The University of Edinburgh values and cultivates connections and relationships throughout the Middle East, evidenced through our community, partnerships and exchanges.

This brief provides key information focusing on the region of the Middle East.

Our community

- Over 550 current students come from the Middle East.
- Our alumni community in the Middle East totals over 1,500.
- There are currently 6 student societies connected to the Middle East; they focus on food, languages, culture and religion.

Research excellence

- 70% of the research activity at the Islamic & Middle Eastern Studies department is classified as world-leading or internationally excellent (Research Excellence Framework 2014).
- Key research areas: physics, nursing, geosciences, biomedical science, climate change, renewable energy, artificial intelligence.
History and connections

• The University is a founder member of the British University in Dubai.
• Arabic language has been taught here since 1912.
• We are internationally recognised as a leading institution for the study of Persian and Turkish.
• Al Waleed Centre is part of an elite network dedicated to the study of Islam in the contemporary world, which includes Georgetown, Harvard, and Cambridge.

Find out more

Middle East Regional Team

Our work in other regions