

# ARABIC STUDIES

The minor/concentration in Arabic Studies offers a variety of courses in Arabic on cultural topics including Arabic literature, cinema, and modern history. The program welcomes both heritage students and students with no background in Arabic. While the entry-level courses focus on the basic skills of language proficiency, the upper-level courses focus on the cultural issues of the Arab world, and trains students in developing their analytical and critical skills.

## Dearborn Discovery Core (General Education)

All students must satisfy the University's Dearborn Discovery Core requirements ([https://catalog.umd.umich.edu/undergraduate/gen\\_ed\\_ddc/](https://catalog.umd.umich.edu/undergraduate/gen_ed_ddc/)), in addition to the requirements for the major. Students must also complete all CASL Degree Requirements. (<https://catalog.umd.umich.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences-letters/>)

## Prerequisites to the Major

Students majoring in Arabic must successfully complete ARBC 202 or demonstrate equivalent Arabic language proficiency.

## Major Requirements

A minimum of 24 credit hours in upper-level Arabic (ARBC) classes must be completed as outlined below:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Required Course</b>		<b>4</b>
ARBC 301	Advanced Arabic Writing and Conversation	
<b>Specialized Language Course</b>		<b>4</b>
Select one of the following:		
ARBC 305	Language of Business	
ARBC 310	Arabic Translation Skills: Arabic-English and English-Arabic	
ARBC 311	Simultaneous Interpreting Arabic-English and English-Arabic	
ARBC 312	Subtitling Arabic-English and English-Arabic	
<b>Culture, Literature, and Civilization Course</b>		<b>4</b>
Select one of the following:		
ARBC 332	Arabic Cinema	
ARBC 335	Arabic Civilization	
ARBC 365	Intro to the Quran	
<b>Arabic Literature</b>		<b>4</b>
Select one of the following:		
ARBC 304	The Poetry of Arab Women from the Pre-Islamic Age to Andalusia	
ARBC 331	Survey of Arabic Literature	
ARBC 350	Arabic Literature and Culture	
ARBC 351	Contemporary Arabic Literature	
<b>Arabic Comparative Literature Course</b>		<b>4</b>
Select one of the following:		
COML 302	Arabic and Comparative Literature in English	
COML 303	The Arabic Novel and Short Story in Translation	

<b>Select one additional upper-level Arabic (ARBC) or Comparative Literature (COML) course</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Cognates</b>	<b>6-8</b>
Select two upper level courses from the following disciplines: ARTH, COMM, COML (excluding COML 302, 303), ECON, ENGL, ENST, FREN, GEOG, GER, GLOC, HIST, HUM, JASS, LIBS (excluding LIBS 395, 396, 397), MCL, PHIL, POL, RELS, SOC, SPAN, WGST.	
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>30-32</b>

### Notes:

1. A maximum of 54 hours in ARBC may count in the 120 hours required for graduation.
2. At least 18 of the 24 upper level credit hours in ARBC/COML must be elected at UM-D.
3. A maximum of 3 credits of HUM 485 internship can be used in the cognate area.

## Minor or Integrative Studies Concentration Requirements

A minor or concentration consists of 12 credit hours of upper-level courses in Arabic (ARBC) (excluding ARBC 350).

### Prerequisites to the Minor/Concentration

Non-native speakers of Arabic must successfully complete ARBC 202: Intermediate Arabic II (at or outside UM-Dearborn) or demonstrate equivalent Arabic Proficiency Exam offered by LCC Department.

- A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required for the minor/concentration. The GPA is based on all coursework required within the minor (excluding prerequisites).
- The use of transfer credit, field placements, internships, seminars, S/E graded courses, and independent study/research courses is limited to 3 credits in a 12 credit hour minor/concentration and 6 credits in a 15 credit hour and above minor/concentration.
- Courses within a minor/concentration cannot be taken as Pass/Fail (P/F)
- Minors requiring 12 credits may share one course with a major. Minors requiring 15 credits or more may share two courses with a major. This does not apply to concentrations for the Integrative Studies major.

### ARBC 101 Introduction to Arabic Language and Culture 1 4 Credit Hours

First course in the two-course elementary Arabic sequence. Listening comprehension, speaking, reading, writing, and culture are emphasized. Course materials promote the use of language to communicate with others and function in Arabic culture. (F,W,S).

### ARBC 102 Beginning Arabic II 4 Credit Hours

Second course in the two-course elementary sequence. Continued emphasis on culture and the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. (F,W,S).

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 101 or MCL 101 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 102 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 201 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 202 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 301 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 302

**ARBC 201 Introduction to Arabic Language and Culture 3 4 Credit Hours**

An intermediate-level course designed to increase proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in a cultural context. Emphasis is placed on acquiring new vocabulary and expanding the use of grammar structures. (YR).

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 102 or MCL 102 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 201 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 202 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 301 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 302

**ARBC 202 Introduction to Arabic Language and Culture 4 4 Credit Hours**

Second course in the two-course intermediate Arabic sequence. Continued emphasis on the development of the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. (YR).

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 201 or MCL 201 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 202 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 301 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 302

**ARBC 301 Advanced Arabic Writing and Conversation 4 Credit Hours**

This course is designed for students who have already had the equivalent of four semesters of Arabic instruction. The course emphasizes the four language skills with specific attention to the productive skills, oral and written. The course introduces authentic reading materials drawn from different disciplines such as religion, literature, history, and politics, reflecting different styles of Arabic and different periods. This course includes a Practice-Based Project expressed in a Writing Project and an Oral Presentation and Report (Literary and historical figures of the Arab world). (F).

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 202 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 301 or Arabic Language Placement with a score of 302

**ARBC 304 The Poetry of Arab Women from the Pre-Islamic Age to Andalusia 4 Credit Hours**

The course is a comprehensive study of the poetry of Arab women from the 600s CE to the 1400 CEs, a period that is often the focus of historical, political, and religious studies in US academia. It examines the cultural and literary impact of Arab women, a contribution traditionally underrepresented in academia. The course is taught in English and the poems are studied in translation. No prior knowledge of Arabic is necessary. Students of Arabic may submit their assignments and papers in Arabic. This course adopts the project-based learning approach and a relevant final project enables students to practically apply the comparative, analytical, and creative skills they learn in this class. (F, W, YR).

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 202

**ARBC 305 Language of Business 4 Credit Hours**

An introduction to the language and cultural practices of the Arab world of business. Particular emphasis will be placed on learning the terminology used in typical business correspondence and documents related to the world of finance, investment, import, and export, and commerce. A variety of businesses will be examined and opportunities for practice in reading and composing business letters will be provided. This course includes Practice-Based Project expressed in a Writing Project and an Oral Presentation and Report that incorporates real business practices in Arabic based on interaction with local businesses. (W, AY).

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 301

**ARBC 310 Arabic Translation Skills: Arabic-English and English-Arabic 4 Credit Hours**

Arabic Translation Skills is a practical guide that aims at developing students' translation skills. Its target learners are advanced students and native speakers of Arabic and English. offers considerable practice for translation from Arabic into English. Students learn necessary skills to achieve working proficiency in three main genres of translation that are in high demand in the job market: document translation, conference interpreting, and film subtitling. This course is a Project Based Learning centered on a major project and/or on a research question related to the topic of the class and will imply hands-on work for a good portion of the semester. The project can be local or international community-driven and will connect to real-life experiences. (F, W, YR).

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 202

**ARBC 311 Simultaneous Interpreting Arabic-English and English-Arabic 4 Credit Hours**

Simultaneous Interpreting is a major skill. In the current situation of increasing flux of immigration and asylum, many instances necessitate the presence of interpreters to facilitate crucial communication for legal, medical, professional, and even personal reasons. With the state of Michigan as a hub of Arab-American communities, the need for simultaneous interpreters cannot be underestimated. This course trains students to work as interpreters of Arabic speakers to English speaking interviewers in medical, legal, and business settings, among others, as well as in conferences and seminars. Students carry out practical translation projects that provide hands-on training experience as part of the PBL approach this course adopts. (F, W, YR).

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 202

**ARBC 312 Subtitling Arabic-English and English-Arabic 4 Credit Hours**

Subtitling Arabic-English and English-Arabic offers students practical training in a rapidly growing field in translation. Students learn to translate audio-visual material ranging from news videos to documentaries, from songs to film, from recorded political speeches to talk shows. With the recent interest in Middle Eastern current affairs and culture, international media is constantly looking for reliable translations of media produced in Arabic speaking countries. This course covers strategies for translating a variety of Arabic media into English and applies such strategies to authentic material. Students carry out practical translation projects that provide hands-on training experience as part of the PBL approach this course adopts. (F, W, YR).

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 202

**ARBC 331 Survey of Arabic Literature 4 Credit Hours**

Arabic 331 surveys selections from writings in Arabic prose literature (maqama, novel, short story) and poetry that reflect the intellectual, literary and cultural development of the Arabs from pre-Islamic times, up to the present. The course will also explore the social, political, and cultural changes in the Middle East and the development of modern Arabic literary forms. This course adopts the project-based learning approach and a relevant final project enables students to practically apply the analytical, and creative skills they learn in this class.

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 301

**ARBC 332 Arabic Cinema 4 Credit Hours**

The course examines the development of Arabic cinema in its socio-cultural contexts through a range of selected films. It covers the different cinematic genres, prevalent themes and diverse trends and schools across the spectrum of Arab countries including Egypt, Tunisia, Lebanon, Morocco, and Palestine. The course elaborates on the careers of film directors and their approaches to film making and to the cultural issues of their time. The course will be conducted in Arabic. This course adopts the project-based learning approach and a relevant final project enables students to practically apply the comparative, analytical, and creative skills they learn in this class.

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 301

**ARBC 335 Arabic Civilization 4 Credit Hours**

This course gives students an appreciation of Arabic civilization through the study of excerpts from the masterworks of the literary and intellectual Arabic heritage. It provides practice in reading pre-modern and modern classical Arabic texts drawn from a variety of intellectual disciplines. Students may not receive credit for both MCL 3350 and ARBC 335. This course is a Project Based Learning centered on a major project and/or on a research question related to the topic of the class and will imply hands-on work for a good portion of the semester. The project can be local or international community-driven and will connect to real-life experiences.

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 301

**Restriction(s):**

Can enroll if Class is Sophomore or Junior or Senior

**ARBC 350 Arabic Literature and Culture 4 Credit Hours**

An introduction to the literature and other art forms of the modern Arab world in cultural and historical context. Topics include the Arab world-view, religious attitudes and self-expression, and ethnicity and gender. The course assumes no prior knowledge of the region. All readings will be English translation. This course adopts the project-based learning approach and a relevant final project enables students to practically apply the analytical, and creative skills they learn in this class. (YR).

**ARBC 351 Contemporary Arabic Literature 4 Credit Hours**

This course will explore the literary works of contemporary Arab writers from countries such as Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, Algeria, France, and the U.S. Although the course covers a variety of literary genres such as the short story, memoirs, and poetry, it puts special emphasis on the Arab contemporary novel. It also provides an in-depth critical analysis of major themes dealt with by authors in their works such as identity, minority, gender, nationality, war, family, ethnicity, religion, homeland and home, politics, society and culture. Major historical, political, social, cultural, artistic and literary factors shaping and driving contemporary Arabic literary writings today also will be thoroughly examined. The course will feature films and documentaries in addition to internet-based activities. This course is a Project Based Learning centered on a major project and/or on a research question related to the topic of the class and will imply hands-on work for a good portion of the semester. The project can be local or international community-driven and will connect to real-life experiences.

**Prerequisite(s):** ARBC 301

**ARBC 365 Intro to the Quran 4 Credit Hours**

**Full Course Title:** Introduction to the Quran This is an interdisciplinary approach to studying the Qur'an as a religious revelation, literary text, and cultural symbolic language. The course will cover the historical context in which the Qur'an was revealed, disseminated and compiled as a religious scripture. Also, will cover major schools of interpretations and theological doctrines and its political, ideological transformations throughout Islamic history with a special focus on modern times. The class will be conducted in English with no prerequisite of Arabic. However, students minoring in Arabic, in order to receive credits counting for their minor, they are required to write their papers in Arabic. This course is a Project Based Learning centered on a major project and/or on a research question related to the topic of the class and will imply hands-on work for a good portion of the semester. The project can be local or international community-driven and will connect to real-life experiences. (S, OC).

**ARBC 390 Topics in Arabic 3 Credit Hours**

Examination of problems and issues in selected areas of Arabic. Title as listed in Schedule of Classes will change according to content. Course may be repeated when specific topics differ. (OC).

\*An asterisk denotes that a course may be taken concurrently.

**Frequency of Offering**

The following abbreviations are used to denote the frequency of offering: (F) fall term; (W) winter term; (S) summer term; (F, W) fall and winter terms; (YR) once a year; (AY) alternating years; (OC) offered occasionally