

## SAMPLE COURSES:

### ARABIC LANGUAGE COURSES

#### First Year Arabic

First Year Arabic introduces students to the sounds, letters and basic grammar of Arabic while building listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural skills in the language. The course stresses communicative skills in both standard and colloquial Arabic. Throughout the duration of the course, students also learn fundamental differences between spoken and written Arabic.

#### Second Year Arabic

Second Year Arabic guides students towards Intermediate-High proficiency in reading, speaking, writing and listening. Acquiring communicative skills continues to remain a priority throughout the coursework and particular emphasis is placed on reading, expanding student vocabulary, developing listening skills and deepening students' understanding of Arab cultures—including enhanced exposure to colloquial Arabic.

#### Third Year Arabic

Third Year Arabic aims to develop language skills at the advanced level of proficiency. The course focuses on language through printed and video texts dealing with Arab history, literature and thought. Students continue to expand their vocabulary and fluency in both standard and colloquial Arabic and work extensively on their writing skills.

#### Additional Course Offerings:

- Egyptian Arabic
- Levantine Arabic
- Modern Egypt: A History
- Arabian Nights
- Arabo-Islamic Ode
- Contemporary Arab Cinema
- Shi'ite Political and Religious Ideologies
- Readings in Islamic Texts
- Lebanon: Formation and Transformation
- Varieties and Registers of Arabic
- Advanced Spoken Media Arabic
- Critiques of Language & Culture

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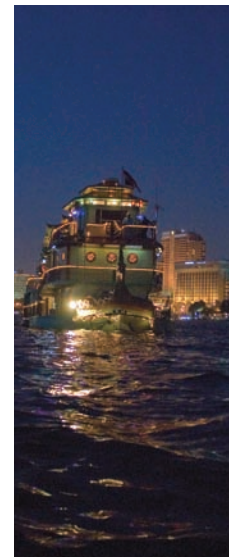
THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP

*Creating Global Professionals*



# ARABIC FLAGSHIP

P R O G R A M





Photography: Christopher S. Rowe

## ARABIC FLAGSHIP PROGRAM

The Arabic Flagship Program (AFP) at The University of Texas at Austin provides training in Arabic language and culture at the undergraduate level. AFP students are given the opportunity to reach Superior level proficiency (Level 3 on the ILR government scale) in Arabic while pursuing an undergraduate major of their choice.



The AFP is unique in several ways: modest class sizes, dedicated conversation hours, one-to-one weekly mentoring for students—and the largest full time faculty in Arabic, which means that our students have a very wide range of Arabic courses to choose from, whatever their level.

The AFP offers a variety of levels of Arabic in addition to intensive summer study at the elementary, intermediate and advanced levels. AFP students also study abroad with our program in Alexandria, Egypt or in Damascus, Syria.

At UT, our students take coursework in formal and spoken Arabic (Levantine and Egyptian dialects) and varied content courses in political science, history, geography, economics and religions. Many of these courses include Arabic Across the Curriculum language components in which students read and discuss primary texts in Arabic. As our students' Arabic skills progress, we provide them the opportunity to enroll in graduate-level seminars covering topics like politics, religions, literature and cultures; these seminars are taught exclusively in Arabic.

## OUR FLAGSHIP STUDENTS

The AFP actively recruits talented undergraduate students who choose Arabic as an integral component of their future careers, and who are committed to achieving superior proficiency in Arabic.

Students can apply for the AFP directly from high school, transfer into our program from another institution, or may apply from within UT. A typical AFP student has already completed one to two years of Arabic when they join our program and the average GPA is 3.5 or above. Our students come from a wide variety of backgrounds and academic majors but what unites them is an absolute commitment to developing professional level proficiency in Arabic, and talent for learning languages. After completing the program, our students plan to work in academia, for the government, in international business, law, global advertising, international development, and a vast range of other fields. Current Flagship students major in Chemistry, Engineering, Business, Government, Arabic Language and Literature, and Linguistics, among others.

## STUDY ARABIC ABROAD

AFP students have two opportunities to study abroad with us through programs in Alexandria, Egypt and Damascus, Syria, both of which are administered by the American Councils for International Education. Alexandria is the site for our summer study abroad program and it offers a friendly and safe seaside environment where exposure to English is limited, while the University of Alexandria's long established center for Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language provides the faculty and facilities we need to achieve our goals. Most recently added to our study abroad program is our collaboration with the Arabic Language Center at The University of Damascus where students can embark upon a year-long immersion program for their capstone year abroad.

Our students can apply to spend one full summer at the TAFI Center in Egypt when they reach the Intermediate High level, and one full year to make the transition from Advanced to Superior Arabic. This 4 [years at UT] + 1 [year in Alexandria or Damascus] model enables students to focus on their undergraduate degrees fully while studying at UT, and then to focus exclusively on Arabic in their capstone year. While abroad, students engage in an intensive program of study that involves personalized internships, home-stays and other unique opportunities for linguistic and cultural immersion.

**THE ORIGIN OF THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP** – *The realization that proficiency in language is crucial for preparing global citizens prompted the creation of the Language Flagship Organization. A partnership among government, education and business was created to lead the nation in funding innovative and successful language programs that allow students to integrate advanced language study with academic coursework. The aim is to graduate the next generation of true global language professionals who can operate at the highest levels of business, government and education worldwide. The UT Arabic Flagship Program is proud to be part of this national movement.*

## THE ARABIC LANGUAGE COMMUNITY

AFP students are assigned a mentor for individual weekly tutoring to help them develop their listening and speaking skills. This increases their exposure to Arabic as it is spoken across the Middle East, and provides an entry into Arab cultures.

During the year, the AFP hosts a wide range of events, films and speakers to create an authentic Arabic language community at UT. Examples include a visit from renowned Lebanese singer, Marcel Khalife, a film series focusing on current cultural issues dominating the Middle East, and a student led Arabic Talent Show.

## FUNDING INFORMATION

Generous funding from The Language Flagship allows the Arabic Flagship Program to extend financial support to students in the amount up to \$4,500 per academic year, with additional funding to study abroad.\*

During the academic year, it is program policy to fund Arabic language and content courses that are taught in Arabic. At the conclusion of the four years of study at The University of Texas at Austin, our students are eligible for funding to study abroad for a full year in either Alexandria, Egypt or Damascus, Syria.

*\*AFP funding may affect other, supplemental funding which students have been awarded. To minimize the potential impact, funding is allocated after consulting with the Student Financial Affairs office.*

## ADMISSIONS

The Arabic Flagship Program welcomes talented undergraduate students of any major. To be considered for the program, students must be currently enrolled with full time status at The University of Texas at Austin, or have an application for admission or transfer in progress.

The selection committee considers an applicant's commitment to achieving superior level Arabic as demonstrated by previous language study, career plans that require Arabic, teacher recommendation and academic performance.

More information about the application process, along with application forms can be downloaded from the Arabic Flagship Program website at: [www.utarabicflagship.com](http://www.utarabicflagship.com)

## ARABIC LANGUAGE FACULTY

- Peter Abboud
- Mahmoud Al-Batal
- Samer Ali
- Kristen Brustad
- Tarek El-Ariss
- Laila Familiar
- Hope Fitzgerald
- Mohammad Mohammad
- Martha Schulte-Nafeh

