

Arabic Foundations for Medical Students and Professionals

Course aims

The aim of this course is to provide you with a foundation in Arabic, with a focus on medical topics. You will develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Arabic for understanding basic information and communicating effectively in everyday situations. The course will also help you use Arabic to reinforce your knowledge of other disciplines and enhance your academic and personal growth. Additionally, you will gain insights into the cultural background of the Arab world, with an emphasis on the medical context, and develop greater intercultural proficiency.

Who the course is for

- Undergraduate and Postgraduate students & Researchers in BSMS
- Medical professionals incl. Doctors, Pharmacists, Nurses

Language requirement

No prior knowledge of Arabic language is required.

Course fees

£170

Course start

w/c 17th February 2025

Contact hours

1.5 hours / week for 10 weeks. Students are expected to attend all classes and to spend approx. 8-10 hours per week in self-study, including homework, speaking practice, and interactive exercises. Some formative assessments will take place in class.

Class size

9-16 (with a minimum enrolment of 9 for the course to run)

Mode of delivery

In-person: University of Sussex campus / Online: via Zoom (see website)

Teaching methods

This course emphasises real-life professional communication scenarios and the practical use of formal Arabic, particularly within a medical context.

Examples of Activities:

- Role-playing medical workplace conversations
- Practising dialogues in pairs to enhance conversational skills
- Learning grammatical structures and vocabulary tailored for professional medical communication
- Pair and group discussions to practise phrases and vocabulary
- Listening to workplace-related dialogues for improved comprehension

COURSE BOOK(S)

Relevant materials for the course will be provided by the teacher. Students are also encouraged to extend their learning through independent study with:

- Wightwick, J. and Gaafar, M. (2015) Mastering Arabic 1 (with CDs) third edition, Palgrave and Macmillan series. ISBN 9781137380456
- Wightwick, J. and Gaafar, M. (2014) Mastering Arabic 1 Activity Book second edition, Palgrave and Macmillan series. ISBN 9781137372260
- Wightwick, J. Gaafar, M (2005) Mastering Arabic Script Palgrave and Macmillan series. ISBN 9781403941107
- Shirwan, H. (2007) Build your Arabic vocabulary (with CD). ISBN 9781903103197

Assessment and self-study

This is a non-credited course and there will be no assessments. Self-study material will be provided so that students can maximise their learning.

Course outline

Week 1: Personal and professional life (family, colleagues, and friends)

Week 2: Numbers, calendar, time, dates, and daily routine

Week 3: Nationalities, countries, languages, travel, transport, and directions

Week 4: Medical professions, hospitals, pharmacies, and medical centres

Week 5: Leisure time, hobbies and holidays

Week 6: Shopping, eating, drinking and restaurants

Week 7: Health and body

Week 8: Common illnesses and medicines

Week 9: Famous scientists and doctors

Week 10: Role plays between the patient and the doctor