

## Structures of Arabic (Language and Texts): Literary Heritage (A006634)

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

**Credits 7.0**

**Study time 210 h**

### Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent	seminar	0.0h
			independent work	0.0h

### Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Termonia, Maya	LW21	staff member
Van Nieuwenhuysse, Stijn	LW21	staff member
Van Steenberghe, Jo	LW21	lecturer-in-charge

### Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies)</a>	7	A
<a href="#">Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures</a>	7	A
<a href="#">Elective Set Arabic and Islamic Studies</a>	7	A

### Teaching languages

Dutch

### Keywords

Arabic grammar, the study of Arabic texts, Arabic literary heritage, Arabic intellectual heritage

### Position of the course

This course continues Introduction to Arabic Language Acquisition I-II and provides an introduction to the study of Arabic texts and the structures of the Arabic language. It also engages in greater depth with contents related to the courses Introduction to the History of Islamic West Asia (600-1800) and Introduction to Islam and Being a Muslim. This course introduces the student to the rich corpus of (pre-modern) Arabic literary texts in its most diverse forms, thematically, geographically and chronologically, with due attention to the wide range of extant genres.

### Contents

This course consists of two components: structures of texts and structures of language.

\* Various simple texts from the Arab cultural heritage are analyzed in text structures. The selected fragments come from, among others, the Koran, the frame story of 1001 Nights, the story cycle of Kalila & Dimna and the travel literature of Ibn Battuta. In addition, attention is paid to the religious, literary, historical and social context from which these texts originate.

\* Language structures discusses the (study of the) structure of the Arabic language in more detail.

### Initial competences

To have successfully completed Introduction to Arabic Language Acquisition I & II, or to have acquired the intended competences in another way.

### Final competences

- 1 The student translates simple texts from the Arabic literary heritage with the help of the dictionary.
- 2 The student identifies the main points from simple texts from the Arabic literary

heritage

- 3 The student analyses simple texts from the Arabic literary heritage with an eye for language structures.
- 4 The student explains the characteristics of simple texts from the Arabic literary heritage
- 5 The student knows the most frequent reading strategies for simple texts from the Arabic literary heritage.
- 6 The student contextualizes simple texts from the Arabic literary heritage.
- 7 The student knows the grammatical structures that occur most frequently in simple texts from the Arabic literary heritage.

#### **Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

#### **Conditions for exam contract**

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

#### **Teaching methods**

Seminar, Independent work

#### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

Seminar: the classes consist of two components: language structures and text structures.

\* During the text structures classes, texts prepared by the student are studied. This preparation includes reading comprehension, translation and acquisition of the literary, cultural and historical context.

\* The language structures classes focus on the study of Arabic grammar.

Independent work: reading and/or writing assignments

#### **Study material**

Type: Handbook

Name: Allen, R., An introduction to Arabic Literature. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000.

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Author : R. Allen

Online Available : Yes

Available in the Library : Yes

Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly

Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : one-time

Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : occasionally

Type: Syllabus

Name: ATT: Taalstructuren

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Other

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

Available in the Library : No

Available through Student Association : No

#### **References**

\* S.A. Bonebakker, M. Fishbein, A Reader of Classical Arabic Literature (Lockwood Press, 2012)

\* R. Irwin, Nights & Horses & the Desert: An Anthology of Classical Arabic Literature (Anchor, 2002)

\* B.K. Frangieh, Anthology of Arabic Literature, Culture, and Thought from Pre-Islamic Times to the Present (Yale University Press, 2005)

\* A. Vrolijk, De taal der engelen: 1250 jaar klassiek Arabisch proza (Amsterdam: Contact, 2002)

\* Wehr, H., Arabic-English Dictionary, Fourth Edition.

\* Van Steenbergen, J., Een Nieuwe Geschiedenis van de Islamitische Wereld: Rijks- en identiteitsvorming in islamitisch West-Azië, 7de-18de eeuw (Acco 2018)

**Course content-related study coaching**

Interactive classes with active participation allow the students to receive direct feedback. Feedback after the exams. Ufora.

**Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Written assessment

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

Written assessment

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

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 exam on the entire course material (language structures and text structures). Participation: active participation during class and completing assignments and tasks on time.

**Calculation of the examination mark**

Texts structures: 70 %

Language structures: 30 %

Both parts are subdivided 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 parts of) the assessment, or have a mark below 10/20 for one of the assessed parts, 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 assessed 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**

Student attendance is compulsory.

The examination cannot be rescheduled.

Feedback can be given by email, telephone or after appointment during office hours.

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