



Arabic and Middle Eastern Electronic Library (AMEEL)

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General Description

- Project AMEEL is a four-year cost-sharing project funded by the Department of Education and Yale University Library
- The project will create a Web-based portal and electronic library for Middle Eastern Studies
- Project AMEEL plans to be free and accessible to all patrons



Goals of the project

- To create an infrastructure for the integration of major Middle Eastern information databases
- To digitize selected academic journals from and about the Arab world, pending the approval of the copyright holders
- To develop Interlibrary Loan networks between libraries within the Arab world on a national and regional level
- To develop Interlibrary Loan networks between American academic libraries and their Arab counterparts



Partners of the Project

AMEEL

- Bibliotheca Alexandrina (Alexandria, Egypt)
- Universitaets-und-Landesbibliothek of Sachsen-Anhalt (Halle, Germany)
- JSTOR (New York, USA)
- Brill Academic Publishers (Leiden, the Netherlands)
- Multidata Publishers (Beirut, Lebanon)
- Oxford University Press (Oxford, United Kingdom)
- Other major American and Middle Eastern libraries

Challenges of the project

- Gain permission of copyright holders for digitization of important materials
- Reach successful agreements on access to digitized content provided by important commercial publishers
- Introduce Arabic OCR software and relevant skills into American academic institutions
- Solve infrastructure and connectivity challenges to:
 1. enable the addition of new digital materials to a repository connected to other relevant databases, such as those held by Oxford and Brill
 2. make it possible for scholars to search in Arabic and English across many different databases