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# Arabic Language 3 (Language and Professional Communication)

## Prof. Michele Brignone

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course will introduce the student to modern and contemporary Arab-Islamic political thought and discourse through the linguistic analysis of texts and their historical and political contextualisation.

At the end of the course, students will be able to navigate among the various trends of modern and contemporary Arab-Islamic political thought, and will be able to independently read, understand, translate and discuss texts related to this area. They will also have acquired the vocabulary of the Arab political discourse and more in general the ability to read non-vocalised texts.

***COURSE CONTENT***

– The political language of the reform (*islâh*) and of the *nahda*.

– The Islamic and Salafi political discourse.

– The nationalist political discourse (Ba‘ath, Nasser and Bourguiba)

– The political language of Jihadi

– The political language of the 2010-2011 Arab uprisings.

– Politics and religion in Saudi Arabia.

***READING LIST***

The course pack and anthology of Arabic texts provided by the lecturer.

Choose one of the following article:

Wael Abu Uksa, *The Construction of the Concepts “Democracy” and “Republic” in Arabic in the Eastern and Southern Mediterranean*, «Journal of the History of Ideas», vol. 80, n. 2 (aprile 2019), pp. 249-270.

Cole Bunzel, *Ideological Infighting in the Islamic State*, «Perspectives on Terrorism», vol. 13, n. 1 (2019), pp. 12-21.

Suzanne Elizabeth Kassab, *Critics and Rebels: Older Arab Intellectuals Reflect on the Uprisings*, «British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies», vol. 41, n. 1 (2014), pp. 8-27.

Limor Lavie, *The Egyptian Muslim Brothers’ ideal state model: a religious state – out; a civil state – in*, «Middle Eastern Studies», vol. 53, n. 6 (2017), pp. 996-1012.

Andrew March, *Genealogies of Sovereignty in Islamic Political Theology*, «Social Research», vol. 80, n. 1 (2013), pp. 293-320.

Uriya Shavit, *Is Shura a Muslim Form of Democracy? Roots and Systemization of a Polemic*, «Middle Eastern Studies», vol. 46, n. 3 (201), pp. 349-374.

William E. Shepard, *Sayyid Qutb’s doctrine of Jahiliyya*, «International Journal of Middle East Studies», vol. 35, n. 4 (2003), pp. 521-545.

Joas Wagemakers, *What Should an Islamic State Look Like? Jihādī‐Salafī Debates on the War in Syria*, «The Muslim World», vol. 106, n. 3 (2016), pp. 501-522.

Julian Weideman, *Tahar Haddad after Bourguiba and Bin ʿAli: a Reformist Between Secularists and Islamists*, «International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies», vol. 48, n. 1 (2016).

***TEACHING METHOD***

Classroom lectures and guided practical assignments (texts reading, translations translation and discussion of texts in Arabic).

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The oral exam has three parts:

1. Reading and translation of one of the texts examined in class and brief discussion in Arabic on its contents.

2. One question in Italian language on one of the topic areas and study materials supplied by the tutor.

3. One question in Italian language on the article chosen by the student from the supplementary reading list.

Students will have to demonstrate the ability to correctly read and translate non-vocalised texts, know vocabulary and explain grammar, bring its essential contents into Arabic. They will also have to demonstrate knowledge of how to navigate among the themes and currents of modern and contemporary Arab political thought (2nd part) and to connect the selected text critically with the complementary reading list with the topics covered during the course (3rd part).

The exam result will count for 70% of the assessment for point 1 (max. 21 points), for 20% of the assessment of point 2 (max. 6 points) and the remaining 10% of the assessment of point 3 (max. 3 points). The final mark will be the weighted average of the results of the interim written and oral language tests.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

To attend the course, an intermediate knowledge of the Arabic language is required (level B1 of the Common European Framework Reference for the knowledge of languages) and basic notions of Islam and the history of the Muslim world.

Attendance, although not mandatory, is strongly recommended. The content of the lectures and the texts analyzed during the course (lecture notes and excerpts of the anthology) will be made available to students in digital format. Erasmus students are requested to contact the lecturer to verify correspondence with the courses taken abroad and agree on any additions.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.

**Arabic Language Practical Classes (Third-year students on the three-year course)**

Dott. Elisa Ferrero; Dott. Silvana Bebawy; Dott. Marianna Massa

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The aim of the course is to learn advanced-level grammatical aspects of Arabic. By the end of the course, students will be able to understand the main themes in written and audio texts on various topics and to produce coherent and cohesive texts, interacting fluently and spontaneously in various communicative situations.

The proposed activities on this course of Arabic Practical Classes for third-year students on the three-year degree will bring students to level C1 in the European Language Portfolio, across all four skills.

***COURSE CONTENT***

– Reading and analysis of narrative texts and dialogues, and answering relative comprehension questions, true/false questions and completing cloze activities.

– Conversations on the topics covered in the texts.

– Listening to audio texts on topics related to communicative situations from public and professional life.

– Producing structured spoken and written texts related to the topics covered.

* Translation from Arabic into Italian and from Italian into Arabic.

***READING LIST***

– W. Farouq-E. Ferrero, *Le parole in azione. Corso avanzato di arabo moderno standard,* Volume 3, Vita e Pensiero, Milan (in press).

* W. Farouq-E. Ferrero, *Le parole in azione. Grammatica della lingua araba,* Volume IV, Vita e Pensiero, Milano (2022).

– Possible texts and audiovisual materials provided in class by the lecturer and made available via the lecturers’ webpage.

***TEACHING METHOD***

– Frontal lectures

– Interactive lectures.

– Activities in pairs and groups

– Practical activities in class.

Lectures will take place in Arabic.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final assessment of the course will take the form of a written and oral test designed to evaluate students’ understanding of advanced Arabic grammar.

The written test is structured as follows: understanding of a written text and vocabulary tests (40% of the final mark), grammar tests (30% of the final mark), translation from Arabic to Italian and from Italian to Arabic (15% of the final mark), vocalising texts (15%).

Total time allowed: 3 hours and 30 minutes.

For the oral exam, students must read a non-vocalised text and conduct a conversation related to communicative situations from private, public and professional life, in order to assess phonetic and phonological accuracy, communicative fluency, grammatical accuracy, lexical knowledge and interactive skills.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students will need the linguistic skills acquired on the final Arabic Language 2 course (language, grammar and lexis), during the second year of Arabic language on the three-year course.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.