

World Languages and Literatures - Arabic (WLAR)

WLAR 101 Beginning Arabic 101 (3 credit hours)

Beginning Arabic is for students who have had no prior experience with the language. It is the first in a series of courses which develop reading and writing skills in Modern Standard Arabic with active speaking and listening skills in both formal Arabic and the Egyptian dialect. Authentic materials from the Arabic media will be used in addition to text-related video and audio materials. An introduction to Arab culture will be integrated throughout the semester. This course is designed for true beginners who have had no previous experience with the Arabic language, either written or spoken. Credit will be allowed for either WLAR 101 or WLAR 111, but not for both.

Typically offered in Fall and Summer

WLAR 102 Beginning Arabic 102 (3 credit hours)

This course is the second in a series which develops reading and writing skills in Modern Standard Arabic with active speaking and listening skills in both formal Arabic and the Egyptian dialect. Authentic materials from the Arabic media will be used in addition to text-related video and audio materials. An introduction to Arab culture will be integrated throughout the semester. Credit will be allowed for either WLAR 102 or WLAR 112, but not for both.

Prerequisite: WLAR 101 or 111

Typically offered in Spring and Summer

WLAR 103 Beginning Arabic 101 Conversation (1 credit hours)

Supplements conversational practice for WLAR 101 to help students develop oral proficiency at the beginning level. Students will practice using their speaking skills in a variety of individual and group activities to build competency in basic social situations

Corequisite: WLAR 101

Typically offered in Fall and Summer

WLAR 104 Beginning Arabic 102 Conversation (1 credit hours)

Supplements conversational practice for WLAR 102 to help students develop oral proficiency at the advanced beginning level. Students will practice using their speaking skills in a variety of individual and group activities to build competency in basic social situations.

Corequisite: WLAR 102

Typically offered in Spring and Summer

WLAR 201 Intermediate Arabic I (3 credit hours)

Intermediate Arabic I is the third in a series of courses which develop reading and writing skills in Modern Standard Arabic with active speaking and listening skills in both formal Arabic and the Egyptian dialect. An increased emphasis is placed on the acquisition of vocabulary and grammatical tools necessary to undertake more in-depth readings and discussions of news articles from the Arab media. Authentic materials from the Arab media will be used in addition to text-related video and audio materials.

Prerequisite: WLAR 102 or WLAR 112

Typically offered in Fall only

WLAR 202 Intermediate Arabic II (3 credit hours)

Intermediate Arabic II is the fourth in a series of courses which develop reading and writing skills in Modern Standard Arabic with active speaking and listening skills in both formal Arabic and the Egyptian dialect. A continued emphasis is placed on the acquisition of vocabulary and grammatical tools necessary to undertake more in-depth readings and discussions of news articles from the Arab media. Authentic materials from the Arab media will be used in addition to text-related video and audiomaterials.

Prerequisite: WLAR 201

Typically offered in Spring only

WLAR 203 Intermediate Arabic Conversation I (1 credit hours)

Supplements conversational practice for WLAR level 201 or higher. This course helps students develop oral proficiency at the intermediate level. Students will practice using their speaking skills in a variety of individual and group activities to build competency in various social situations.

Prerequisite: WLAR 102

Typically offered in Fall only

WLAR 204 Intermediate Arabic Conversation II (1 credit hours)

Supplements conversational practice for WLAR level 202 or higher. This course helps students develop oral proficiency at the intermediate high level. Students will practice using their speaking skills in a variety of individual and group activities to build competency in various social situations.

Prerequisite: WLAR 201

Typically offered in Spring only

WLAR 301 Advanced Intermediate Arabic I (3 credit hours)

Advanced Intermediate Arabic I is the fifth in a series of courses which develop whole language skills in Modern Standard Arabic with active speaking and listening skills in the Egyptian dialect. Upon completion of this course the student will have the tools necessary to understand and produce all the basic structures of Modern Standard Arabic. Arabic film and media will be used in class. The student will also be introduced to selected short stories from modern Arabic literature.

Typically offered in Fall only

WLAR 318 Egyptian Culture through Film (3 credit hours)

This course offers a survey of cinema in modern Egypt using film as a medium to learn about the cultural and social structures in Egypt. The course incorporates weekly screenings of feature films representing different styles and periods. Students will be required to read relevant material, take essay exam questions, write film reviews, a final paper, and give a presentation of their final paper. The course is taught in English.

GEP Global Knowledge, GEP Humanities

Typically offered in Spring only

WLAR 320 Arabic for Professional Purposes (3 credit hours)

This course is designed for students who have completed at least two years of Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). The course emphasizes the functional use of formal Arabic for professional purposes, with an emphasis on written and oral production. Students will receive training in practical skills, including writing emails, formal letters, questionnaires/surveys, and social media posts. In addition to improving Arabic speaking skills through oral presentations, interviews, and collaborative projects with native-speakers, students will build their Arabic writing skills through frequent written assignments that emphasize work-place vocabulary and the connectors (articles, phrases, or idioms) to help students understand and produce fluid, cohesive prose. Tailored activities will reinforce fundamental grammatical concepts and structures and help students build confidence using Arabic in academic and professional contexts, whether in person or online.

P: WLAR 202 or equivalent

GEP Global Knowledge

Typically offered in Fall only

WLAR 330 Media Arabic (3 credit hours)

An introduction to the language of print and Internet news media of the Arab world, using authentic materials from Arabic newspapers, Internet news sites, and magazines. This course provides students with the tools necessary to build a core media vocabulary base, comprehend front page news stories, read critically, and detect bias, in selected news content, and develop listening skills necessary for understanding oral news reports.

Prerequisite: WLAR 202

Typically offered in Spring only

WLAR 351 Modern Arab Popular Culture (3 credit hours)

Introduction to basic aspects of cultural practices and production in diverse societies of the Arabic-speaking world in translation, including family relationships, education, work life, religious practices, gender and sexuality, language, and aesthetic traditions, including music, art, and film. Reading and analysis of representative works of modern Arab visual and print cultures including language, literature, film, digital media, music, and art with attention to cultural analysis as well as to historical and cultural background.

GEP Global Knowledge, GEP Humanities

Typically offered in Fall only

WLAR 440 Modern Arabic Short Story (3 credit hours)

An advanced language skills course which introduces students to contemporary Arabic literature through selected readings of modern Arabic short stories. Students will develop an understanding of this rich literary genre as a reflection of concurrent social structures, political landscapes, and cultural traditions in Middle Eastern societies. Emphasis will also be placed on recognizing advanced grammatical structures in Modern Standard Arabic with attention given to the increased use of vernacular expression in modern literary works. Assigned readings, writing assignments, and class discussions will be in Arabic.

Prerequisite: WLAR 301 or WLAR 330

Typically offered in Fall only