

AIS

Arabic and Islamic Studies

- AIS 101 ELEMENTARY MODERN STANDARD ARABIC. (4)**
An introduction to the standard written language of the Arab World. Initial emphasis upon the phonology and script, followed by gradual coverage of the grammar, with exercises in reading, writing, pronunciation, and vocabulary building.
- AIS 102 ELEMENTARY MODERN STANDARD ARABIC. (4)**
Continuation of AIS 101. Prereq: AIS 101.
- AIS 201 INTERMEDIATE MODERN STANDARD ARABIC. (3)**
A continuation of AIS 102, stressing comprehension of written and oral material, the ability to read Arabic aloud and to compose written material, and the ability to speak. Prereq: AIS 102.
- AIS 202 INTERMEDIATE MODERN STANDARD ARABIC. (3)**
A continuation of AIS 201, stressing comprehension of written and oral material, the ability to read Arabic aloud and to compose written material, and the ability to speak. Prereq: AIS 201.
- AIS 228 ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION. (3)**
This course is an introduction to the religion of Islam and the classical era of the Islamic civilization. A great deal of time will be spent on the life of Muhammad (570-632) and basic beliefs, rituals and practices. The course will also explore aspects of the history of Islamic civilization from the time of Muhammad to around the 17th century, including science, art theology and law.
- AIS 301 ADVANCED MODERN STANDARD ARABIC I. (3)**
This course provides advanced language instruction in Modern Standard Arabic. In addition, course explores aspects of culture in the Arab world. Prereq: AIS 202 or consent of instructor.
- AIS 302 ADVANCED MODERN STANDARD ARABIC II. (3)**
This course provides advanced language instruction in Modern Standard Arabic. In addition, course explores aspects of culture in the Arab world. Prereq: AIS 301 or consent of instructor.
- AIS 311 ARABIC FOR BUSINESS AND MEDIA I. (3)**
This course is designed to meet the needs of intermediate-level students of Arabic as well as members of the business community who wish to learn Arabic for professional purposes. The topics cover travel, social, and business interactions. The course also introduces and engages with a variety of current, authentic and primary Arabic materials through the language of the newspapers, magazines, Internet news sites, and TV news. Some of the media topics that will be covered are meetings and conferences, elections, and demonstrations and social protest. By the end of this course, the students will be at a mid-intermediate level of proficiency in Arabic. Prereq: To enroll in this course, students should have completed four semesters of Arabic (AIS 101, AIS 102, AIS 201, and AIS 202). Alternatively, the students should seek the approval of the course instructor.
- AIS 312 ARABIC FOR BUSINESS AND MEDIA II. (3)**
This course builds on and expands the business, travel, and social topics covered in AIS 311 through additional and more complex situations and interactions, such as shopping, going around town, at the sales office, at the post office, at the bank, renting and buying a house and a lot of land. The course also expands on the media topics covered in the first part of this course, in terms of both variety and difficulty. Some of the new topics will be elections, conflict and terrorism, business, cultural and social news. The course will take the students to a high-intermediate level of proficiency in Arabic. Prereq: To enroll in this course, students should have completed five semesters of Arabic (AIS 101, AIS 102, AIS 201, AIS 202, and AIS 311). Alternatively, the students should seek the approval of the course instructor.
- AIS 320 MODERN ARABIC LITERATURE AND FILM IN TRANSLATION. (3)**
This course introduces students to major Arab writers, poets, and film makers through some of their primary novels, novellas, poems, and films with a focus on the heart of the Arab world.
- AIS 330 ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION II. (3)**
The Islamic world's response to westernization and the resultant reassertion of its cultural role in the modern world.

AIS 331 CLASSICAL ARABIC LITERATURE (in English). (3)

Reading from some of the major works of Arabic literature (poetry and prose) of the 6th-14th centuries which are an integral part of the Arab cultural heritage, e.g., the Mu'allaqat, Koran, Ibn Ishaq's Sirah; al-Tabari's Ta'rikh; Abu'l Faraj's Kitab al-Aghani; al-Ghazzali's Ihya; al-Hariri's Maqamat; and Ibn Khaldun's Muqaddimah.

AIS 338 WOMEN AND ISLAM. (3)

A survey of women's issues related to Islam and contemporary Muslim culture including the perception of women in Islam, the role and rights of women in Islam, female circumcision, honor killing women's dress. The course will discuss the viewpoints of the Muslim traditionalists, modernists, western feminists and the emerging Islamic feminists.

AIS 340 FUNDAMENTALISM AND REFORM IN ISLAM. (3)

This course focuses on the revival of Islam in the 20th century and the various responses of Islam to modernism and western political and intellectual domination. Particular attention will be given to the rise of militant Islam and the terrorist attacks of 9/11. The original writings of major thinkers will be read and discussed.

AIS 345 ISLAMIC MYSTICISM. (3)

This course is an overview of Islamic spirituality, which refers to the spiritual aspects within basic Islamic texts and general Islamic practices, and Islamic mysticism, which refers to the concepts and practices of Sufism. Throughout the entire course, poems from Rumi, the greatest of the Sufi poets, will be read and discussed. The purpose of the course is to expose students to the ideas and practices of Islamic spirituality and mysticism, the history of Sufism and in a lesser extent the debate between Sufism and normative Islam.

AIS 395 INDEPENDENT WORK IN ARABIC/ISLAMIC STUDIES. (1-3)

Students who have the proper qualifications may undertake a special problem in reading and research. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. (Recommended.)

AIS 410 THEOLOGY AND LAW IN ISLAM. (3)

This course provides an historical and thematic overview of theology and law (Shari'ah or Fiqh) in Islam. The main concepts of Islamic theology are introduced, comparing them to Christian thought and taking into account contemporary issues. The section on law covers the historical development of the classical legal schools and the main concepts of Islamic legal philosophy. Prereq: Islamic Civilization I or the permission of the instructor.

AIS 430 ISLAM IN AMERICA. (3)

This course is an overview of the Muslim experience in America with special emphasis on the issues facing Muslims as they seek to adjust and find their space in America, especially in the wake of 9/11.

AIS 435 TOPICS IN ISLAMIC STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)

Variable in content, this course focuses on important texts and issues in Islamic history, religion, literature, and philosophy. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits under different subtitles.

AIS 440 INTRODUCTION TO THE QURAN. (3)

An introduction to the disciplines of knowledge related to the Quran, its major themes, style of presentation, and relevance to contemporary societies and issues.

AIS 442 ARABIC READING I. (3)

Advanced skills in speaking, reading, and analyzing selected texts from traditional and modern Arabic literature using formal spoken and written Arabic. Introduction to the use of Arabic computer software. Prereq: AIS 202 or equivalent.

AIS 443 ARABIC READING II. (3)

Continuation of AIS 442 with emphasis on Modern Arabic Short Stories. Prereq: AIS 442 or equivalent.

AIS 495G ADVANCED INDEPENDENT WORK IN ARABIC/ISLAMIC STUDIES. (1-3)

Independent research in Russian and Eastern Studies on an advanced level for undergraduate and graduate students. Students will be required to establish a written contract with the relevant faculty member describing the tasks to be completed in the course. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits, or a total of six credits of AIS 395 and 495G.