



Course Units 2017-2018

Arabic Business and Current Affairs

Prerequisite for entry

Successful completion of Arabic Syllabus D at the UCL CLIE or if you have a very good grasp of the language and are able to conduct a conversation without difficulty.

Course duration

20 x 2-hour classes.

Self-Study

80 hours in total.

Course codes

LCAR6005, LCARG005, LCARM005, LCAR6045, LCARG045, LCARM045 (together with Arabic syllabus D).

Aims and Objectives

This course is designed for advanced level students requiring the language for general vocational and professional purposes. It teaches specialised vocabulary to enable participants to use their language skills in a more professional environment, such as meetings and interviews, as well as covering related topics such as current affairs and the latest trends in Arabic society. The course will enhance knowledge of Arabic life, society and business culture using complex and linguistically accurate structures (different types of discourse, register).

Cultural awareness will be further developed and raised within a European/global context. Language learning skills, including autonomous learning and how to approach authentic material, will be further enhanced.

Various transferable skills will also be covered.

Course Content

Main topics/themes to be covered

- Human rights
- Rights of women
- Women pioneers
- Combating stereotype in the professional world
- Folktales; "One thousand and One night" ألف ليلة وليلة
- The quirk of "Jeha" نوادر جحا
- The fables of "Kallila and Doumna" كليلة ودمنة
- Social charity organisations
- Volunteering work
- Modern standard and colloquialism
- Ethnicity in the Arab world
- Modern standard, colloquialism and different accents in the Arab world
- Islamic banking
- The oil industry in the Arab world

Functions and skills

Speaking and writing

Ability to

- use range of vocabulary accurately and appropriately
- present own argument with clear structure (introduction, body conclusion)
- respond to questions in terms of content
- communicate/interact successfully
- Respond to and discuss /debate / present the controversial aspects of the following issues:

Activities

- To what extent does geography control who enjoys human rights?
- How do you evaluate the effect of the Arab spring on women's rights and liberty?
- What challenges Arab business women face?
- Describe and evaluate women's feminist movement in the Arab world.
- What challenges does Arab business women face?
- Summarising and reflecting on; folktales; fables and quirk"
- What is the role of social institutions in in the Arab sand international society?
- Describe and comment on the voluntary work of the (White Helmet) in Syria.
- What are the differences and similarities between Fusha and 'ameya?
- Does colloquial Arabic language threaten Modern Standard Arabic and the understanding between Arabs themselves?
- How can many ethnicities coexist together in democratic society?
- What are the differences and similarities between Islamic and non-Islamic banking?
- Is Islamic banking "Islamic"?
- How does the Arab oil sector contribute to the Arab economic development?
- To what extent are the natural resources in the Arab world such as oil and gas used for the benefit of the people.

Reading and listening:

Ability to

- Understand and follow complex structure
- Understand details and follow argumentation/discussion
- Ability to extract main ideas and specific information and details and to infer meaning

Activities

- Reading historical and contemporary texts
- Reading extract from economic and political newspapers.
- Reading company profile
- Listening/ watching short authentic programmes from BBC Arabic, France 24 Arabic, Al Arabiya or Al Jazeera documentary.

Writing formats

- Formal business letter
- CVs and cover letter
- Presenting an argument from different perspectives

Linguistic Structures

Grammar

- Verb patterns and weak verbs
- Exclamation اسلوب التعجب
- Possessive phrases نو-ذا-ذي-ذوو-ذوي| ذات| ذوات
- Expressions of time using the suffix (نِذْ)
- Descriptive style using (state الحال)
- Absolute negation (لا النافية للجنس)

- Grammatical objects (المفعول به-المفعول فيه-المفعول المطلق-المفعول لأجله)
 - Verb patterns and hollow verbs
 - Verbs (to begin, to be on the verge of, to almost كاد وأخواتها)
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Learning Resources

Compulsory

- **Al-Kitaab fi Ta'llum Al-Arabiyya (Part 2)**, M. Al-Batal and others (Georgetown University Press) 1995. ISBN: 9781589011045

Additional Material

- **Standard Arabic, An Elementary-intermediate course**, Eckehard Schulz and others (Cambridge University Press) 2004. ISBN: 9780521774659
- **Elementary Modern Standard Arabic**: Peter F. Abboud, & Ernest N. McCarus (Cambridge University Press). ISBN: 9780521272957
- **Media Arabic**: Alaa Elgibali and Nevenka Korica. The American University in Cairo Press, 2007. ISBN: 9789774166525
- **Standard Arabic: An advanced course**: J. Dickins and J. Watson (Cambridge University Press) 1999 ISBN: 9780521635585
- **Arabic Stories for Language Learners: Traditional Middle-Eastern Tales in Arabic and English**: Lutfi Mansour, Tuttle Publishing; Pap/Com BI edition. ISBN-13: 978-0804843003
- **Business Arabic An Essential Vocabulary** (Edinburgh University Press; Bilingual edition (6 Mar. 2008) , ISBN 0748633391
- **Internet Arabic** (Mourad Diouri), (Edinburgh University Press; edition (31 July 2013) ISBN: 0748644911
- **HANS WEHR, A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic**, J. Milton Cowan (Spoken Language Service. Inc.). ISBN: 9780879500030
www.BBC.co.uk/arabic
www.aljazeera.net
www.alquds.co.uk

A selection of authentic material will also be used.

In addition there is a wide range of language learning materials available for self-study in the Self-Access Centre.