Contact Information

Director Wail Hassan whassan@illinois.edu

Associate Director Angela Williams aswillms@illinois.edu

Outreach Coordinator Maha Chahine chahine2@illinois.edu

CSAMES Office

125 Coble Hall 801 S Wright St. Champaign IL 61820

Phone: (217) 244-7331 Email: csames@illinois.edu Web: www.csames.illinois.edu





CENTER FOR
SOUTH ASIAN &
MIDDLE EASTERN
STUDIES

125 Coble Hall 801 S. Wright St. Champaign, IL 61820 Phone: (217) 265-244-7331 Email: csames@illinois.edu

Web: http://www.csames.illinois.edu

OUR MISSION

The Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (CSAMES) promotes research and scholarship on South Asia and the Middle East. Through funding from the U.S. Department of Education Title VI grant, CSAMES is a designated National Resource Center for the study of the Middle East, enabling us to further strengthen our commitment to knowledge and understanding of a region that is home to some of the world's oldest civilizations.

CSAMES works closely with more than a dozen departments and about 70 affiliated faculty who bring to the Center their expertise and diverse areas of interest. Some of the disciplines that CSAMES faculty are associated with are contemporary and historical studies of South Asia and the Middle East, and inquiries into such topics as cultural diversity, technology, social identities, cultural values, literary expression, and politics.



MA program

CSAMES administers the MA program in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies. Students focus on either South Asian Studies or Middle Eastern Studies. The MA program provides basic preparation in language and area training for students intending either to continue in a Ph.D. program in a related discipline or to enter a professional career.



Minor studies

Apart from the Master's program, CSAMES also offers interdisciplinary minors in South Asian Studies and in the Study of the Islamic World. These minors are especially suited for students interested in having either of these areas as a complement to their disciplinary study. The structure of the minor provides flexibility, and possible areas of emphasis include language and literature, history and social sciences, and religious studies.

Language studies

CSAMES affiliated faculty teach Hindi, Arabic, Persian, Hebrew and Turkish.



Outside the classroom

CSAMES also organizes events on campus for (and with) students and faculty to facilitate discussion about current events and issues pertaining to the Middle East and South Asia. We sponsor a weekly noon lecture series and frequently sponsor and co-sponsor lectures with other campus units. We partner with a variety of campus units and community organizations to host film screenings and art exhibits.

In addition to these public events, CSAMES participates in and sponsors local community activities and serves K-12 teachers through classroom visits, online curriculum units, and teacher workshops.

