Arabic

The Department of Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures offers a major and a minor in Arabic. As majors in Arabic, students can expect to gain proficiency in the language, study the area’s literary and cultural landmarks, and gain familiarity with Near Eastern history and civilizations.

Language Placement: Placement tests are required for all students entering our language programs. Students may be eligible for up to 6 units of back-credit based on advanced placement and successful completion of the recommended course. Native speakers are not eligible for back-credit; evidence of secondary or post-secondary study of the language is required. Any units received from back-credit cannot be counted toward the major or minor.

Phone: 314/935-5110 or 314/935-8567
E-mail: jinelc@arts.wustl.edu
Departmental website: http://jinelc.wustl.edu

For a list of affiliated faculty, please visit the Department of Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures faculty page.

The Major in Arabic

Prerequisites

• Arabic language study: Beginning Arabic I (Arab 107D), Beginning Arabic II (Arab 108D), Intermediate Arabic I (Arab 207D), Intermediate Arabic II (Arab 208D) — whether by course work or placement

Required courses (30 Units)

• Introduction to Islamic Civilization (JINE 210C)
• History, Text and Identity: Introduction to Jewish Civilization (JINE 208F)
• 12 units from 300- or 400-level Arabic language courses
• 6 units from 300- or 400-level courses in Islamic studies and Arabic literature and culture
• 3 additional elective units at the 300- or 400-level in Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies
• Arab 4001 Capstone Seminar

Senior honors

• Arab 488, Arab 489 + thesis. (A student must take capstone even when writing a senior honors thesis).

Additional Information

Regulations for language and culture majors

• Two semesters of the field language must be taken at Washington University.
• 300- or 400-level courses of a language may be counted toward the major.
• A maximum of 12 units from 300- or 400-level language courses can be counted toward the major.
• Note that 300- or 400-level courses that include the study of texts in the original language may be considered courses about history, literature, or religious studies rather than language courses.
• Back-credit granted for language courses does not count for the major.
• Students enrolled in WU study abroad programs (during the regular academic semester) can earn a maximum of 9 units subject to review by adviser and DUS. Summer programs and transfer courses can be granted as much as 6 units subject to review by adviser and DUS. However, a limit of 9 units in total can be applied to the major, whether the units are earned in study abroad, summer programs, or transfer courses.
• No credit will be given for courses taken outside the department other than those which are cross-listed.
• A minimum of 27 units is required for the major. 21 of those must be from 300- or 400-level courses.
• Double counting courses: a maximum of 3 units used for the major can be counted toward another major or minor.
• To be eligible for Senior Honors a student must maintain a GPA of 3.65 through the sixth semester.
• A Capstone Seminar may be taken in junior or senior year.
• Senior Honors: Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies majors who have a cumulative GPA of 3.65 or higher after six semesters are eligible to apply for candidacy for departmental senior honors. Once they receive departmental approval, candidates must satisfactorily complete a senior honors thesis in order to be considered for departmental honors. Please visit the department web page for further information and requirements at http://jinelc.wustl.edu/undergraduate/senior-honors-guidelines-and-evaluation-form.
The Minor in Arabic

Prerequisites

- Beginning Arabic I (JINE 107D), Beginning Arabic II (JINE 108D) — whether by course work or placement

Required courses (18 Credits)

- Introduction to Islamic Civilization (JINE 210C)
- 9 units from 200-, 300-, or 400-level courses in Arabic language
- 6 units from 300- or 400-level courses in Islamic studies and Arabic literature and culture.

Additional Information

Regulations for all language and culture minors

- Two semesters of the language must be taken at Washington University.
- No more than 12 credit units can be from language courses.
- Note that 300- or 400-level courses that include the study of texts in the original language may be considered courses about history, literature, or religious studies rather than language courses.
- Preapproved WU study abroad programs during the regular academic semester, summer programs, and transfer courses can earn a maximum of 3 credits subject to review by adviser and DUS.
- Back-credit granted for language courses does not count for the minor.
- No credits will be given for courses taken outside the department other than those which are cross-listed.
- A minimum of 18 credits is required for minor.
- Double counting courses: a maximum of 3 credits used for the minor can be counted for another major or minor.
- Students have to maintain an average of B for the minor. A grade of B- must be earned in each language course in order to advance to the next language course.
- No pass/fail course can count toward either prerequisites or minor.

L49 Arab 107D Beginning Arabic I

Introduction to modern Arabic; concentrates on rapidly developing basic skills in reading, writing, speaking and understanding. Five class hours, including one culture hour and additional drill or laboratory hours. Students with previous Arabic language background must take a placement examination.
Credit 5 units. A&S: LA A&S: IQ, LCD, LS BU: HUM, IS

L49 Arab 108D Beginning Arabic II

Continuation of Arab 107D. Emphasis on enhancing skills in reading, writing, speaking and aural comprehension of modern Arabic. Prerequisite: grade of B– or better in Arab 107DQ
Credit 5 units. A&S: LA A&S: IQ, LCD, LS BU: HUM, IS

L49 Arab 207D Intermediate Arabic I

Continuation of Arabic 107D. Competence in reading, writing, speaking, listening and culture is developed through intensive exposure to classical and modern standard Arabic in its written and audiovisual forms. Prerequisite: grade of B– or better in Arabic 207D or placement by examination. Three class hours a week with one additional laboratory hour as assigned by instructor.
Credit 4 units. A&S: LA A&S: IQ, LCD, LS BU: HUM, IS

L49 Arab 208D Intermediate Arabic II

A continuation of Arabic 207D. Continued integration of language development through reading, writing, speaking and listening activities centered on advanced authentic material. This semester proves critical for making the transition from Modern Arabic to Classical Arabic, including Qur’anic Arabic. Continued development of colloquial Arabic. Prerequisite: Arabic 307D or equivalent.

L49 Arab 325 Introduction to Arabic Literature

A survey of the major genres and themes in Arabic literature from the pre-Islamic era to the modern period. Texts include pre-Islamic, classical and Sufi poetry, as well as popular tales and critical prose from the Umayyad and Abbasid empires and Andalusia. The modern sections of the course interrogate political commitment in Arabic literature and introduce students to feminist and magical realist novels from North Africa and the Levant. All readings are in English translation.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD EN: H
L49 Arab 329C Middle Eastern Islamic Literatures in Translation
This course studies, in English translation, several great works of Islamic literature that still influence or reflect the ways in which we perceive Islamic culture today. We critically consider great and disparate literary works, originally written in a variety of languages including Arabic, Turkish and Persian and stretched from Spain to India, that share the common backdrop of an urban and educated milieu in which they were produced, widely read and circulated. The course aims at exploring the literary cultures in their historical and social context. Possible themes include court literature, politics, Sufi literature, history, theology and literature of romance. All readings are in English. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD AR: Lit EN: H FA: Lit

L49 Arab 355C The Flowering of Islamic Literature, 500–1200
Same as Comp Lit 355C
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, CD BU: HUM FA: Lit

L49 Arab 361 City of Peace: Baghdad in Medieval Times (ca. 762–1250)
Same as JINE 361
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L49 Arab 4001 Capstone Seminar
Same as JINE 4001
Credit 3 units.

L49 Arab 405 Colloquial Arabic
The aim of this course is to introduce the students to colloquial Arabic through their knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). We focus on the main differences between colloquial and MSA so that the students can use the colloquial form for practical purposes in everyday life. Prerequisite: Arab 208D or instructor's permission. Credit 3 units. A&S: LA A&S: IQ, LCD BU: IS EN: H

L49 Arab 407 Fourth-Level Arabic I
Focused reading and discussion of classical and modern texts centered on selected topics in Arabic literature, poetry and media. Continued development of oral, aural and writing skills. Students' interests are taken into consideration before finalizing the selection of texts. Practice in writing and grammar. Prerequisite: grade of B– or better in Arab 308D or placement by examination. Credit 3 units. A&S: LA A&S: IQ, LCD, LS BU: IS FA: Lit

L49 Arab 408 Fourth-Level Arabic II
Readings and discussion in Arabic of selected classical texts. Students' interests are taken into consideration before finalizing the selection of texts. Practice in writing and grammar. Continued development of colloquial Arabic. Credit 3 units. A&S: LA A&S: IQ, LCD, LS BU: IS FA: Lit

L49 Arab 450 Topics in Classical Arabic Literature and Culture
Exploration of medieval Arabic Belles-Lettres (Adab). All texts read in Arabic. Prerequisite: senior standing. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH AR: Lit BU: IS FA: Lit

L49 Arab 451 Topics in Modern Arabic Literature and Culture
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD AR: Lit BU: HUM FA: Lit

L49 Arab 464 Arabic Textual Analysis
This course introduces the advanced student of Arabic to a variety of prose narratives in the modern language. Readings, which include literary texts and topical essays on aspects of Arabic society and culture, reflect the needs and interests of the enrolled students. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD LS EN: H FA: Lit

L49 Arab 465 Topics in Arabic
This course is an in-depth study of a particular segment of Arabic literature and/or culture. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD AR: Lit BU: HUM FA: Lit

L49 Arab 467 Topics in Classical Arabic Literature in Translation
Various themes in Arabic religious literature and Belles-Lettres (Adab), e.g., the intertwining of religion and politics, court culture and fashions, social critiques, gender roles, etc., are read in English. Credit 3 units. A&S: AR BU: ETH FA: Lit

L49 Arab 470 Topics in Modern Arabic Literature in Translation
Modern Arabic narratives read in English translation foregrounding themes such as the conflict between tradition and modernity, civil war, poverty, alienation, religion and politics, and changing gender roles. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM, LCD AR: Lit BU: ETH FA: Lit
L49 Arab 488 Independent Work for Senior Honors
This course to be taken in the fall semester. Prerequisites: senior standing, eligibility for honors, and permission of the department. Credit 3 units.

L49 Arab 489 Independent Work for Senior Honors
This course to be taken in the spring semester. Prerequisite: senior standing, eligibility for honors, and permission of the department. Credit 3 units.

L49 Arab 497 Guided Readings in Arabic
Prerequisites: senior standing and permission of instructor and department chair. Credit variable, maximum 5 units. A&S: LA

L49 Arab 498 Guided Readings in Arabic
Prerequisites: senior standing and permission of the instructor and the department chair. Credit 3 units. A&S: LA