ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A first university degree (i.e. bachelor's degree) in History and Cultures of the Middle East with a focus on Islamic Studies or an equivalent degree, comprising at least 180 ECTS.
- Minimum of 60 ECTS earned in courses relevant to the study of history and societies of the Islamic world.
- 40 of the 60 ECTS earned in courses that impart written (B2 level CEFR) and oral Arabic language skills (B1 level) or equivalent – or proof of secondary or tertiary education in an Arabic-speaking country.
- 20 of the 60 ECTS earned in courses focusing on other relevant topics to the study of history and societies of the Islamic world (not language skills-focused).
- English language skills corresponding to the C1 level (CEFR).
- German language skills not required.

CONTACT

Freie Universität Berlin
Department of History and Cultural Studies
West Asia and North Africa/Diaspora
Institute of Islamic Studies

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Website: https://www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/en/e/islamwiss
Email: islamwissenschaft@geschkult.fu-berlin.de

APPLICATION

PERIOD: April 20 until August 15 (winter)
December 1 until January 15 (summer)

TUITION FEES: No tuition fees,
only semester fees and contributions

HOW TO APPLY:

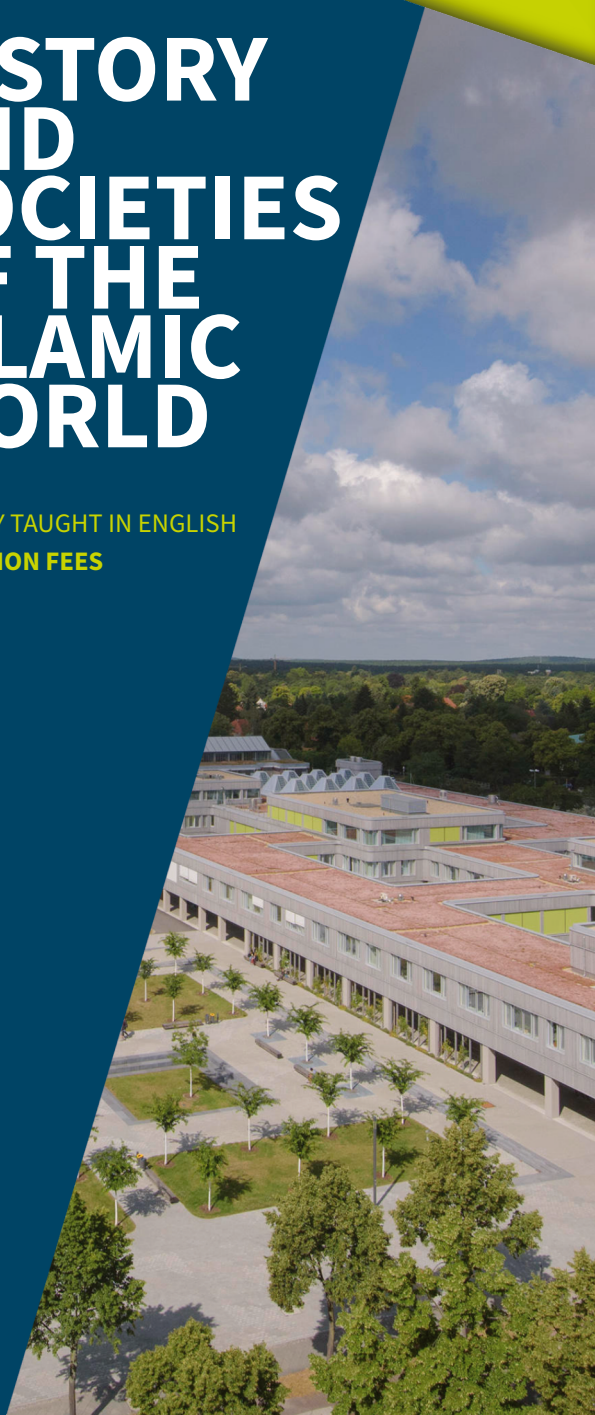
Image sources: inside left: Arabic Manuscripts (Intellectual Encounters in the Islamicate World) | inside center: King Abdullah I Mosque in Amman (Makeandtoss, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons), outside left: Doha Skyline with Traditional Dhows (Heidi Donat/ StellarD, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons) | outside right: New Building Complex of the Department of History and Cultural Studies (Bernd Wannenmacher)

FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN

MASTER'S PROGRAM

HISTORY AND SOCIETIES OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD

ENTIRELY TAUGHT IN ENGLISH
NO TUITION FEES



History and Societies of the Islamic World is a research-oriented consecutive master's program at the Department of History and Cultural Studies with a focus on **history, politics, religions, cultures, knowledge formations, and normativities of Islamic societies from the beginnings of Islam to the present**. The regional focus lies on West Asia and North Africa as well as on Muslim Europe, with special attention to global perspectives and interconnections. The program is taught entirely in English.

The program requires a bachelor's degree in History and Cultures of the Middle East with a focus on Islamic Studies, or an equivalent degree in a closely related subject. It offers an overview of the current state of research and central debates in the study of the history and societies of the Islamic world and trains students in various research approaches and methodologies.

BASIC INFORMATION

1st semester admissions: **Unrestricted admission**
Admission for higher semesters: **Unrestricted admission**
Program start: **Winter semester**
Language: **English**
Degree: **Master of Arts (M.A.)**
Duration: **4 semesters**

RECOMMENDED STUDY PLAN

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2	SEMESTER 3	SEMESTER 4
Islamic History I *10 CP*	Islamic History II *10 CP*	Culture, Knowledge and Religion in Muslim Societies *10 CP*	Academic Skills and Tools *5 CP*
Theory and Methodology: What is Islam? *5 CP*	Normative Orders in Muslim Societies **OR** Normative Orders and Religious Plurality in Europe *10 CP*		
Research Colloquium West Asia and North Africa **OR** Research Colloquium Islam in Europe *10 CP*		Politics and Society - West Asia and North Africa **OR** Politics and Society - Islam in Europe *10 CP*	
Relevant Language **OR** Interdisciplinary Module *5 CP*	Relevant Language **OR** Interdisciplinary Module *5 CP*	Internship **OR** Relevant Language **OR** Interdisciplinary Module *5 CP*	
Interdisciplinary Module *5 CP*	Interdisciplinary Module *5 CP*		Master Thesis and Presentation of Results *25 CP*

WHY STUDY AT FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN?

The **Institute of Islamic Studies** at Freie Universität Berlin is integrated into a unique network of academic and cultural institutions related to the Islamic world, including the Museum für Islamische Kunst, the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preußischer Kulturbesitz with its Oriental Department (housing the largest collection of Arabic manuscripts in Germany), the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, and other institutions.

Moreover, there is a broad variety of **opportunities for exchange and collaboration with neighboring academic institutions.** These include the Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient, the Forum Transregionale Studien, the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities as well as the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Another unique asset of the university is the internationally **highly renowned Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies**. The school provides opportunities for **further academic qualification** to particularly successful graduates of the master's program.

Last but not least, as an **international and cosmopolitan European capital** with a large Muslim population and numerous Islamic institutions and organizations, Berlin offers excellent opportunities for fascinating encounters and experiences. Especially for the focus area "Islam in Europe," the **lively Muslim culture in Berlin** creates manifold possibilities for teaching and research.