english-requirements for alternative acceptable qualifications

Duration
One calendar year (full-time); two, three years (part-time, daytime only)

Taught Masters Programmes
- MA... and Intensive Language (Persian)
- MA and Intensive Language (Arabic)
- MA and Intensive Language (Arabic)
- MA and Intensive Language (Turkish)
- MA Ancient Near Eastern Languages
- MA Arabic Literature
- MA Iranian Studies
- MA Islamic Studies
- MA Israeli Studies
- MA Near and Middle Eastern Studies
- MA Palestine Studies
- MA Turkish Studies

Related Programmes
- MA Islamic Intellectual History

More Information
www.soas.ac.uk/nmee
SOAS offers a range of two-year Masters programmes (four years, part-time) that combine disciplinary knowledge with rigorous language scholarship.

The language pathway is directed at students who want to engage with Asia, Africa and the Near and Middle East on both a professional and academic level. The structure of the programme will enable you to reach a near proficient command of the language you are studying.

**Structure (315 credits total):**
- Language Modules (90 credits)
- Taught Modules (120 credits)
- Study Abroad (45 credits)
- Dissertation (60 credits)

*Students opting for the intensive language track will take a placement exam in the week before classes in order to determine if their language level is suitable.

**Duration:**
Two years full-time) four years part-time, daytime only (September intake only).

**Entry requirements:** Minimum upper second-class honours (or equivalent)

www.soas.ac.uk/2-year-masters

---

I have always been interested in the theme of Identity, and in subjects relating to people: history; geography; anthropology. My first degree was in Latin American Studies and, when I saw that the government was offering loans for Masters, I decided to continue my studies. I was drawn towards learning about Israel, where there is the similar microcosm of place and history, which attracted me to Latin American Studies. SOAS has a reputation for being the best place to study the Middle East region, and I like the approach taken at SOAS: studying a subject from all aspects of the debate. My tutors have been inspiring, and I would love to carry on and complete a PhD, and either remain in academia or look to a career with the Foreign Office either here or in Israel.

Dean Beard
MA Israeli Studies, 2016
MA Ancient Near Eastern Languages

Convenor: Dr Mark Weeden

From the languages of Mesopotamia and Anatolia to the vast legacy of written documentation of the ancient Near East, this programme brings back to life a fascinating chapter in the world’s political, social and intellectual history.

Specialising in Assyriology, this degree allows you to delve into cuneiform texts in Akkadian and Sumerian from the third millennium to the Parthian period. Notably, it is the only postgraduate degree available in the UK where you can study Hittite.

Not only will you develop a high-standard of research skills, you will learn to question what documents can and cannot tell us by analysing the merits of different interpretations of historic documents.

Duration: Two years (part-time only)

Entry requirements: Minimum upper second-class honours degree (or equivalent). Students without knowledge of Akkadian start at the introductory level. Those with experience begin with more advanced modules.

Fees
- £9,685 (Home/EU)
- £19,930 (Overseas)

Structure
Students either take 90 credits in Year 1 and 30 credits in Year 2, or 60 credits in each year. The dissertation (60 credits) will normally be written in Year 2.

Optional modules
- Introductory Akkadian (30 credits)
- Introductory Hittite (30 credits)
- Introductory Sumerian (30 credits)
- Mesopotamian Languages and Literature A: The Third Millennium BC (30 credits)
- Mesopotamian Languages and Literature B: The Second Millennium BC (30 credits)
- Mesopotamian Languages and Literature C: The First Millennium BC (30 credits)
- An Approved Module from the List of School-Wide Optional Modules

If qualified, students may take a module in one of the following topics from MA programmes run by University College London:
- Hebrew and Other North-West Semitic Languages (MA in Hebrew and Jewish Studies) (30 credits)
- Ancient History, Currently Change and Continuity in the Ancient Near East (MA in Ancient History, 91AHG003) (30 credits)
- Archaeology (MA in Archaeology of the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East) (30 credits)

MA Arabic Literature

Convenor: Dr Marlé Hammond

For an authentic and all-encompassing learning experience that exposes you to Arabic culture and literature at an advanced level, this programme is hard to beat.

Both past and present come into focus as you study the literary approaches of comparative literature. By the end of the degree, you will have familiarised yourself with literary theory, translation techniques, the sociology of literature, the social and political dimensions of modern Arabic literature, and different genres and themes of classical, medieval and modern Arabic literature.

Modules are taught in English but will also see you reading original Arabic texts.

Entry requirements: Minimum upper second-class honours degree or overseas equivalent in Arabic or another relevant subject, with good knowledge of Arabic

Fees
- £9,685 (Home/EU)
- £19,930 (Overseas)

Structure

Optional modules
The major must be an Arabic literature module chosen from below. Of the other 90 credit taught modules, one must be chosen from the list that does not include the major.

- Theory and Techniques of Comparative Literature (30 credits)
- Social and Political Dimensions of Modern Arabic Literature (30 credits)
- Arabic Women’s Writing: Theories and Practices (30 credits)
- Early and Medieval Arabic Linguistic Thought: Scholarship and Literature (30 credits)
- A Modern Arabic Literary Genre: Themes and Techniques (30 credits)
- Arabic Poetry and Criticism (30 credits)
- Modern Palestinian Literature (PG) (30 credits)
- Classical Arabic Prose Literature and Adab (30 credits)
- Arabic Popular Literature: Themes, Genres and Theory (30 credits)
- Reading Classical Arabic Historians: Themes and
Trends in Islamic Historiography (30 credits)
• Arabic Critical Theory and Thought (30 credits)
• Culture, Society and Politics in Classical Arabic Literature (30 credits)

MA Iranian Studies

Convenors: Dr Nima Mina and Professor Arshin Adib-Moghaddam

Since its inception, the SOAS MA in Iranian Studies has built a global reputation and is now one of the biggest Iranian Studies programmes in the world.

Through a comprehensive and critical approach to Iranian society and culture, facilitated by the best scholars in Europe and North America, this programme will vastly enrich your understanding of Iran’s complex make-up.

We reach beyond contemporary public debates so as to dig deeper into the religious and politico-cultural influences that have shaped Iran and the wider region. Informed by the contextual framework of the Middle East, you will explore issues of gender, politics, music and migration. Persian literature and language are also included.

Fees
• £9,685 (Home/EU)
• £19,930 (Overseas)

Structure
Core module
• Iran: History, Culture, Politics (30 credits)

Optional modules
Students choose options worth a further 90 credits (a minimum of 30 credits must be chosen from List A)

List A - Iran-specific modules (a maximum of 90 credits may be selected from this list)
• Persian Language 1 (30 credits)
• Persian Language 2 (PG) (30 credits)
• Persian Language 3 (PG) (30 credits)
• Elementary Written Persian (30 credits)
• Elementary Persian Texts (PG) (30 credits)
• Persian for Readers of Arabic Script (PG) (30 credits)
• Zoroastrianism: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives (30 credits)
• Text and Context in Zoroastrianism (30 credits)
• Iranian Media and Film (15 credits)
• Directed Readings in Persian Studies (30 credits)
• Classical Persian Poetry (MA) (30 credits)
• Avestan I (30 credits)
• Pahlavi Language (30 credits)
• Practical Translation from and into Persian (30 credits)

List B - modules relating to the Middle East (a maximum of 60 credits may be selected from this list)
• Economic Development of the Middle East (30 credits)
• Modern Trends in Islam (30 credits)
• Gender in the Middle East (15 credits)
• International Politics of the Middle East (30 credits)
• Islam and Political Ideologies (15 credits)
• Culture and Society of the Near and Middle East (15 credits)
• Central Asian Music (15 credits)
• Problems of Development in the Middle East and North Africa (15 credits)

MA Islamic Studies

Convenor: Professor Abdel Haleem

Designed for academics, teachers of Islam and translators of Islamic material, this programme focuses on core texts such as the Qur’an and the Hadith.

Based on the texts in their original language and in translation, you will learn to identify and explain stylistic features, while also learning about methodologies for interpretation and authentication.

You will also develop an excellent understanding of current issues in Islamic thought and movements, in terms of their historic origins and contemporary situations.

Entry requirements: Minimum upper second-class honours degree or overseas equivalent in Arabic or Islamic Studies or any other subject, but there must be advanced knowledge of Arabic and an interest in Islamic Studies

Fees
• £9,685 (Home/EU)
• £19,930 (Overseas)

Structure
Students take 180 credits, 60 of which are a dissertation and 120 from taught modules.

• Dissertation in the Languages and Cultures of the Near and Middle East (60 credits)

Optional modules
Normally no more than two translation items may be taken.

List A (a minimum of 60 credits must be selected from this list – including the major)
• Early and Medieval Arabic Linguistic Thought: Scholarship and Literature (30 credits)
• Qur’an and Hadith Studies (30 credits)
MA Israeli Studies

Convenor: Dr Yair Wallach

From Zionism to the Israel-Palestine conflict and all the history, literature, politics, language and music in between, this interdisciplinary programme offers a multi-layered approach to understanding what has shaped modern Israel.

The flexible study programme and variety of subject options will improve your knowledge about the social, cultural and political legacy that is so critical to modern Israel and the surrounding region.

Entry requirements: The usual qualification for entry is a good first degree in a relevant field. However, we are keen to offer the course to those with a passion for the subject, who wish to develop a strong interest within an academic framework.

Fees
• £9,685 (Home/EU)
• £19,930 (Overseas)

Structure
Optional modules
Two Israeli Studies modules (one major and one minor) from:
• Zionism: Critical Perspectives
• Israel and the Palestinians
• Land and language in Hebrew literature
• Jerusalem: Life in a Contested Place

AND either one further minor from the above list or one from the following:
• Religion, Nationhood and Ethnicity in Judaism
• The Holocaust in Theology, Literature and Art
• Family, Work, and Leisure in Ancient Judaism
• Judaism and Gender
• Elementary Hebrew

MA Near and Middle Eastern Studies

Convenor: Dr Yorgos Dedes

The history, geography, politics, economics, culture and anthropology of this fascinating part of the world are explored on this programme as our experts help you to unravel its complex make-up.

You can tailor your own route by selecting modules that complement your interests, with the added option to study a language which will enable you to go deeper still into source material in Arabic, Hebrew, Persian and Turkish.

Fees
• £9,685 (Home/EU)
• £19,930 (Overseas)

Structure
Optional modules
Students on this regional, interdisciplinary degree take a total of 180 credits, with modules selected from three different disciplines. The programme comprises:
• Dissertation in Near and Middle Eastern Studies (60 credits)
• A selection of major modules (30 credits), minor modules (60 credits), and open options (30 credits).

The two minor modules can be taken from the same discipline (but different to that of the major) or two different ones. Some disciplines, such as politics, economics or social anthropology, require an appropriate qualification (such as all or part of a first degree) if any of their modules are to be taken as the major subject. Students who intend to register for the MA Near and Middle Eastern Studies programme, but choose 3 options also available in the MA Israeli Studies programme, will be required to apply for MA Israeli Studies.
Anthropology and Sociology - available as minors only
• Issues in the Anthropology of Gender (15 credits)
• Culture and Society of the Near and Middle East (15 credits)

Art and Archaeology - available as majors or minors
• Islamic Art and Architecture of Medieval Anatolia and the South Caucasus (11-13th Centuries) (15 credits)
• Arab Painting (15 credits)
• Art and Architecture of the Fatimids (15 credits)
• Islam and the West: Artistic and Cultural Contacts (15 credits)

Development Studies – available as a major or minor
• Problems of Development in the Middle East and North Africa (15 credits)

Economics - available as a major or minor
• Economic Development of the Middle East (30 credits)

Gender - available as a minor only
• Gender in the Middle East (15 credits)
• Gendering Migration and Diasporas (15 credits)

History - available as majors or minors
N.B. the Modernity and Transformation modules can be taken together or individually, but ONLY as majors.
• Reading Classical Arabic Historians: Themes and Trends in Islamic Historiography (30 credits)
• Critical Perspectives on Palestine Studies I: History and Politics (15 credits)
• Critical Perspectives on Palestine Studies II: Culture and Society (15 credits)
• Encountering the Other: The Middle East During the Crusading Period (15 credits)
• Israel and the Palestinians (30 credits)
• Jerusalem: Life in a Contested Place (15 credits)
• Zionism: Critical Perspectives (15 credits)
• Outsiders in Medieval Middle Eastern Societies: Minorities, Social Outcasts and Foreigners (15 credits)
• Turkey: Continuity and Change (30 credits)
• Modernity and the Transformation of the Middle East I (15 credits)
• Iran: History, Culture, Politics (30 credits)
• Modernity and the Transformation of the Middle East II (15 credits)

Languages
• Introduction to Standard Modern Arabic (30 credits)
• Intermediate Standard Modern Arabic (30 credits)
• Advanced Standard Modern Arabic (30 credits)
• Arabic 2 (PG) (30 credits)
• Arabic 4 (PG) (30 credits)
• Intermediate Arabic/English Translation Project (PG) (30 credits)
• Higher Intermediate Arabic/English/Arabic Translation Project (PG) (30 credits)
• Advanced Arabic/English/Arabic Translation Project (PG) (30 credits)
• Modern Arabic/English/Arabic Translation Project (PG) (30 credits)
• Advanced Hebrew Language: Elementary (PG) (30 credits)
• Elementary Hebrew (30 credits)
• Intermediate Hebrew (PG) (30 credits)
• Advanced Hebrew (PG) (30 credits)
• Ottoman Turkish Language (PG) (30 credits)
• Advanced Turkish Language (PG) (30 credits)
• Persian Language 3 (PG) (30 credits)
• Intensive Persian Language (30 credits)
• Intermediate Persian Language (PG) (30 credits)
• Elementary Persian Texts (PG) (30 credits)
• Avestan I (30 credits)
• Pahlavi Language (30 credits)
• Elementary Written Turkish (30 credits)
• Intermediate Modern Turkish Language (PG) (30 credits)
• Intensive Turkish Language (PG) (30 credits)
• Advanced Translation (Turkish) (30 credits)
• Elementary Written Persian (30 credits)
• Persian for Readers of Arabic Script (PG) (30 credits)
• Persian Language 2 (PG) (30 credits)
• Practical Translation from and into Persian (30 credits)

Law - available as majors or minors
• Islamic Law (MA/LLM) (30 credits)
• Law and Society in the Middle East and North Africa (30 credits)
• Human rights and Islamic Law (30 credits)

Literature – available as majors or minors
• Identity and Language in Hebrew Literature (30 credits)
• Modern Palestinian Literature (PG) (30 credits)
• Arabic Women’s Writing: Theories and Practices (30 credits)
• Social and Political Dimensions of Modern Arabic Literature (30 credits)
• Arabic Popular Literature: Themes, Genres and Theory (30 credits)
• Arabic Poetry and Criticism (30 credits)
• Reading Classical Arabic Historians: Themes and Trends in Islamic Historiography (30 credits)
• Medieval Arabic Thought: The Philosophical and Theological Traditions (30 credits)
• Classical Persian Poetry (MA) (30 credits)
• Modern Arabic Literature and the West (30 credits)

Media - available as minors only
• Communication, Culture and Politics in the Middle East: Theoretical and Analytical Approaches (30 credits)
• Film and Society in the Middle East (30 credits)
• Mediated Culture in the Middle East: Politics and Communications (15 credits)
• International Political Communication (15 credits)
• Theoretical Approaches to International Journalism (15 credits)
• Theoretical and Contemporary Issues in Global Media and Post-National Communication (15 credits)
• Transnational Communities and Diasporic Media: Networking, Connectivity, Identity (15 credits)

Politics - the two 15 credit options below together constitute the major option for Politics of the Middle East
• Political Society in the Middle East (15 credits)
• State and Transformation in the Middle East (15 credits)

Available as a minor only
• Comparative Politics of the Middle East (30 credits)
• The Law and Politics of State Violence: An Interdisciplinary Perspective (15 credits)

Available as majors or minors
• Israel and the Palestinians (30 credits)
• Turkey: Continuity and Change (30 credits)
• State and Society in Central Asia and the Caucasus (15 credits)
• Geopolitics and Security in Central Asia and the Caucasus (15 credits)
• Critical Perspectives on Palestine Studies I: History and Politics (15 credits)
• Critical Perspectives on Palestine Studies II: Culture and Society (15 credits)

Study of Religions - available as majors or minors
• Zoroastrianism: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives (30 credits)
• Christians and Muslims in Syriac Texts (30 credits)
• Modern Trends in Islam (30 credits)
• Religion, Nationhood and Ethnicity in Judaism (15 credits)

Translation Studies - available as a minor only
• Practical Translation Arabic into English (15 credits)
• Practical Translation English into Arabic (15 credits)

MA Palestine Studies

Convenor: Dr Marle Hammond

The Israeli–Palestine situation is one of the most protracted conflicts of our time, making it one of the most complex and urgent areas of study. By exploring the dynamics of colonisation, displacement, insecurity and security, this programme will enable you to understand the region’s global significance.

Our world-leading experts will guide you through a variety of disciplinary approaches that illuminate the cultural, political and societal development of Palestine. This will advance your understanding of critical issues such as identity, conflict, economic relations and cultural politics.

Fees
• £9,685 (Home/EU)
• £19,930 (Overseas)

Structure
Core modules
• Critical Perspectives on Palestine Studies I: History and Politics (15 credits)
• Critical Perspectives on Palestine Studies II: Culture and Society (15 credits)

Optional modules
One or two modules can be chosen from the list of Palestine-specific modules (30 – 60 credits), or one from the list of Palestine-specific modules (30 credits) and another from relevant modules on the Middle East (30 credits).

List A - Palestine-specific modules
• Zionist Ideology (30 credits)
• Israel, the Arab World and the Palestinians (30 credits)
• Identity and Language in Hebrew Literature (30 credits)
• Modern Palestinian Literature (30 credits)
• Arab Cinemas (15 credits)
• Palestine and the Moving Image (15 credits)

List B - modules relating to the Middle East
• Introduction to Standard Modern Arabic (30 credits)
• Intermediate Standard Modern Arabic (30 credits)
• Advanced Standard Modern Arabic (30 credits)
• Arabic 300 (PG) (30 credits)
• Arabic 2 (PG) (30 credits)
• Arabic 4 (PG) (30 credits)
• Elementary Hebrew (PG) (30 credits)
• Intermediate Hebrew (PG) (30 credits)
• Advanced Hebrew (PG) (30 credits)
• Issues in the Anthropology of Gender (15 credits)
• Culture and Society of the Near and Middle East (15 credits)
• Problems of Development in the Middle East and North Africa (15 credits)
• Gender in the Middle East (15 credits)
• Gendering Migration and Diasporas (15 credits)
• Economic Development of the Middle East (30 credits)
• The End of Empire in the Middle East and the Balkans (30 credits)
• Modernity and the Transformation of the Middle East I (15 credits)
• Modernity and the Transformation of the Middle East II (15 credits)
• Islamic Law (MA/LLM) (30 credits)
• Law and Society in the Middle East and North Africa (30 credits)
• Human Rights and Islamic Law (30 credits)
• Political Society in the Middle East (15 credits)
• State and Transformation in the Middle East (15 credits)
• Comparative Politics of the Middle East (30 credits)
• The Law and Politics of State Violence: An Interdisciplinary Perspective (15 credits)
• Critical Theory and the Study of Religions (30 credits)
• Modern Trends in Islam (30 credits)
• Religion, Nationhood and Ethnicity in Judaism (15 credits)
• Social and Political Dimensions of Modern Arabic Literature (30 credits)
• Communication, Culture and Politics in the Middle East: Theoretical and Analytical Approaches (30 credits)
• Film and Society in the Middle East (30 credits)
• Mediated Culture in the Middle East: Politics and Communications (15 credits)

MA Turkish Studies

Convenor: Dr Yorgos Dedes

Whether you are interested in the art, literature, politics, music, film or law of Modern Turkey and/or Ottoman Empire, this programme allows you to deepen your knowledge in whichever area you choose.

Given the relevance of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey for the whole of the Middle East, and the importance of Islam (and therefore Persian and Arabic) for the Ottoman Empire and Turkey, your studies will be complemented by an understanding of the Middle Eastern context. There is a broad choice of modules to suit the academic needs of each student, including those contemplating advanced postgraduate research in Turkish. Besides a wide array of seminars and events related to Turkey, students benefit from regular film screenings and the annual London Turkish Film festival, as well as from the proximity to London’s vibrant Turkish-speaking community.

Fees
• £9,685 (Home/EU)
• £19,930 (Overseas)

Structure
Dissertation in the Languages and the Cultures of the Near and Middle East (60 credits).

Students must also take a major core module (30 credits), a minor guided option (60 credits), and an open option (30 credits), total: 180 credits.

Core modules
List A1 (major)
• Social and Political Trends in 19th Century Turkish Literature (30 credits)
• Selected Topics in 20th Century Turkish Literature (30 credits)
• Classical Ottoman Literature (Masters) 30 (credits)
• Turkey: Continuity and Change (30 credits)

List A2 (minor)
• Islamic Art and Architecture of Medieval Anatolia and the South Caucasus (11-13th Centuries) (15 credits)
• Art and Architecture of the Early Ottomans and the Beyliks (13-15th Centuries) (15 credits)

List A3 (minor)
• Elementary Written Turkish (30 credits)
• Intensive Turkish Language (PG) (30 credits)
• Intermediate Modern Turkish Language (PG) (30 credits)
• Advanced Translation (Turkish) (30 credits)
• Ottoman Turkish Language (PG) (30 credits)

List B (minor)
• Issues in the Anthropology of Film (15 credits)
• Culture and Society of the Near and Middle East (15 credits)
• African and Asian Cultures in Britain (15 credits)
• Issues in the Anthropology of Gender (15 credits)
• Problems of Development in the Middle East and North Africa (15 credits)
• Gender in the Middle East (15 credits)
• Outsiders in Medieval Middle Eastern Societies: Minorities, Social Outcasts and Foreigners (15 credits)
• Modernity and the Transformation of the Middle East I (15 credits)
• Modernity and the Transformation of the Middle East II (15 credits)
• Theory and Techniques of Comparative Literature (30 credits)
• Law and Society in the Middle East and North Africa (30 credits)
• Comparative Politics of the Middle East (30 credits)
• Political Society in the Middle East (15 credits)
• Political Violence (15 credits)
• Politics of Resistance in the Middle East (15 credits)
• State and Transformation in the Middle East (15 credits)
• Islam and Political Ideologies (15 credits)
• Violence, Justice and the Politics of Memory (15 credits)
• Islam and Politics (15 credits)
• State and Society in Central Asia and the Caucasus (15 credits)
• Geopolitics and Security in Central Asia and the Caucasus (15 credits)
• The Law and Politics of State Violence: An Interdisciplinary Perspective (15 credits)
• Christians and Muslims in Syriac Texts (30 credits)
• Eastern and Orthodox Christianity (30 credits)

List C (minor)
• Introduction to Standard Modern Arabic (30 credits)
• Elementary Hebrew (PG) (30 credits)
• Intermediate Hebrew (PG) (30 credits)
• Advanced Hebrew (PG) (30 credits)
• Elementary Written Persian (30 credits)
• Persian for Readers of Arabic Script (PG) (30 credits)
• Elementary Persian Texts (PG) (30 credits)
After retiring as a History teacher, I was keen to carry on studying. I have always been intrigued by the Israel/Palestine conflict and have spent time in Ramallah and Jerusalem, but I wanted to delve deeper, read more widely, learn from specialists and engage in debate and discussion with other students. SOAS was the obvious choice of place to study and the MA in Palestine Studies, taught by Palestinian, Israeli and British academics, fitted the bill.

I have opted to do the course part-time over two years. I have enjoyed the combination of lectures and seminars as well as the challenge of researching and writing half a dozen essays over the course of the year. The Library facilities are outstanding, the Library staff helpful and the quietness of the main study areas much appreciated.

Michael Scott-Baumann
MA Palestine Studies, 2016