Arabic Studies at the University of Maryland offers a multidimensional education in Arabic language and culture, tailored for diverse populations of students, while also preparing them for a variety of careers on the global market. The Arabic Department’s vision centers on rigorous language instruction that integrates dialects with the formal register of Arabic (fusHa) and on developing a nuanced cultural knowledge through a variety of courses that interrogate different aspects of culture and society in the Arabic-speaking world. The Arabic Department offers a B.A. and Minor in Arabic.

The Arabic Flagship Program at UMD (http://www.globalprofessionals.umd.edu/afp-about-our-program/) is an integral part of the Arabic Department. It welcomes UMD students from any major who wish to achieve superior level proficiency in Arabic (both formal register and at least one dialect) and intercultural fluency. In addition to a rigorous academic program, Flagship students take part in a variety of extra-curricular activities, an individual tutoring program, internships, and other professional opportunities. Participation in the Arabic Flagship includes a capstone year in Meknes, Morocco.

The Arabic and Persian Departments jointly host the UMD Summer Language Institute (https://sllc.umd.edu/special-programs/arabic-persian/summer-langage-institutes/arabic/), which offers an intensive language and culture program. Students participating in the Summer Institute are able to complete a full language level/academic year of Arabic. Three levels are offered in the summer: elementary, intermediate, and advanced.

Additionally, the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures operates the Language House, including an Arabic cluster, where students live and learn in a semi-immersive environment.

Programs

Major

- Arabic Studies Major (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/languages-literatures-cultures/arabic-studies/arabic-studies-major/)

Minor

- Arabic Minor (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/languages-literatures-cultures/arabic-studies/arabic-minor/)

Arabic Flagship

- UMD Arabic Flagship (http://www.globalprofessionals.umd.edu/afp-about-our-program/)

Advising

Advisor: Ahmed Hanafy, ahmeda@umd.edu

To review the academic plan for this major, go to arhu.umd.edu/academicsadvising/academic-plans (https://arhu.umd.edu/academicsadvising/academic-plans/).

Opportunities

Arabic Flagship

The Arabic Flagship enables students of any major to reach a professional level of Arabic and advanced intercultural competence by graduation. It consists of a language and culture coursework and co-curricular program at UMD, and a year-long overseas study, leading to Flagship certification. Visit the UMD Arabic Flagship website (http://www.globalprofessionals.umd.edu/afp-about-our-program/) to learn more.

Summer Institute

The University of Maryland’s School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (SLLC) Summer Language Institute offers language and culture programs for Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced students of Arabic and Persian. Visit the UMD Summer Language Institute website (https://sllc.umd.edu/special-programs/arabic-persian/summer-langage-institutes/arabic/) to learn more.

Undergraduate Research Experiences

The Arabic and Persian Flagships have implemented an Annual Arabic and Persian Research Colloquium, which provides a forum for students to present their outstanding and innovative research projects. The Research Colloquium takes place in late April - early May.

Internships

Each fall semester, SLLC organizes a Language Career and Internship Fair in conjunction with the UMD Career Center. For more information, see the SLLC website: sllc.umd.edu (http://sllc.umd.edu).

Scholarships and Financial Assistance

The Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) administers a variety of federal, state, and institutional financial assistance programs, and, in cooperation with other university offices, participates in the awarding of scholarships to deserving students. For information, visit: financialaid.umd.edu (http://financialaid.umd.edu).