

Arabic (ARBC)

Course information contained within the Bulletin is accurate at the time of publication in June 2025 but is subject to change. For the most up-to-date course information, please refer to the Course Catalog.

ARBC 0868. World Society in Literature & Film. 3 Credit Hours.

Learn about a particular national culture by taking a guided tour of its literature and film. You don't need to speak a language other than English to take this exciting course, and you will gain the fresh, subtle understanding that comes from integrating across different forms of human expression. Some of the issues that will be illuminated by looking at culture through the lens of literature and film include family structures and how they are changing, national self-perceptions, pivotal moments in history, economic issues, social change and diversity. NOTE: This course fulfills the World Society (GG) requirement for students under GenEd and International Studies (IS) for students under Core. Students cannot receive credit for this course if they have successfully completed any of the following: Arabic 0968, Asian Studies 0868, Chinese 0868/0968, English 0868/0968, French 0868/0968, German 0868/0968, Hebrew 0868, Italian 0868/0968, Japanese 0868/0968, Jewish Studies 0868, Korean 0868, LAS 0868/0968, Political Science 0868/0968, Russian 0868/0968, or Spanish 0868/0968.

Course Attributes: GG

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

ARBC 0968. Honors World Society in Literature & Film. 3 Credit Hours.

Learn about a particular national culture by taking a guided tour of its literature and film. You don't need to speak a language other than English to take this exciting course, and you will gain the fresh, subtle understanding that comes from integrating across different forms of human expression. Some of the issues that will be illuminated by looking at culture through the lens of literature and film include family structures and how they are changing, national self-perceptions, pivotal moments in history, economic issues, social change and diversity. (This is an Honors course.) NOTE: This course fulfills the World Society (GG) requirement for students under GenEd and International Studies (IS) for students under Core. Students cannot receive credit for this course if they have successfully completed any of the following: Arabic 0868, Asian Studies 0868, Chinese 0868/0968, English 0868/0968, French 0868/0968, German 0868/0968, Hebrew 0868, Italian 0868/0968, Japanese 0868/0968, Jewish Studies 0868, Korean 0868, LAS 0868/0968, Political Science 0868/0968, Russian 0868/0968, or Spanish 0868/0968.

Course Attributes: GG, HO

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

ARBC 1001. Arabic Elements I. 4 Credit Hours.

First semester level of Arabic.

Course Attributes: LC

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

ARBC 1002. Arabic Elements II. 4 Credit Hours.

Second semester level of Arabic.

Course Attributes: LC

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in ARBC 1001.

ARBC 1401. Spoken Syrian Colloquial I. 1 Credit Hour.

This is an elementary course in spoken Syrian colloquial, which is closely related to other Arabic colloquials spoken in the Levant region. The goal is to become aware of and acquire skills in the basic linguistic shifts from modern standard Arabic (MSA) to the regional colloquial. Arabic is characterized as diglossic, meaning that most speakers of the language utilize two registers, the spoken and the formal written. There is a considerable gap between the two on a number of levels: pronunciation, word choice, grammar and syntax.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in ARBC 1002.

ARBC 2000. Special Topics I. 3 Credit Hours.

Arranged each semester. Please consult with the instructor and/or check the course schedule for specific topic.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

ARBC 2001. Arabic Intermediate I. 3 Credit Hours.

Third semester of Arabic.

Course Attributes: LC

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in ARBC 1002.

ARBC 2002. Arabic Intermediate II. 3 Credit Hours.

Fourth semester of Arabic.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in ARBC 2001.

ARBC 2012. Modern Arabic Literature in Translation. 3 Credit Hours.

Formerly known as Contemporary Arabic Literature (in Translation)

This course will survey some of the most important contemporary narratives of Arabic literature, with emphasis on their socio-political context. The timeline of the course runs from the end of World War II, the creation of Israel in 1948, and the 1952 Free Officers Revolution in Egypt up to the present. Historic events give us a framework for referencing the literary works. At the same time, we will consider novels, short stories, and poems as works of art on their own, inquiring into their narrative framework, aesthetic strategies, and position within the Arabic literary heritage. Critical and background readings will supplement literary texts. Occasionally we will have the opportunity to watch films that supplement the literature. All works will be in English and all films will be subtitled.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

ARBC 2021. Contemporary Arab Society in Film (in Translation). 3 Credit Hours.

This course uses film as a medium to explore contemporary social and political issues in the Arab Middle East. It investigates how filmmakers from the region narrate, represent and navigate particular historical events and conditions of the region. The films are coupled with readings that provide background and help to facilitate historical, cultural and, at times, aesthetic understandings of the narratives. The narratives begin roughly in the middle of the 20th century, and are arranged thematically - though a sense of historic consequence is evident. The films cover issues such as: feudalism and "socialist" revolution; Palestine after 1948 and the consequences in the Arab world; pan-Arabism; women, modernity, and the city; authoritarian states; religious extremism; war; immigration; and identity.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

ARBC 2900. Honors Special Topics I. 3 Credit Hours.

This is an Honors course. It is arranged each semester. Please consult with the instructor and/or check the course schedule for specific topic.

Course Attributes: HO

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

ARBC 3001. Arabic Advanced I. 3 Credit Hours.

Fifth semester of Arabic.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in ARBC 2002.

ARBC 3002. Arabic Advanced II. 3 Credit Hours.

Sixth semester of Arabic.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in ARBC 3001.

ARBC 3010. Special Topics IV. 3 Credit Hours.

Arranged each semester. Please consult with the instructor and/or check the course schedule for specific topic.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

ARBC 4183. Arabic Directed Readings I. 3 Credit Hours.

Arranged each semester. Please consult with the instructor.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in ARBC 3002.

ARBC 4283. Arabic Directed Readings II. 3 Credit Hours.

Arranged each semester. Please consult with the instructor.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of C- in ARBC 3002.