

**MIDDLE EAST STUDIES ASSOCIATION**  
**Montréal, Québec, Canada**  
**November 2-5, 2023**

**UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH WORKSHOP**

*Sponsored by the Committee on Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES)*

The Committee on Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES) is sponsoring an undergraduate research workshop to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association on **Wednesday November 2, 2023 from 1:00-5:00pm in Montréal, Canada**. The workshop will be led by a diverse group of Middle East studies scholars, drawn from CUMES, MESA award winners, and other leading academics and welcomes student applicants from **all disciplines**. The workshop includes a closed formal paper presentation of 15-20 minutes and concludes with a poster session open to all conference attendees.

Students participating in the workshop are invited to attend the full MESA conference, gaining exposure to the most recent research and experiencing the intellectual vibrancy of a professional academic gathering. This workshop will be valuable for students planning graduate work in Middle East Studies. Prospective participants should investigate passport and Canadian visa requirements.

**PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INFORMATION AND DEADLINES**

The paper proposal deadline is **April 15, 2023**. Documents should be **submitted by email to [CUMES@mesana.org](mailto:CUMES@mesana.org)**. Applicants will be notified by May 15, 2023.

**Students should submit:**

- 1) A scholarly abstract of 200-300 words identifying a strong, focused thesis statement, significance, and a discussion of methods and sources/evidence.
- 2) A letter of recommendation from a professor at the student's home university commenting on the quality of the proposal and why the student would benefit from the workshop. This can be submitted by the recommender separately.

Papers will be selected based on the quality of the proposal, diversity of disciplinary areas, and with an eye towards maximizing the diversity of the colleges and universities represented. To provide personalized attention and mentorship, the workshop is limited to 16 student participants.

**REGISTRATION FEES**

The fee for the workshop for 2023 is \$50 and it will provide **full access** to the Middle East Studies Association conference November 2-5, 2023. Students are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses. Membership in MESA is not required for participation in the workshop. Successful applicants will be eligible to apply for **\$250-\$500 in travel support** from MESA. Students should also begin identifying potential funding sources from within their university.

**WORKSHOP COORDINATORS:**

**Dr. Youness Mountaki** ([mountakiy@wofford.edu](mailto:mountakiy@wofford.edu))

**Dr. Victoria Hightower** ([Victoria.hightower@ung.edu](mailto:Victoria.hightower@ung.edu))

If you have questions or want more information, please email [CUMES@mesana.org](mailto:CUMES@mesana.org).