ARABIC STUDIES MAJOR

This 42-credit major in Arabic Studies provides students with a solid background in linguistic, literary, and cultural aspects of the modern Arab World, including the cultural domains of North Africa, Egypt, Arab Middle East, Arab diasporas in the U.S. and Europe, and minority communities in Arab countries (Armenian, Kurdish, Berber, Copts, etc.). The B.A. in Arabic Studies (ARAB) prepares students for a range of professional opportunities, including careers in government, education, business, and international development and communication. Students work toward competence in speaking, reading, writing, and listening. The Arabic Program offers extensive linguistic training in both literary Arabic (fusHa) and Arabic dialects (Egyptian and Levantine). Students will achieve cultural fluency by exploring diverse Arab societies and cultural zones and will learn to approach them from a global perspective. Many undergraduates will choose to double major or do a double degree in Arabic and another subject, including arts and humanities majors, business, computer science, and journalism.

PLACEMENT IN COURSES

For information about the Foreign Language Placement Assessment, go to: http://www.arhu.umd.edu/undergraduate/flpa (http://www.arhu.umd.edu/undergraduate/flpa/).

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to interact at the Advanced level of proficiency in a way that mirrors native-speaker norms in a variety of non-specialist contexts.
2. Students will demonstrate comprehension of authentic written and oral texts intended for a native-speaker audience, including news articles, editorials, and literary texts.
3. Students will produce written texts in Modern Standard Arabic at the advanced level of proficiency.
4. Students will demonstrate awareness of important issues in Middle Eastern culture, and the ability to pursue a topic in depth at a level of analysis appropriate to an area specialist.

Requirements

**Course** | **Title**  | **Credits**
---|---|---
**Prerequisites**<br>Students must take the prerequisite courses or satisfy these requirements by placement. ¹<ref>
| ARAB104 | Elementary Modern Standard Arabic I-II | 6
| ARAB105 | Elementary Modern Standard Arabic III-IV | 6
| Total Credits | | 12

¹ Modern Standard Arabic is the formal variety of Arabic used throughout the Arab world, particularly for reading and writing. Egyptian Colloquial Arabic and Levantine Colloquial Arabic are among the major spoken varieties in the Middle East. All Arabic language courses implement the integrated method where Modern Standard Arabic and colloquial Arabic are taught simultaneously, as two registers of the Arabic linguistic discourse. Upon completing four semesters of Arabic (ARAB104, ARAB105, ARAB204, ARAB205), students may choose to take either the Egyptian dialect sequence (ARAB206, ARAB207) or the Levantine dialect sequence (ARAB210, ARAB211) to deepen their knowledge of the dialect and culture.

**Course** | **Title** | **Credits**
---|---|---
College Requirements (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/college-schools/arts-humanities/ #college REQUIREMENTSTEXT)

| **Core Sequence**<br>Students may choose to take either the Egyptian dialect sequence (ARAB206, ARAB207) or the Levantine dialect sequence (ARAB210, ARAB211) to deepen their knowledge of the dialect and culture.
| **Credits**<br>Students may choose to take either the Egyptian dialect sequence (ARAB206, ARAB207) or the Levantine dialect sequence (ARAB210, ARAB211) to deepen their knowledge of the dialect and culture.
| **Credits**
| ARAB204 | Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic I ¹ | 6
| ARAB205 | Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic II | 6
| ARAB304 | Advanced Modern Standard Arabic I | 3
| ARAB305 | Advanced Modern Standard Arabic II | 3
| Select a dialect sequence of the following: ¹ | 6
| Egyptian Dialect Sequence:<br>Students may choose to take either the Egyptian dialect sequence (ARAB206, ARAB207) or the Levantine dialect sequence (ARAB210, ARAB211) to deepen their knowledge of the dialect and culture.
| ARAB206 | Egyptian Colloquial Arabic I ¹ | 1
| ARAB207 | Egyptian Colloquial Arabic II | 1
| Levantine Dialect Sequence:<br>Students may choose to take either the Egyptian dialect sequence (ARAB206, ARAB207) or the Levantine dialect sequence (ARAB210, ARAB211) to deepen their knowledge of the dialect and culture.
| ARAB210 | ¹ | 1
| ARAB211 | | 1
| **Electives** | | 18
| Select a minimum of 18 credits listed below

| Total Credits | 42

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Once credits have been received for a higher-level language focus course, a lower-level course in the same strand (written or spoken) may not be taken for credit. (ARAB204 may not be taken after ARAB205, for example. ARAB107 may not be taken after ARAB206, etc.)

The Arabic language curriculum is designed for second language acquisition and targets non-native speakers. None of the Arabic language courses are open to fluent and native speakers of Arabic.
Electives

Required 3xx or 4xx level in Arabic (a minimum of 9 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARAB321</td>
<td>Arabic Media</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB386</td>
<td>Experiential Learning</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB398</td>
<td>Special Topics in Arabic Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB399</td>
<td>Independent Study In Arabic</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB401</td>
<td>Readings in Arabic Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB402</td>
<td>Arabic English Translation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB499</td>
<td>Special Topics in Arabic Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Other ARAB courses may be included on written approval of UG advisor.
- All pre-requisites imply 'or equivalent knowledge.' In cases of equivalent knowledge, required language-focus credits are replaced in consultation with, and with the written approval of, the undergraduate advisor.
- The majority of content courses taught in Arabic are not open to fluent and native speakers of Arabic.

Optional Electives in English: a maximum of 9 credits (no prereqs)

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARAB282</td>
<td>The Arab-Israeli Conflict through Readings in Translation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB298</td>
<td>Special Topics in Arabic Studies</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB341</td>
<td>Filming War Zones: Representations of Wars in Iraq and Chechnya</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB410</td>
<td>Ideology of Stereotyping: American and Middle Eastern Film and Television</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB499</td>
<td>Special Topics in Arabic Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Certain courses in Middle Eastern Studies taught in English in other departments (depending on the content of the courses) can be substituted with the approval of the Undergraduate advisor and Program Director.

Students must earn a grade of 'C-' or higher in each course applied toward a major or minor in the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. Additionally, an overall GPA of 2.0 in a major or minor is required for graduation.

For information on study abroad programs see the program advisor and/or the Education Abroad website: www.international.umd.edu/studyabroad/ (http://www.international.umd.edu/studyabroad/).

Four Year Plan

Click here (https://www.arhu.umd.edu/academics/advising/academic-plans/) for roadmaps for four-year plans in the College of Arts and Humanities.

Additional information on developing a four-year academic plan can be found on the following pages:

- 4yearplans.umd.edu (http://4yearplans.umd.edu/)
- the Student Academic Success-Degree Completion Policy (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/registration-academic-requirements-regulations/academic-advising/) section of this catalog