

# Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

## Course Changes for the academic year 2020-21

Due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and government guidance, we have had to make some changes to the programme in order to mitigate against risks to health and to give you the best possible academic experience in the circumstances. We will continue to monitor and respond to the changing public health situation. The changes for 2020-21 are:

- Lectures with large numbers of students will generally be delivered online.
- Language classes and seminars will be delivered in-person and online. We aim to offer some in-person teaching for all students, either in the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies or another University teaching space.
- The online teaching component of the course will be delivered in the form of:
  - synchronous online lectures/language classes/seminars using Zoom or MS Teams, and,
  - asynchronous pre-recorded or prepared materials loaded on the Moodle site for each course in advance of the class time.
- Class duration has been reduced to 45 minutes with 30 minute breaks in between to allow students safe entry to and exit from the Faculty Building, and necessary cleaning. Synchronous online classes will operate to the same schedule to minimise timetable clashes.

There will be a mix of in-person and virtual teaching. We will provide a lot more detail about all of this before you arrive.

You may also be concerned about library access. We are delighted to say that the University Library, which has spent the last few months hugely increasing its holdings of digital materials, has now re-opened for borrowing physical books. We hope more facilities will be available by the time you arrive in Cambridge and you can find up to date details here: <https://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/news/coronavirus-faqs>. The FAMES Library will also be re-opening in the next two months with set times when users can pre-book access.