

5 Things to Know

1. Why study Arabic Studies?

Arabic Studies at Dal examines the Arab World's language, culture, literature, and spirituality. An Arabist is a person who completes a scholarly formation in this field. Arabic is the fifth most spoken language in the World (over 400 million speakers); a United Nations language; the official language of 22 states (from the Middle East, North Africa, and Asia); recognized as a second language in some countries; and spoken internationally by large communities. Solid knowledge in Arabic Studies expands your own world and assets.

2. Why take Arabic Studies at Dalhousie?

Our program offers courses that teach Modern Standard Arabic (the formal communication tool for the entire Arab World) at beginner, intermediate and advanced proficiency levels. Notions of Arabic dialects are also taught. The cultural component covers the Arabic Classical foundation (history, Islam and Christianity, spirituality, etc.), reaching modern and contemporary periods, including pop culture aspects, traditions, music, arts, etc.

3. What courses are offered?

Our course offerings include Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced level language classes; Conversational Arabic: Intro to Levantine Dialects; Literary Readings (taught in Arabic); Cultural Intro to the Arab World and Arabic Pre-Islamic Poetry (both taught in English). These may be taken to complete the Minor in Arabic Studies or as electives. Language classes satisfy the Language requirement for some programs. Complementary classes are offered through the Religious Studies Program and the Minor in Middle East Studies (History Department).

4. What jobs can people with an Arabic Studies degree have?

Arabic is in high demand on the work market; mastering it is a strong intercultural communication asset that can open a world of opportunities to those seeking careers in **business, translation/interpretation, foreign service, international development, NGOs, immigration and settlement services, international organizations, government, journalism**, etc.

5. Where to start?

Take Intro to Arabic I (ARBC1021) and A Cultural Intro to the Arab World (ARBC2100/RELS 2052) – no previous knowledge of Arabic required. Then take ARBC 1022 (pre-requisite: ARBC 1021).

Have a question? Email: claswww@dal.ca

Learn more: dal.ca/arabic-studies

