

Introduction to Arabic Language Acquisition: Modern Standard Arabic and Egyptian Colloquial II (A005211)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 10.0

Study time 300 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)

Arabic, Dutch

Gent

seminar

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Termonia, Maya

LW21

staff member

Van Nieuwenhuyse, Stijn

LW21

staff member

Van Steenberghe, Jo

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures \(main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies\)](#)

crdts

10

offering

A

[Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures](#)

10

A

[Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures](#)

10

A

[Elective Set Arabic and Islamic Studies](#)

10

A

[Elective Set Languages of Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe](#)

10

A

Teaching languages

Arabic, Dutch

Keywords

Language acquisition (Arabic), basic structures (Arabic), MSA (Modern Standard Arabic), Egyptian Arabic.

Position of the course

This basic course, which is the continuation of Introduction to Arabic Language Acquisition I, contributes to laying the foundations for the academic study of Arabic. It also furthers the introduction of Egyptian Arabic. It continues to prepare students to acquire basic knowledge of grammar and vocabulary, within the four skills of reading, listening, reading, writing).

Contents

This course continues the acquisition of the key elements of Arabic grammar and vocabulary, focussing on the four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing). It consists of two separate components: Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and Egyptian Arabic (EA).

- The classes of MSA continue the acquisition of basic skills of reading, writing and listening, within particular contexts.
- The classes of EA continue the acquisition of basic skills of speaking and listening. Relevant contexts are traffic, daily routine, leisure and hobbies, ordering in shops and restaurants, the house, clothing, and colors.

Initial competences

To have successfully completed Introduction to Arabic Language Acquisition I, or to have obtained its learning outcomes in other demonstrable ways.

Final competences

- 1 Students understand Arabic sentences and most frequent words that are directly related to their own persons.
- 2 Students understand the main points in short, clear and simple Arabic messages

and announcements.

- 3 Students identify specific, predictable information in simple and everyday Arabic texts.
- 4 Students use a series of Arabic expressions and sentences to speak in simple ways about well-known contexts.
- 5 Students write brief and simple Arabic texts.
- 6 Students are familiar with the most frequent reading strategies to access brief and simple Arabic texts.
- 7 Students are familiar with the most frequent listening strategies to access brief and simple Arabic fragments of speech.
- 8 Students apply the most frequent Arabic vocabulary.
- 9 Students apply the most frequent Arabic grammatical structures.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar

Extra information on the teaching methods

Assignments concerning semi-authentic and authentic messages, texts and contexts (including student preparation)

Four skills: reading, listening, reading, writing

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Brustad, K. & al-Batal, M. & al-Tonsi, A., al-Kitaab fii Taallum al-Arabiyya Part 1, Second Edition. Washington: Georgetown University Press, 2004.

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Author : Brustad, K. & al-Batal, M. & al-Tonsi, A.,

Online Available : Yes

Available in the Library : Yes

Available through Student Association : No

Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive

Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : intensive

Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : not

Type: Handbook

Name: Kallimni 'Arabi: an Intermediate Course in Spoken Egyptian Arabic. Cairo: American University Cairo Press, 2007.

Indicative price: € 40

Optional: no

Language : Other

Author : S. Louis

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : Yes

Available through Student Association : Yes

Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive

Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : intensive

Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : not

References

- Schulz, E., *A Student Grammar of Modern Standard Arabic*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008
- Wehr, H., *Arabic-English Dictionary, Fourth Edition*.

Course content-related study coaching

Tests during the semester; students are expected to participate actively and consistently, and they are encouraged to ask questions.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Skills test, Participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Written and oral exam (organised separately for each component).

- Written exam = reading-writing-vocab&grammar MSA
- Oral exam = speaking-vocab&grammar EA

Participation, skills test (organised separately for each component):

- active and consistent participation during classes
- assignments and tasks (listening MSA & EA / vocabulary& grammar MSA & EA)

Calculation of the examination mark

Modern Standard Arabic 70%

Egyptian Arabic 30%

Both components are subdivided according to skills into end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment (active participation during classes, and tests and assignments).

Students who do not participate in (one of the skills-related parts of) the assessment, or have a mark below 10/20 for one of the skills-related parts (MSA reading, MSA writing, EA speaking, MSA listening, EA listening, MSA vocab&grammar, EA vocab&grammar), automatically fail the entire course. Final marks higher than 10/20 will, in this case, be reduced to the highest mark that does not qualify for automatic upgrade ('deliberation') (7/20).

A pass mark for one of the skills-related parts means that the assessment of that part does not need to be retaken in case of a resit (only!). Students are nevertheless free to decide to retake it.

Facilities for Working Students

1. Student attendance during educational activities is required
2. The examination cannot be rescheduled
3. Feedback can be given by email, telephone or during an appointment during office hours.

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy