

General Description of the one-year intensive Arabic Course offered at IIPS, Sayyida Zainab, Damascus

(Part of MTP)

The Arabic course consisting of 3 levels series for non-Arab Muslim students adopts an innovative and eclectic method in teaching Arabic as a foreign language to absolute beginners from a broad age-range, by using a gradual, assimilative and communicative approach. It emphasises the functional usage of Arabic in the language, four skills: listening and comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Authentic audio, video, and reading materials will be presented from the beginning, and students will be encouraged to be creative with the language in and out of class.

This course will contain most things an individual needs to learn Arabic Language from complete beginning to advanced level. It is provided with a comprehensive set of various lessons including extensive oral drills and written exercises, language games, and dialogue activities that will serve to reinforce the vocabulary, grammar and language skills which give students ample opportunity to put them into practice. This will enable them to build up confidence in comprehending, speaking, reading and writing Arabic.

The Arabic course for non-Arab speakers is being designed and revised for WF Muballigheen Training Program, to meet the needs of non-Arab Shia Muslim students who are to study Islamic knowledge. It aims at teaching Arabic to Muslims with a goal of helping them towards understanding the Qur'an, Hadith and Fiqh, so that they are able to use the language in everyday life and daily cultural and educational situations.

The Arabic course consists of the following modules:

- Main General Arabic module (three structural levels of 4 books: Basic, Intermediate & Advanced)
- Listening & reading comprehension of Arabic authentic passages, significant stories and short masterpieces of Islamic poetry (two levels in an interactive way)
- Arabic writing and composition (two levels)
- Dictation & Writing system (two levels)
- Teaching Arabic by Hadith (Two levels of the major and significant Sayings of the Prophet and 12 Imams, with language and content interactive skills and exercises)
- Introductory Arabic Grammar and Morphology (Nahu and Sarf)
- Proposed module of brief and significant Islamic laws and the Juristic Arabic
- In addition: proposed Qur'an and du'a recitation and Tajwid rules.