**Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations**

**Strategic Plan 2018**

**Mission Statement**:

1. To promote understanding of the Middle East through teaching, research, and community outreach.

2. To explore and promote cross-regional approaches to Middle Eastern studies.

**Strategic emphases:**

1. Strengthening core languages and area studies.
2. Connecting to humanities and social science disciplines.
3. Engaging with performing arts.

**Program priorities**:

1. Curriculum development:

a. Masters program in Middle East studies

b. Development of Turkish and Persian language programs in conjunction with Duke University

c. One-credit Arabic-language content courses on refugee issues and other topics

d. Study Abroad and other partnerships with Middle East and European universities

1. Financial support for students:
   1. Graduate student fellowships
   2. Undergraduate fellowships for study abroad in the Middle East

3. Library resources

a. Facilitate access to the Diba collection in Persian studies

b. Visiting scholar fellowships for study of the Diba collection

c. Create international partnerships with Middle East libraries

4. Faculty positions:

* Performing arts
* Media studies
* Mideast anthropology
* Mideast environmental studies
* Contemporary Islamic art
* Turkish language and cultures
* Contemporary global Islam