



UNIVERSIDAD  
DE GRANADA



CENTRO DE  
LENGUAS  
MODERNAS

**HISPANIC STUDIES  
COURSE (HSC)  
(45-hour courses)**

**INTRODUCTION TO THE  
ARABIC LANGUAGE**

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE ARABIC LANGUAGE

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This introduction to Arabic course aims to offer students a general vision of this language within which they will learn, on the one hand, linguistic aspects such as the origin and evolution of the language, its geographical diversity and characteristics of classical and modern Arabic, and on the other hand, students will learn instrumental aspects of the language such as the alphabet and calligraphy, and a basic knowledge of the language in order to be able to communicate.

### Course programme

#### I. The Arabic language: historic-linguistic description

1. History of the Arabic language
  - a) Semitic languages and the position of Arabic within them
  - b) Arabic, semitic language of the southeast:southern Arabic versus northern Arabic
  - c) Proto-Arabic
  - d) Arabic before the Islam
  - e) The emergence of diglossia and the neo-Arabic linguistic type
  - f) Standard Arabic
  - g) The genesis of neo-Arabic dialects: the case of al-Andaluz Araic
  - h) Modern standard Arabic (MSA): formation, structure and development
  - i) The present day linguistic situation in the Arab world
2. Writing system
  - a) Alphabet
    - i. Historical order
    - ii. Modern order based on similarities between graphemes
  - b) Spelling
    - i. Primary characters
    - ii. Primary derived characters
    - iii. Secondary characters
  - c) Installing Arabic in the computer
    - i. Complex Text Layout Language (CTL)
    - ii. Install the keys for text orientation
    - iii. Short-cut keys: changing the input language
    - iv. Installing new free fonts
3. The alphabet
  - a) Long vowels (*alif, waw, ya*): ا و ي
  - b) The letters *ba, ta y t*: ب ت ث ن
  - c) The letters *dal y dal*: د ذ
  - d) The letters *ra y za*: ر ز
  - e) The letters *ha, ja y jim*: ح ح خ
  - f) The letters *sin y sin*: س ش
  - g) The letters *sad, dad, ta y dad*: ص ض ط ظ
  - h) The letters *kaf, lam, mim y nun*: ك ل م ن
  - i) The letters *ayin, gayn, fa y qaf*: ع غ ف ق
  - j) The letter *ha*: هـ
4. Word formation in Arabic
  - a) Word classification in Arabic:: noun, verb and preposition.
  - b) The concept of morphological paradigm
5. Arabic syntaxis
  - a) Practical introduction to the use of the nominal sentence
  - b) Practical introduction to the use of the verbal sentence

- c) Prepositional phrases

## II. The Arabic language: communicative content

1. Personal information: introduce oneself and greet people
  - a) Personal pronouns: أنا أنت أنتِ هو هي
  - b) Interrogative من
  - c) Demonstratives: هذا ، هذه
  - d) Names and nationalities
  - e) Jobs
2. Speak about daily activities
  - a) Vocabulary: verbs related to daily activities
  - b) Interrogative: ماذا
  - c) Express frequency
3. Ask and give directions (in the city, locate cities on the map,...)
  - a) Interrogative أي
  - b) Vocabulary : location and directions
4. Express basic likes and preferences (food, free-time activities, places, ..)
5. Describe places: describe the city/house

## Methodology

- The methodology is based on three different modalities: teacher's explanations, individual or group practical exercises in the classroom and also outside the classroom, group projects based on the theoretical content, oral presentations, written exercises, all of which will include the use of the different skills.
- An essential part of this course will be the numerous and varied oral activities.

## Assessment

- 80% class attendance is compulsory.
- The assessment of the student's performance will be based on three parts:
  - 1- final exam (30%)
  - 2- mid-term exam (20%)
  - 3- set exercises and activities in class and for homework (50%, for completing the tasks adequately for each topic).

## Bibliography

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- AGUILAR, V. *et al.* (2006): *Paso a paso* ([www.arabele.org/pasoapaso](http://www.arabele.org/pasoapaso)).
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- WEBER, N. (2004): *La escritura árabe es fácil*. Barcelona: Sirpus.