



CMES

CENTRE FOR ADVANCED
MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic

This course syllabus and description applies to the 2022 fall semester.

General Information

This is an Arabic language course offered by the Centre for Advanced Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) exclusively for Lund University staff and students interested in working and conducting research in Arabic speaking countries.

Language of instruction: English

Credits: no credits will be awarded

Course fee: the course is free of charge for participants

This 10-week course in Modern Standard Arabic (Intermediate User, level B1-B2) will be offered during the fall semester of 2022. Classes will be held on Wednesdays, 13:15-15:00, at CMES.

Course Content

The course provides practical linguistic knowledge and cultural background for students and staff who want to study Arabic for work, fieldwork and/or research purposes. Participants will be able to use the language in everyday situations. In addition to Modern Standard Arabic, participants will also get insights into cultures and traditions of the Arabic speaking world. The course is based on a combination of lectures, individual studies and seminars.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course, students shall be able to:

- understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters encountered in everyday situations in work, school, leisure, etc.
- interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers possible

Entry Requirements

To be eligible for the course, participants must either be employed at Lund University or enrolled as students at Lund University. Previous knowledge of Arabic is required. The language level of successful applicants will be assessed before classes commence.

Application Procedure

Participants should apply to attend the course by sending an email to info@cme.lu.se no later than Monday September 5, 2022. Please write “B1 Arabic Course” in the subject line and include the following information: full name; reason for applying (e.g., fieldwork, research, internship); and previous knowledge of the Arabic language. If you are employed at LU, please include your LUCAT id. If you are a student at LU, please include your date of birth. If your application is successful, you will receive additional information before the course commences.

Course Coordinator

The course is taught and coordinated by Rafah Barhoum, language training expert at CMES. Rafah has previously taught Modern Standard Arabic at LU’s Centre for Languages and Literature and worked as a supervisor teacher of Modern Standard Arabic at the Higher Language Institute at Damascus University. She is specialized in teaching Arabic as a second language. Her teaching approach builds on using authentic materials, involving culture, providing opportunities for lived experiences outside the classroom and building on the students’ motivation for using the language. Rafah can be contacted at rafah.barhoum@cme.lu.se

Course Literature

Bader, Fawzieh Ahmad (2010) *Al-Asas for Teaching Arabic for Non-Native Speakers: Part 3, Intermediate Level*. Richardson: Noorart. ISBN: 978-1933269115

Brosh, Hezi and Luṭfī Mansūr (2013) *Arabic stories for language learners: traditional Middle Eastern tales in Arabic and English*. Tokyo: Tuttle Publishing. ISBN: 780–804843003

Elgibali, Alaa and Nevenka Korica (2014) *Media Arabic: a coursebook for reading Arabic news*. Revised and updated edition. Cairo: American University in Cairo Press. ISBN: 978–9774166525

Hassanein, Azza (2006) *Modern Standard Arabic grammar: a concise guide*. Cairo: American University in Cairo Press. ISBN: 978–9774160127

Wightwick, Jane and Mahmoud Gaafar (2005) *Mastering Arabic grammar*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. ISBN: 978–1403941091

Schedule

Date	Class Content
Wed. 14 Sept.	<i>Class 1:</i> Grammar review – verb conjugation and past tense. تصريف الأفعال
Wed. 21 Sept.	<i>Class 2:</i> Grammar review – Arabic question words and negation. أدوات الاستفهام والنفي. Cultural topics: food, eating and drinking. Practicing communicating in a restaurant situation. Group conversations.
Wed. 28 Sept.	<i>Class 3:</i> Grammar review and exercises – singular, dual and plural. المفرد والمثنى والجمع. Future tense. المستقبل Topics: the weather, planning and going on a holiday.
Wed. 5 Oct.	<i>Class 4:</i> Demonstrative pronouns أسماء الإشارة Topics: the time, everyday routine, days of the week and seasons.
Wed. 12 Oct.	<i>Class 5:</i> Comparative and superlative adjectives in Arabic. صفات المقارنة والتفضيل في العربية Making comparisons, comparing the past and the present. Topic: life in the countryside and in the city. Presentations: compare life in the countryside with life in the city.
Wed. 19 Oct.	<i>Class 6:</i> Grammar – genitive construction (idafah, الإضافة)

Topic: education. Presentations: education in your country, at school and at university.

Wed. 26 Oct. *Class 7: Grammar – plurals and adjectives. Presentations: a look at an Arab country. Choose an Arab country and prepare a presentation for your class. Talk about topics such as location, population, historical overview, tourism and so on.*

There will be no class on Wednesday November 2 (week 44).

Wed. 9 Nov. *Class 8: Grammar – verbal noun the ‘maSdar’ المَصْدَر*
Topic: sports, hobbies and leisure. Presentations: talk about a sport or hobby that you like. Describe it and explain why you like it.

Wed. 16 Nov. *Class 9: Grammar – forms of verbs. Topic: technology and its impact on our lives. Presentations: positive and negative effects of technology’s impact on our lives, advantages and disadvantages.*

Wed. 23 Nov. *Class 10: Grammar – forms of verbs. Topic: vocabulary and phrases related to health and happiness such as the human body, illness, at the pharmacy, at the doctor’s office, making an appointment, emergencies and first aid.*

Class Assignments

- Every two weeks, participants will receive a story in Arabic to read and then talk about briefly in class.
- From class 4 and on, participants should bring a short news story about the MENA region with them to class and speak about it to the class in a 3–4-minute presentation.
- Participants will make presentations on the topics covered in the lesson plan by choosing relevant articles and speaking about the topic in front of the class. Topics addressing different phenomena in the MENA region may include: unemployment in the Arab world; pollution; and climate change and environment challenges (such as the oil industry).