

ARAA10, Arabic: Elementary Course, 30 credits

Arabiska: Nybörjarkurs, 30 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2011-03-24 and was last revised on 2026-02-24 by The Pro Dean of First and Second Cycle Studies at The Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology (U 2026/52). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2026-03-01 and is valid from the autumn semester 2026.

General information

The course is offered as a freestanding course and can be included in a first or second cycle degree.

Language of instruction: Swedish and Arabic

Main field of study

Specialisation

Modern Standard
Arabic

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- explain the basics of gender and number inflection, and be familiar with the concept of case in the Arabic language,
- describe the structure of root and affix patterns that characterise Arabic as a Semitic language,
- explain the Arabic diglossia phenomenon, i.e. the difference between Standard Arabic and spoken varieties of Arabic known as Arabic dialects,

Competence and skills

- identify and correctly pronounce all the letters in the Arabic alphabet,
- express themselves in writing in Standard Arabic within a vocabulary of about 1000 words,
- navigate everyday situations in speech in an Arabic dialect within a vocabulary of about 1000 words,
- use the appropriate language register (standard Arabic/dialect) depending on the context,
- use greetings and simple idiomatic expressions, in Standard Arabic and an Arabic dialect, in the correct (pragmatic and social) context,
- use grammatical knowledge to independently understand and interpret simple Arabic texts,
- translate simple sentences from and into Arabic,
- conjugate verbs in basic and weak verbs,
- apply nominal and verbal sentence constructions,

Judgement and approach

- critically relate to questions that concern linguistic norms,
- identify their own need for further knowledge and professional development in linguistics.

Course content

The course teaches Modern Standard Arabic and Arabic dialect in an integrated manner. The course provides a systematic review of basic Arabic grammar: phonology, morphology and syntax. Great importance is attached to practical exercises of oral as well as written skills with a focus on communicative competence. Translation to and from Arabic is actively practised. Through speaking exercises and practical application of both Modern Standard Arabic and selected Arabic dialects, students learn to communicate with the correct register in both everyday situations and simple formal contexts within the framework of a limited vocabulary. The dialect will be chosen by the teacher in line with the study book.

The course consists of two modules:

1. The Arabic alphabet, word formation patterns and sounds of the Arabic language (2.5 credits)
2. Introduction to Modern Standard Arabic (7.5 credits)
3. Introduction to an Arabic dialect (5 credits)
4. Elementary Arabic Grammar I, (7.5 credits)
5. Arabic Dialect I (7.5 credits)

Course design

The teaching consists of 45-55 proficiency training seminars/exercises. Attendance and active participation in at least 80% of the course seminars/exercises is mandatory.

In addition to attending lectures, students must also complete all compulsory assignments for the modules.

Module 1 includes 1-2 assignments

Module 2 includes 2-3 assignments

Module 3 includes 1-2 assignments

Module 4 includes 2-3 assignments

Module 5 includes 2-3 assignments

Assessment of assignments and participation in teaching is continuous.

Supplementary assignment in the case of valid absence takes the form of oral and written examination of missed elements according to the teacher's instructions.

The opportunity to compensate for missed compulsory components is offered to students who have been unable to participate in compulsory components due to circumstances out of their control such as accidents, sudden illness or similar. This also applies to students who have missed teaching sessions due to elected office duties e.g. as student representative.

Assessment

The assessment of Module 1 is based on an invigilated exam at the end of the module.

The assessment of Module 2 is based on an invigilated exam at the end of the module.

The assessment of module 3 is based on an oral exam at the end of the module.

The assessment of Module 4 is based on an invigilated exam at the end of the module.

The assessment of module 5 is based on an oral exam at the end of the module.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

For the grade of Pass on the module, the student must have been awarded at least this grade on all elements of the assessment. For a grade of Pass with Distinction on the module, the student must have been awarded this grade for all assessed components.

For the grade of Pass on the whole course, the student must have been awarded at least this grade on all modules. For the grade of Pass with Distinction on the whole course, the student must also have been awarded this grade on at least 22.5 of the course's 30 credits.

Entry requirements

General requirements for university studies in Sweden

Further information

- The course is given at the Language and Literature Centre, Lund University.

- The course replaces ARAA01.
- The number of credits allocated for course content that is shared in whole or in part with another course can only be credited once for a degree.
- For further details, see current registration and information material.
- Module names in Swedish:

1. Det arabiska alfabetet, det arabiska språkets ordbildningsmönster och ljud.
2. Introduktion i modern standardarabiska.
3. Introduktion i en arabisk dialekt.
4. Grundläggande arabisk grammatik I.
5. Arabisk dialekt I.