



## WHY ARABIC?

Recruiting organizations continually share with us that graduates who can speak Arabic are in high demand. Not only does Superior level Arabic make our students extremely competitive on graduate school applications, it also affords them the chance to launch an exciting career in sought after fields such as international business and trade, public relations, law or government. Typical career profiles of our students include:

- The next generation of Arabic language teachers
- Future diplomats and leaders
- Political and intelligence government analysts
- Entrepreneurs and business people
- Pioneers to develop health, education and national policies
- International traders and lawyers
- Engineers designing the future to meet our changing energy needs

### Our Teaching Philosophy

Some programs present the learning of Arabic as nearly impossible, an unattainable goal. Our approach at The University of Texas at Austin is markedly different. Our students reach Advanced proficiency within an extraordinarily short amount of time. Brittany Hodges, a Senior Flagship student, entered the program in the summer of 2007 after completing only one semester of Arabic here at UT. She is now teaching Arabic as an undergraduate teaching assistant and is enrolled and excelling in courses taught solely in the language. Brittany will spend her capstone year in Alexandria, Egypt and then plans to enter government service after graduating from the program. We know that you can master Arabic because we are succeeding here at UT. Still not convinced? Let us share with you too, then that Brittany's track record of success in our program is typical of our currently enrolled 50 students.

### The Language of Arabic—Spanning the Globe

Over 300 million Arabic speakers exist in the world today. The countries and regions where the language is spoken continues to expand and includes the following: Algeria, Bahrain, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Western Sahara and Yemen.

Help us bridge the gap between the Middle East and the United States with knowledge and understanding. This is a goal of our generation and fluency in Arabic is essential to making this connection.

### Knowledge of Arabic is Crucial

It is no secret that to compete in a global economy, America must endorse the study of foreign languages and cultures. To underscore this importance, we'd like to share with you—verbatim—the words of encouragement and support from community, governmental and national figures alike.

*“To solve most of the major problems facing our country today—from wiping out terrorism to minimizing global environmental problems to eliminating the scourge of AIDS—will require every young person to learn more about other regions, cultures, and languages.”*

- Former Secretary of State Colin L. Powell,

“Closing the K-12 International Knowledge Gap: Putting the World into World Class,” Asia Society, 2003

*“We have found in talking with business leaders, not only in the big corporations, but also in medium-sized companies, that if you go overseas and try to sell or establish yourself in English, you're at a super disadvantage. They're looking for people who are trained in a discipline, engineering, or business, or whatever . . . who can actually negotiate and talk through a contract, people who can see the nuances of issues.”*

- Michael Nugent, The Language Flagship

*“Given what's going on with the global war on terror, understanding languages as well as regional and cultural norms could be a matter of life and death.”*

- Laura Murray, Director of Intelligence Community's Foreign Language Program Office

*“At a time when our security needs are more important than ever, a time when our economy demands that we enter new markets, and at a time when the world requires us to engage in diplomacy in more thoughtful and considered ways, it is extremely important that we have at our disposal a multilingual, multicultural, internationally experienced work force.”*

- Senator Chris Dodd, 2005



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP  
Creating Global Professionals



Photography: Christopher S. Rose

## Economic Growth and Development in the Middle East

*Qatar is poised to become one of the top three richest nations in the world and current growth in the Middle East is unprecedented. Negotiations for membership with the World Trade Organization and several other Middle Eastern countries such as Algeria, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, and Iraq are currently underway. The United States hopes for the entire Middle East to be a Free Trade Area by the end of 2013, creating a greater demand for Arabic speakers in the business world. Is this evidence enough that proficiency in Arabic gives you the edge in these vital emerging markets?*

