



THE ARABIC FLAGSHIP PROGRAM—an Overview

The Arabic Flagship Program (AFP) at The University of Texas at Austin offers a three to five year, intensive training program in Arabic language and culture at the undergraduate level. Students (including incoming freshman) can apply to the program with any level of proficiency. Throughout the challenging program, students are provided the support and training necessary to reach Superior level proficiency in Arabic, level ILR 3/3+, while simultaneously pursuing an undergraduate major of their choice. Current Flagship students major in Chemistry, Engineering, Business, Government, Arabic Language and Literature, and Linguistics, among other fields of study. The AFP offers six diverse levels of Arabic in addition to intensive summer study at elementary, intermediate and advanced levels. AFP students also undertake intensive Arabic summer immersion and year-long programs at the Arabic Flagship Program sites in Alexandria, Egypt and Damascus, Syria.

The Language Flagship Story

The Language Flagship began in late 2000 as a governmental pilot project to challenge a small number of U.S. universities to establish programs of advanced language education. Since then, Flagship grants have been awarded to pioneering institutions, including The University of Texas at Austin, to implement a new paradigm for language education that creates advanced programs of language study, and graduates students with professional proficiency. The Language Flagship leads the nation in designing, supporting, and implementing a new paradigm for advanced language education through an innovative partnership among the federal government, education and business.

Arabic Flagship Program Student Road Map

The length of our program is dependent upon the level of Arabic students bring with them. Some students who join as complete beginners will study for five years. Others, who come with considerable Arabic, may be able to reach Superior level in two to three years. Whatever level they bring, however, they will be offered the support and training they need to succeed.

Our introductory courses in Arabic expose non-Arabic speakers to the sounds, letters and basic grammar while building listening, speaking reading, writing and cultural skills in the language. Communicative skills are stressed and an introduction to Egyptian and Levantine dialects is also provided. As coursework continues, students approach intermediate proficiency as they transition to comprehending authentic materials for native speakers, including newspaper articles, poetry and media. Advanced proficiency is achieved via intensive language and content work focused on Arab history, literature and thought as students complete third year Arabic.

Eligibility and Admissions

The Arabic Flagship Programs welcomes talented undergraduate students of any major. To be considered for the program, students must be currently enrolled with full time status at UT. A basic knowledge of Arabic is strongly preferred and the selection committee considers a potential student's commitment to achieving superior level Arabic as demonstrated by previous performance and class attendance, career plans that require Arabic, teacher recommendations and overall academic performance. To apply for the program, students are asked to submit the following:

- A completed application form and statement of purpose
- A teacher recommendation form and waiver
- An official University of Texas transcript

Application forms can be downloaded from the Arabic Flagship Program website at:

www.utarabicflagship.com

Funding

Funding from the National Security Education Program (NSEP) and The Language Flagship allows The University of Texas Arabic Flagship to offer merit-based funding for scholars in the amount up to \$4,500 per year. Many AFP scholars are eligible for in-state tuition waivers and receive other merit based scholarships in addition to ours.



Innovations of the Arabic Flagship Program at The University of Texas at Austin

Many prospective students ask what differentiates our flagship program from traditional Arabic programs. We thought we'd share with you the reasons for our success, but the fact that undergraduate students transfer here specifically to join our program, and that some even decline offers from Ivy League schools just to come here, should be proof enough. Here is just some of what we offer:

- A wide range of courses – Arabic at all levels and in-depth content courses
- A focus on both Standard and Colloquial Arabic (Egyptian and Levantine)
- The largest tenured Arabic faculty in the country
- Student centered classes, a high teacher-to-student ratio, and more teaching hours than most other programs
- One-to-one tutors and teaching assistants from around the Middle East, to help our students succeed
- A dynamic events calendar with talks, films, dinners, trips and hands-on activities
- A flexible program that accepts beginners
- Internships for our students, providing them opportunities to help in our Outreach program, assist with media production, conduct Arabic language focused research, and more!



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP
Creating Global Professionals