Dear New Major:

We are truly thrilled that you have decided to major in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (AMES)! We study the cities, nation states and regions of East Asia, the Middle East and the Indian Subcontinent. We explore their languages, cultures and politics and seek to understand these in their local manifestations and in relation to global developments and experiences. In AMES, you will develop deep linguistic and cultural understanding of the languages and cultures of Asia as well as transcultural competence and analytical abilities, crucial in today’s world.

The Major

The major consists of 10 courses:

- 3-6 language courses with at least 2 at the 300 level or above.
  You may count coursework in more than one language towards the major.
- 4-7 corresponding literature/culture courses at the 100 level or above.
  At least 1 course at the 100 level, at least 1 course at the 200-300 level, and at least 1 course at the 400 level and above.
- A senior portfolio.

Concentrations

You may pursue the following concentrations in AMES:

- Arabic
- Chinese
- Hebrew
- Hindi
- Japanese
- Korean
- The Middle East
- East Asia
- Interregional

In addition, we also teach Persian, Turkish, and Tibetan.

Advising

All AMES Majors are advised by the DUS. The DUS is your resource for course selection, research opportunities, study abroad programs, graduate or professional school information, and more.

Prior to the course registration period each semester, we will contact you to set up an appointment to discuss course selection. You should meet with the DUS each advising period prior to course registration. It is during these meetings that we will review together and in detail major requirements to make sure that you are on the right track for the completion of the major. More detailed information will be sent to you prior to the advising period.

Feel free to contact me with any question or concern you have.
My e-mail is shaig@duke.edu.

Welcome to AMES!

Sincerely,

Shai Ginsburg
Director of Undergraduate Studies