

Arabic

Minor

The Department of Near Eastern Studies offers a minor in Arabic. Students wishing to major in the study of Arabic should do so as a concentration within the Near Eastern Languages and Literatures (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2016-17/undergraduate/degree-programs/near-eastern-languages-literatures>) major.

Students minoring in Arabic choose one of two options. Option A is open to students with little or no background in the language. Option B is for students who have completed the equivalent of two years of university-level coursework in the language. For specific information regarding the requirements for each option, please see the Minor Requirements tab on this page.

Students may pursue the major in Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art and Archaeology and a minor in one of the department's language programs, even though both are administered by the Department of Near Eastern Studies; students may not pursue a major in one of the Near Eastern Studies languages and a minor in another. Students may pursue the major in Near Eastern Languages and Literatures and a minor in Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Civilizations.

Declaring the Minor

For information regarding how to declare the minor, please see the department's website (<http://nes.berkeley.edu/BA-degree-requirements-minors.html>).

Other Majors and Minors offered by the Department of Near Eastern Studies

Ancient Egyptian Near Eastern Art and Archaeology (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2016-17/undergraduate/degree-programs/ancient-egyptian-near-eastern-art-archaeology>) (Major)

Near Eastern Civilizations (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2016-17/undergraduate/degree-programs/near-eastern-civilizations>) (Major)

Near Eastern Languages and Literatures (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2016-17/undergraduate/degree-programs/near-eastern-languages-literatures>) (Major)

Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Civilizations (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/ancient-egyptian-near-eastern-civilizations>) (Minor)

Arabic (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2016-17/undergraduate/degree-programs/arabic>) (Minor)

Hebrew (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2016-17/undergraduate/degree-programs/hebrew>) (Minor)

Persian (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2016-17/undergraduate/degree-programs/persian>) (Minor)

Turkish (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2016-17/undergraduate/degree-programs/turkish>) (Minor)

Students who have a strong interest in an area of study outside their major often decide to complete a minor program. A minor in Arabic language is often a complimentary study to students who are pursuing majors in a variety of fields, especially related to international and global studies.

General Guidelines

1. All courses taken to fulfill the minor requirements below must be taken for graded credit.
2. A minimum of three of the upper division courses taken to fulfill the minor requirements must be completed at UC Berkeley.
3. A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 is required for courses used to fulfill the minor requirements.
4. Courses used to fulfill the minor requirements may be applied toward the Seven-Course Breadth requirement, for Letters & Science students.
5. No more than one upper division course may be used to simultaneously fulfill requirements for a student's major and minor programs.
6. All minor requirements must be completed prior to the last day of finals during the semester in which you plan to graduate. If you cannot finish all courses required for the minor by that time, please see a College of Letters & Science adviser.
7. All minor requirements must be completed within the unit ceiling. (For further information regarding the unit ceiling, please see the College Requirements tab.)

Requirements, Option A

Open to students with no background in the language

Lower Division Requirements

ARABIC 1A	Elementary Arabic	5
ARABIC 1B	Elementary Arabic	5
ARABIC 20A	Intermediate Arabic	5
ARABIC 20B	Intermediate Arabic	5

Upper Division Requirements

ARABIC 100A	Advanced Arabic	3
Two 1-semester literature courses ¹		6
Two 1-semester courses in Arabic culture/history		6

Total Units **35**

¹ Texts must be in Arabic. ARABIC 100B can count as one of these courses.

Requirements, Option B

Open to students who can demonstrate proficiency at a level equivalent to that expected of students who have successfully completed the elementary and intermediate courses in the language (two years of university-level coursework)

Upper Division Requirements

Five 1-semester courses in Arabic language or literature ¹	15
Two 1-semester courses in Arabic culture/history ²	6

Total Units **21**

¹ Texts must be in Arabic. ARABIC 100B can count as one of these courses.

² The undergraduate adviser may approve external department substitution courses for the culture/history requirement.

Arabic

ARABIC 1A Elementary Arabic 5 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015

This course emphasizes the functional usage of Arabic in the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Authentic audio, video, and reading materials are presented from the beginning, and students are encouraged to be creative with the language in and out of class.

Elementary Arabic: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 1A is a prerequisite to 1B

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of recitation per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Elementary Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 1B Elementary Arabic 5 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Spring 2016

This course emphasizes the functional usage of Arabic in the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Authentic audio, video, and reading materials are presented from the beginning, and students are encouraged to be creative with the language in and out of class.

Elementary Arabic: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 1A is a prerequisite to 1B

Credit Restrictions: Formerly Arabic 2AB.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of recitation per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Elementary Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 11 Arabic for Reading Knowledge 4 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Summer 2003 10 Week Session

The course is designed to guide students through Arabic grammar with a systematic treatment of the subject and the use of classical Arabic texts.

Arabic for Reading Knowledge: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Summer: 6 weeks - 10 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Bazian

Arabic for Reading Knowledge: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 15 Spoken Arabic 6 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Summer 2003 10 Week Session, Summer 1997 10 Week Session

Practice in speaking an Arabic dialect.

Spoken Arabic: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Summer: 8 weeks - 12 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Spoken Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 15B Spoken Arabic 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Spring 2009, Spring 2003

Practice in speaking an Arabic dialect.

Spoken Arabic: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 15A

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit if different dialect is offered.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 101B

Spoken Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 20A Intermediate Arabic 5 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015

This course is proficiency oriented. Authentic reading in modern standard and classical Arabic and the understanding and application of grammatical and stylistic rules are emphasized. Students deliver oral presentations and write academic papers in Arabic.

Intermediate Arabic: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 1B or equivalent; 20A is a prerequisite to 20B

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of recitation per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Intermediate Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 20B Intermediate Arabic 5 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Spring 2016

This course is proficiency oriented. Authentic reading in modern standard and classical Arabic and the understanding and application of grammatical and stylistic rules are emphasized. Students deliver oral presentations and write academic papers in Arabic.

Intermediate Arabic: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 20A

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of recitation per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Intermediate Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 30 Intermediate Arabic 10 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Summer 2017 8 Week Session, Summer 2016 10 Week Session, Summer 2016 8 Week Session

This course is equivalent to a full year of intermediate level Arabic. It will deepen skills in speaking, comprehending, reading, and writing Modern Standard Arabic.

Intermediate Arabic: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: One year of college level Arabic

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for 30 after taking 20A-20B.

Hours & Format

Summer: 8 weeks - 20 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Intermediate Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 50 Advanced Arabic 10 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Summer 1997 10 Week Session, Summer 1995 10 Week Session

This course will include grammatical and stylistic analysis of Arabic texts from both the classical and the modern periods. Class will be conducted entirely in Arabic.

Advanced Arabic: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Two years of college level Arabic

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for 50 after taking 100A-100B.

Hours & Format

Summer: 8 weeks - 20 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Advanced Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 100A Advanced Arabic 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015

Intensive reading and analysis of texts of different genres. Guest lectures, films, documentaries, oral presentations, research papers. Formal and informal styles of writing and correspondence. Extensive vocabulary building.

Advanced Arabic: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 100A is prerequisite for 100B. 20B

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Advanced Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 100B Advanced Arabic 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Spring 2016

Intensive reading and analysis of texts of different genres. Guest lectures, films, documentaries, oral presentations, research papers. Formal and informal styles of writing and correspondence. Extensive vocabulary building.

Advanced Arabic: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 100A

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Advanced Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 104A Modern Arabic Prose 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

This course is designed for students who wish to concentrate on contemporary prose. Reading and analysis of modern Arabic fiction, including short stories, drama, the novel, and expository prose.

Modern Arabic Prose: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 20B or equivalent

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Modern Arabic Prose: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 104B Classical Arabic Prose 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Spring 2018, Fall 2015, Fall 2009

This course is designed for students who wish to concentrate on Arabic of the classical periods of Arab and Islamic civilization. Reading and analysis of literary texts of various genres, including essays, biography, and travel literature.

Classical Arabic Prose: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 20B or equivalent

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Classical Arabic Prose: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 105A Modern Arabic Poetry 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

Readings and analysis of 20th-century Arabic poetry.

Modern Arabic Poetry: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 20B or equivalent

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Modern Arabic Poetry: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 105B Classical Arabic Poetry 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2008, Fall 2006

Readings and analysis of poetry from the pre-Islamic through the classical periods.

Classical Arabic Poetry: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Arabic 20B or equivalent

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Classical Arabic Poetry: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 107 Arabic Historical and Geographical Texts 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Spring 2016

Readings from the classical historians and geographers and from contemporary scholarship. Development of historiography.

Arabic Historical and Geographical Texts: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 20B or equivalent

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Arabic Historical and Geographical Texts: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 108 Islamic Religious and Philosophical Texts in Arabic 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015

Readings in the basic texts of Islam (Qur'an, Huran, Hadith, Sira, commentary) and in theological, mystical, and philosophical texts.

Islamic Religious and Philosophical Texts in Arabic: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 20B or equivalent

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Islamic Religious and Philosophical Texts in Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 111A Survey of Arabic Literature (in Arabic) 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Fall 2015, Fall 2014, Fall 2013

This course is designed primarily for majors and prospective majors in Arabic studies. The Classical Periods: A literary-historical survey of Arabic literature from pre-Islamic times to the middle of the thirteenth century, with emphasis on the more important achievements of major Arab authors.

Survey of Arabic Literature (in Arabic): Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 100A

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Survey of Arabic Literature (in Arabic): Read Less [-]

ARABIC 111B Survey of Arabic Literature (in Arabic) 3 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016

This course is designed primarily for majors and prospective majors in Arabic studies. The Post-Abbasid and Modern Periods: A literary-historical survey of Arabic literature from the middle of the thirteenth century to the present.

Survey of Arabic Literature (in Arabic): Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 100A

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Survey of Arabic Literature (in Arabic): Read Less [-]

ARABIC 115A Colloquial Arabic 4 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Fall 2017

This course introduces students to a standard colloquial Arabic and the cultures of the region in which it spoken. The colloquial will change based on availability. The focus of the course is on speaking and listening, but also includes readings from printed materials. The course draws on various media including advertisements, theater, and film composed in colloquial style. This course will also expose students to literature composed in colloquial. Moreover, students will study the social stratification in the society along with an analysis of the speech of each social level. Students use their knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic as a platform for learning to communicate in colloquial.

Colloquial Arabic: Read More [+]

Objectives Outcomes

Course Objectives: By the completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Understand what they hear and what they read in ECA
2. Hold conversation in ECA with native speakers
3. Read and comprehend literature written in ECA
4. Gain an understanding of the Egyptian culture
5. Be aware of cultural references in context
6. Recognize the language level of the speaker to avoid misunderstandings
7. Respond to any speaker according to his/her language level.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Arabic 1B

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Colloquial Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 115B Colloquial Arabic 4 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Spring 2018

This course introduces students to Egyptian Colloquial Arabic and the cultures of the region in which it is spoken. The focus of the course is on speaking and listening, but also includes readings from printed materials. The course draws on various media including advertisements, theater, and film composed in colloquial style. This course will also expose students to literature composed in colloquial. Moreover, students will study the social stratification in the Egyptian society along with a analysis of the speech of each social level. Students use their knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic as a platform for learning to communicate in Egyptian colloquial.

Colloquial Arabic: Read More [+]

Objectives Outcomes

Course Objectives: By the completion of ECA course students should be able to:

1. Read and comprehend literature written in ECA
2. Hold longer conversations with native speakers on different topics.
3. Understand the sociolinguistic aspects of Egyptian culture.
4. Understand and engage in the Egyptian humor which forms a big part of the culture.
5. Understand and engage in social occasions such as greetings giving condolences, etc.
6. Recognize the language level of the speaker to avoid misunderstandings.
7. Respond to any speaker according to his/her language level.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Arabic 115A

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Colloquial Arabic: Read Less [-]

ARABIC H195 Senior Honors 2 - 4 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Fall 2003

Directed study centered upon preparation of an honors thesis.

Senior Honors: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Limited to senior honors candidates

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for a maximum of 4 units.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Senior Honors: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 198 Directed Group Study for Upper Division Students 1 - 4 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Summer 2000 10 Week Session

Instruction in areas not covered by regularly scheduled courses.

Directed Group Study for Upper Division Students: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Enrollment is restricted; see the section on Academic Policies-Course Number Guide in the Berkeley Bulletin.

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of directed group study per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 2-8 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Directed Group Study for Upper Division Students: Read Less [-]

ARABIC 199 Supervised Independent Study and Research 1 - 4 Units

Offered through: Near Eastern Studies

Terms offered: Fall 1998

Enrollment restrictions apply; see the Introduction to Courses and Curricula section of this catalog.

Supervised Independent Study and Research: [Read More \[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Enrollment is restricted; see the section on Academic Policies-Course Number Guide in the Berkeley Bulletin.

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Arabic/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Supervised Independent Study and Research: [Read Less \[-\]](#)