



University
of Exeter



Evening language programme 2025/26

Course title: Arabic Beginners Part II

Course descriptor/objectives

The aim of the course is to offer an introduction to Arabic for a range of basic communication purposes.

Participants will continue to develop some basic reading, listening, speaking and writing skills through a series of task-oriented sessions and will be provided with informal formative feedback during contact hours.

By the end of the course (part I & II) participants will be able to:

1. Understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type.
2. Introduce themselves and others and ask and answer questions about personal details such as where they live, people they know and things they have.
3. Interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

In seminars, participants will have to engage in practical exercises and group interaction in order to develop relevant language-specific learning strategies. The role of the instructor is to facilitate this process, provide useful tools and encourage participants to become independent learners and basic users of the languages too.

Language-specific information:

Arabic is the official language of 26 states and one of the six official languages of the United Nations. All varieties combined, Arabic has over 360 million native speakers, with another 270 million speaking it as a second language, making it the sixth most spoken language in the world. Arabic is related to two Semitic languages still used in the Middle East: chiefly Hebrew and also Amharic, the official language of Ethiopia. There are three distinct forms of Arabic. Classical, Formal or Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), and Spoken or Colloquial Arabic.

- Classical Arabic is the form of literary Arabic found in the Quran.
- Formal Arabic or MSA is the official language of the Arabic world.
- Colloquial Arabic is the form of spoken dialects and there are more than 30 different forms.

Our courses focus on the vocabulary and grammar of everyday speech using MSA.

Prerequisite:

This non-credit bearing weekly course is intended for beginners who have completed a 10-week course (20 hours) or equivalent

Coursebook and/or learning resources:

Continuation of: Mastering Arabic, 4th edition,
Jane Wightwick/Mahmoud Gaafar