

Module Title: Arabic (Level Three)

Module Code: ARBTHR

Course Duration: 17 Weeks

Teaching Method: 8 units/week

Credits: 20

Overview:

Arabic Language: Having intensively completed the *al-Kitāb al-Asāsī: Ta'lim al-'Arabiyya li al-Nāfiqīna bi Ghayrihā*, Book 1 in the first year of study, the student has now been introduced to most of the major grammar topics in the Arabic language, and has a good repertoire of Arabic vocabulary across various tangible and simple subject matters. In this module, the student will continue with selected texts from Book 2 in the same series. The book again takes a text-based approach, enabling the student to be able to tackle a variety of reading material, this time including more abstract topics such as the Qur'an, Women in Islam, Muslims Scholars, with a clear penchant towards texts with vocabulary that will complement their Hawza studies programme.

The course is intensive, and there will be continued focus on vocabulary learning, especially synonyms in Arabic. As with Book 1, there is no accompanying English glossary, so students will be taught and encouraged how to look up words that they do not know in a bilingual dictionary, so as to understand the morphology of individual words, as well as within their textual context, and to be able to express themselves using Arabic synonyms given in the vocabulary lists in the book. Students will be expected to prepare mandatory texts before the lesson, and at least 5-6 hours of study per week will be required at home.

Each language unit also has sections on conversation practice and short written compositions to develop the learner's oral and written skills, though the main focus of this course is reading comprehension for the facilitation of Hawza studies.

Arabic Grammar, as with Book 1, has been incorporated into the course and will be taught holistically and seamlessly alongside the language using *Mabādī al-'Arabiyya*, vol. 2. Both *naḥw* (syntax) and *ṣarf* (morphology) will be taught side by side.

I'rāb al-Qur'an: Arabic Level Three also incorporates a separate unit of study dedicated to applying grammatical knowledge acquired thus far to the Holy Qur'an and students' understanding of it. The main focus of the unit will be to recite the Qur'an aloud, incorporating some rules of *tajwīd* and correct pronunciation, and translating simultaneously. Passages that correspond to the grammar rules currently being learned will be chosen in order to complement the Arabic learning as seamlessly as possible. Students will be introduced to practical *I'rāb* - the expression of the morphology and syntax of individual words and phrases in the Qur'an in Arabic.

Syllabus:

- Reading comprehension, writing short passages, learning and application of grammar rules, and memorization of vocabulary from selected texts *al-Kitāb al-Asāsī*, Book 2. The students will be tested on vocabulary weekly.
- Study and application of intermediate grammar rules to deciphering passages as well as using them to formulate their own sentences, using *Mabādī al-'Arabiyya*, vol. 2.

- Completion of class and homework exercises such as answering reading comprehension questions, filling in blanks in passages, manipulating syntax, plurals, synonyms and antonyms of words, writing short essays, and verb conjugations. These will count towards the student's final grade.
- Discussing themes and subject matters of the texts read in class in Arabic, to enhance oral and aural skills.
- Reading selected passages from the Qur'an, relevant to the language and grammar topics being covered, and learning how to express their *I'rāb*.

Learning outcomes:

On completion of this module, the successful student will:

- Have an intermediate level of proficiency at reading and understand, writing, and know the vocabulary and phrases from *al-Kitāb al-Asāsī*, Book 2.
- Be able to tackle any text of similar style and length and decipher it quite easily.
- Be able to write complete and grammatically correct sentences, with varied syntax and vocabulary.
- Be able to translate sentences from Arabic into English correctly.
- Be able to express the *I'rāb* of simple nominal and verbal sentences in Arabic.

Assessment Weighting:

- 30% compulsory mid-term assessment and/or regular weekly vocabulary tests/written homework that will contribute towards the final mark

- 70% end of semester examination

Learning Materials:

Core texts:

- *al-Kitāb al-Asāsī: Ta'līm al-'Arabiyya li al-Nāṭiqīna bi Ghayrihā*, Book 2, (Jāmi'at Umm al-Qurā, Third Edition 2008)
- Shartūnī, R., (1996), *Mabādi al-'Arabiyyah*. vol. 1, Qom: Dar al-Zikr
- Hans Wehr, 2011 (1994) *Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*, New York: Ithaca Press

Further Reading:

- Jones, Alan. (2005), *Arabic Through the Qur'an*, Cambridge: Islamic Texts Society