



Washington University in St. Louis

ARTS & SCIENCES

Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures The Undergraduate Major or Minor in **Arabic Language and Literature**

About the Arabic Program at Washington University:

The Arabic program enables undergraduate majors to attain a high level of proficiency in Arabic in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, a solid foundation in cultural and literary knowledge about Arabic and Middle East, and the cultural skills needed to communicate effectively in an Arab environment. In addition to the on-campus sequence of language courses, we encourage students to participate in summer, semester, or academic year programs in the Middle East and Europe (especially the Washington University program held in conjunction with the American University in Cairo, SIT program in Morocco, Exeter University, Oxford, or other Programs such as Al-Akawayn University or the American University in Beirut) and to enroll in courses within and beyond the Department to enhance their cultural knowledge. Students who graduate with a major in Arabic language and literature should expect to have achieved a high level of linguistic competency, a general knowledge of Arabic and Islamic civilization historically and its cultures today, and a familiarity with the landmarks of Arabic literature.

The Major:

Please keep in mind that because of the intensive study necessary to gain mastery of the language, this major will necessarily entail taking a greater number of units than will be formally applied to your major. Students wishing to major in Arabic must complete a certain number of prerequisite lower-level courses, a minimum of **27 units** of upper-level (300-level or above) courses, no more than **12 units** of which may be in languages. In additions, all majors -- with the exception of students who are writing an ANELL honors thesis or, students who are double majors and are taking a capstone course or writing a thesis -- required to take the ANELL Senior Seminar 400 which is the ANELL capstone course.

Lower-level courses:

Language: Arabic 107 and Arabic 108 (First-level Arabic); Arabic 207 and Arabic 208 (Second-level Arabic). Students with previous language training may test out of these courses by taking the placement exam or providing academic proof of previous coursework.

Literature and Culture: 210c Islamic Civilization (Another foundational course may be substituted, but only with the permission of the major advisor and the Section Head.)

Upper-level courses:

Language: Majors must successfully complete the following:

- Arabic 307 & 308 and Arabic 407 & 408 (Third and Fourth-level Arabic)
- A minimum of 6 units of Literary Arabic.

Note: Students must earn a minimum of B- in language courses in order to proceed to the next level. Students who test out of first-year Arabic are eligible for three (3) units of back credit **only on condition** that they successfully complete at least one semester of second-year Arabic with a grade of B- or better. Students who test out of second-year Arabic language are eligible for six (6) units of back credit **only on condition** that they successfully complete at least one semester of third-year Arabic with a grade of B- or better. Students who test out of third-level Arabic or higher are not eligible for any back credit. Students for whom Arabic is a native language may not receive back credit for any language courses.

Literature and Culture: Majors must successfully complete the following:

- Arabic L16 355 The Flowering of Islamic Literature
- Arabic L49 471 Modern Arabic Literature
- Two upper-level courses.
- ANELL 400: ANELL Senior Seminar (not required of students doing Senior Honors or double majors completing a capstone class/project in their other major)

Senior Honors: Qualified majors (students who have maintained at 3.5 GPA through the sixth semester) are encouraged to apply for Senior Honors before the end of the junior year. Majors must register for Arabic 488 (1-3 units) in the fall semester and Arabic 489 (1-3 units) in the spring semester. Honors work will be supervised by a three-member departmental Honors committee, which plans with each student special language work as needed and an independent Honors research paper. Each student must also have a primary honor's advisor who is responsible, in consultation with the other members of the committee, for assigning the final grades for 488 and 489.

Transfer Credit: Normally no more than 6 units of credit earned at an institution other than Washington University may be applied to the major. However, students who participate in the American University in Cairo Program, which is run in conjunction with Washington University and Exeter and Oxford Universities may apply a maximum of 15 units of study-abroad credit to fulfill the requirements for the major.

Grade options: The Pass/Fail grade option is **not** allowed for **any** major and minor courses.

The Minor:

The minor in Arabic Language and Literature requires the completion of **JNE 210c and 18** credits, no more than 12 of which may be in language. Minimum requirements for the minor include two years of Arabic language and the successful completion of two of the three literature courses listed below. Please note that students must earn a minimum of B- in language courses in order to proceed to the next level. Students who place out of language courses because of previous language training, or because they are native speakers of the language, must complete 15 units with literature and culture courses as approved by their minor advisor.

- Arabic 355C Flowering of Islamic Literature
- Arabic 471 Modern Arabic Literature
- One of the two courses: Approaches to the Qur'an or Lyrics of Mystical Love, East and West

Transfer Credit: Normally no more than 3 units of credit earned at an institution other than Washington University may be applied to the minor. Students who participate in the in the American University in Cairo Program, which is run in conjunction with Washington University and Exeter and Oxford Universities may apply a maximum of 9 units of study-abroad credit to fulfill the requirements for the minor.

Double Majors: Please note that no more than 6 units of the 27 units required for the major and 3 units of the required 18 units for the minor may be courses that are also used to satisfy the requirements of the other major.

Questions? Contact the Department of Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures office at (314) 935-5156 or 935-5110 or stop by Busch Hall, room 121. You are also invited to visit our website at <http://artsci.wustl.edu/~anell>.

Suggested Courses

L75 362	Approaches To The Qur'an
L75 4210	Christians and Muslims in the Mediterranean World 1100-1650
L75 4872	Colonial Cities and the Making of Modernity
L75 355c	The Flowering of Islamic Literatures, 500-1200
L75 336C	History of the Jews in Islamic Lands
L22 313C	Islamic History, 622-1200
L22 314C	Islamic History, 1200-1800
L75 4041	Islam and Politics
L35 4020	Jerusalem, the Holy City
L16 390	Lyrics of Mystical Love, East and West
L75 3150	The Middle East In The Twentieth Century
L49 471	Modern Arabic Literature
L75 358C	Modern Near Eastern Literatures
L23 490	Topics in Islamic Thought: Islam and Modernity
L75 5313	Women and Islam
L75 3011	Women in The Modern Middle East