

Module Title: Balāgha (i)

Module Code: ARBBL1

Course Duration: 17 Weeks

Teaching Method: 2 units/week

Credits: 10

Overview:

‘Ilm al-Balāgha is taught over two semesters. In this semester students are introduced to the classical science of Arabic Rhetoric (*‘Ilm al-Balāgha*). This is a discipline which is required in the advanced critical textual analysis of the Qur’an, Ḥadīth, Arabic prose and poetry, classical legal texts etc. This module will define the science of Arabic rhetoric, tracing its historical background. It will also provide detailed explanation of the linguistic styles and norms discussed in the *Balāgha* texts by giving examples from classical Arabic sources, and demonstrate the link between *Balāgha* and other Muslim disciplines. This module will enable students to define and explain in detail (with examples) the linguistic and rhetoric rules/devices covered in each lesson.

Syllabus:

The first part of this module focuses on *‘Ilm al-Bayān*. It will cover the following subjects:

- *al-Tashbīh wa arkānuh*
- *Aqsām al-tashbīh*
- *Tashbīh al-tamthīl*
- *Tashbīh al-ḍimnī*
- *Aghrāḍ al-tashbīh*
- *al-Tashbīh al-maqlūb*
- *al-Ḥaqīqa wa al-majāz*
- *al-Majāz al-lughawī*
- *al-Istī‘āra al-taṣrīḥiyya wa al-makāniyya*
- *al-Istī‘āra al-aṣliyya wa al-tab‘iyya*
- *al-Istī‘āra al-murashaḥa wa al-mujarrada wa al-muṭlaqa*
- *al-Istī‘āra al-tamthīliyya*
- *al-Majāz al-mursal wa al-majāz al-‘aqlī*
- *al-Kināya*

Learning outcomes:

On completion of this module, the successful student will be able to:

- Apply the theories of *‘Ilm al-Balāgha* in the advanced critical textual analysis of the Qur’an, ḥadīth, Arabic prose and poetry, classical legal texts etc.
- Define *‘Ilm al-Balāgha* and explain its historical origins
- Define and explain in detail with examples the *qawā‘id* (rules) covered in each lesson
- Know parallels between *‘Ilm al-Balāgha* and other Islamic disciplines

Assessment Weighting:

- 100% end of semester written examination

Learning Materials:

Core texts:

- Al-Jarim, Ali et al (1418 AH) *Al-Balāgha al-Wāḍiḥa* (1st half)
- Classical Arabic lexicographical works.