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The Middle East and South Asia are two regions of vital interest to our world today. The Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (CSAMES) is pleased to offer a Master of Arts degree in South Asian or Middle Eastern studies.

This two-year program is designed for the needs of students preparing for further academic study in a particular discipline and students preparing for careers in government, NGOs, business, the media, international law, private foundations, or cultural exchanges.

Students choose a concentration in either South Asian or Middle Eastern studies.

The program provides broad exposure to the history, cultures, societies, and politics of the area as well as to the variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to its study. For individuals planning non-academic careers, such study is essential in preparing to respond to the growing opportunities and challenges presented by this region. For students planning academic careers, the program provides wide and multifaceted knowledge of the region and valuable experience in interdisciplinary study and interpretation.

**What we offer**

We offer advising and academic support to students by working closely with more than a dozen departments and affiliated faculty of 75 members, who bring to CSAMES their expertise and diverse areas of interest, including contemporary and historical studies of South Asia and the Middle East, and inquiries into such topics as religious and social identities, cultural values, literary expression, urbanization, politics and gender.

**Who can apply**

We admit graduate students from diverse academic backgrounds, with respect to discipline, research interest, and geographical focus. For complete information on admissions requirements, see our website, csames.illinois.edu.

**Financial Support**

CSAMES M.A. students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible to compete for Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships offered under the Higher Education Act, Title VI, US Department of Education. Awards are for interdisciplinary language and area studies, and are offered by several area studies centers on our campus. For full information, see www.flas.illinois.edu.

M.A. students may also apply for graduate assistantships of various types. Please see grad.illinois.edu/clearinghouse for information on available assistantships.

For further information about the CSAMES M.A. program, visit our website, www.csames.illinois.edu.

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