Arabic

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/arabic
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See also Middle East Studies, Modern Languages

Joint Honours
Arabic and one of 23 other subjects

See Arts combinations, pages 172–173

Triple Honours
Arabic and two other modern Languages
Arabic and one other modern language and another subject

See Triple combinations, pages 136–137

Available degree options

Previous knowledge of subject required? No

MA
Joint Honours
Arabic and one of 23 other subjects

MA
Triple Honours
Arabic and two other modern Languages

BSc
‘With’ Honours
Biology with Arabic

Whilst studying Arabic at St Andrews you will not only gain a high level of competence in language skills in Modern Arabic, but you will also learn the language of the Arabic media and literature.

• You can take Arabic with a wide range of other subjects.
• You will be taught by a small but diverse team of academics and language tutors in each year.
• You will be taught by scholars whose research and literary translation work are internationally recognised.
• You will gain a knowledge of both classical and contemporary Arab culture.
• The Department was ranked first in the UK in The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018.

What will I study?
The topics covered include the language of the Arabic media and classical and modern language and literature. You will be exposed to a wide range of texts and media, including classical poetry, the Qur’an, the Thousand and One Nights, modern short stories and films, news bulletins, videos and articles from the Arab media. You will acquire a high level of competence in language skills. You can progress to Joint Honours in Arabic and a wide range of other subjects, including Persian, Middle East Studies, modern European languages, International Relations, English, Modern or Mediaeval History, Mathematics.

First year
The Arabic courses will enable you to read, write and converse in simple Modern Standard Arabic. The Arabic alphabet, writing system and basic Arabic grammar are covered. A selection of non-literary modern Arabic texts will be used in class as the basis of language teaching, classroom drills, tests and written assignments and oral class work.

Second year
These courses will enable you to read and write Modern Standard Arabic to intermediate level and to speak, in standard Arabic with a limited vocabulary. Oral work and written class work will be based on a series of texts relevant to contemporary issues and culture.

Two optional courses, providing an introduction to classical Arab culture and an introduction to Middle Eastern history, are relevant for any student interested in Arabic.

Third and fourth years (Honours)
In addition to core language courses, you can choose from a range of modern and classical topics. You can write a dissertation on a topic of your choice with an individual supervisor.

Study abroad
You can choose to study for a semester in an Arab country. Arabic students also participate in the University-wide St Andrews Abroad programme. Further information on page 133 and online.
www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study-abroad

Entry requirements
We consider all aspects of every application, including context, equivalent qualifications and the Personal Statement. Offers may be higher or lower than the grades stated here. See also page 369.

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/entry

SQA Highers: AAAB
GCE A-Levels: AAB
International Baccalaureate Points: 36

“Studying Arabic here has been hugely rewarding. The language itself is just as fascinating and rich as the world of countries and cultures that it opens up. Having already done a year’s work placement in France as a Joint Honours Arabic and French student, I was delighted to be able to also study abroad for a semester in Morocco to experience the culture first hand and develop my speaking skills.”

Hannah (Wiltshire, England)