



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP

Creating Global Professionals

UMD Arabic Flagship Program

Student Handbook



Welcome to the UMD

Arabic Flagship Program

This handbook is a guide to everything you need to know about your time in the AFP. Here you will find information about both the domestic program and the Capstone year overseas.

Table of Contents:

Page 1.....Arabic Flagship Program Requirements

Page 2.....Online Student Portal Guide

Page 3.....Working with Language Partners

Page 4.....Proficiency Testing

Page 5.....Funding and Scholarships

Page 6.....Pre-Capstone Course

Page 7.....Capstone Year: A Student Guide

Page 9.....Other Opportunities

Page 11.....Arabic Major and Minor Requirements





Arabic Flagship Program

The Arabic Flagship Program at the University of Maryland offers a unique opportunity for students from any major to attain a professional level of proficiency in Arabic language and culture.

Academic Requirements:

- Enroll in at least one Arabic language class each Fall and Spring semester:
ARAB104 ARAB105
ARAB204 ARAB205
ARAB206 ARAB207
ARAB304 ARAB305
300 level bridge courses (taken simultaneously with 304/305) strongly encouraged
400 level content courses (2 per semester strongly encouraged)
- Demonstrate significant progress in your language classes (A or B+ minimum)
- Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.25
- Commit to completing the entire program including the Capstone Year

Other Program Requirements:

- Meet two times per week with a Language Partner (45 minutes each)
- Attend at least six cultural events or clubs each semester (weekday, weekend, and project based opportunities for flexibility)
- Complete mandatory annual proficiency testing in October
- Attend other mandatory meetings and events such as the Welcome Back Meeting and annual advising meetings
- Attend language clinics and/or tutoring sessions if necessary

Arabic Flagship Contacts

Program Coordinator

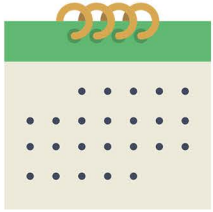
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UMD Arabic Flagship Program

Online Student Portal



View the full **calendar of events** for the semester and RSVP with one click.

Browse our online **library database** to see what books and movies are available for check out.



Plan ahead with **scholarship information** to help fund your Capstone and summer studies.

Check out **internships and job postings** to build your professional skills and network.



Keep up your language skills with **resources for Arabic learners**.

The MAP (Mentorship Alumni Portal) lets you browse alumni profiles and ask questions in a private, secure messaging system.



Have an idea for our program? Let us know via the **suggestion box**.

globalprofessionals.umd.edu



Working with Language Partners

What to do:

- Have a set time and place to meet your Language Partner, and be sure to arrive on time for each session.
- Give 24-hours notice if you have to miss a session (or as much notice as you can if there is an emergency). Make sure you have your partner's cell phone number so you can text/call them if you are running late.
- Speak in Arabic – the WHOLE time.
- Plan and suggest new topics that you are interested in, and lead the conversation as much as you can.
- Feel free to ask questions about new words or how to say something, or about your Language Partner.
- Use dialect or MSA, or both – use what you are comfortable with. The goal of these sessions is to introduce a dialect and have you speaking more dialect as you continue working with your LP.
- Relax and enjoy your time. This is informal and is a chance for you to practice. Take risks, make mistakes, and try out new language.

What NOT to do:

- Don't expect to be tutored or to do your homework – this is a time to practice your speaking / pronunciation skills, and not grammar. If you need help with grammar or a new class concept, please talk to your class instructor.
- Don't miss sessions.
- Don't speak in English.
- Don't wait for your Language Partner to do all the talking and choose topics.
- Don't spend your whole session asking question after question – “what does this word mean, what does that word mean, how do I say this, how do I say that.” This is counterproductive and does not allow for a conversation.
- Try to use the language you do know and don't get discouraged by not knowing many words.
- Don't stay quiet about a problem or issue with your Language Partner. If something comes up, talk to them, or talk to the Program Coordinator so that we can get it resolved.

Proficiency Testing

Proficiency testing is held annually in early October and is mandatory for all AFP students. These exams help you to track your own progress in the language, and will not affect your Arabic grades or Flagship participation. Students are assessed in all four skills - reading, listening, writing, and speaking. The reading and listening exams are taken online on a Saturday to ensure there are no course conflicts with the exam time. The date will be announced before the beginning of the fall semester, and students should plan to clear their schedule from morning through mid-afternoon.

Additionally, formal proficiency exams are required for all Capstone and Summer Overseas applicants. Both overseas programs and their admissions exams are administered by American Councils, our external partners. These exams are held in late January and the scores are an important component of a successful application. Capstone applicants should have an ILR 2/ Advanced in all skills and Summer applicants should have ILR 1+/Intermediate High.

The chart below provides guidelines for expected test scores at each level of Arabic classes. Please keep in mind that each proficiency exam you take is just a snapshot of your abilities, and your progress is best viewed as an overall trend over time.

Most Recently Completed Year of Arabic	Expected Scores
1st year	Intermediate Low-Intermediate Mid
2nd year	Intermediate Mid-Intermediate High
3rd year	Intermediate High-Advanced Low
4th year	Advanced Low-Advanced Mid
Capstone year	Superior

More information about these scores and proficiency levels can be found here:
www.languagetesting.com/actfl-proficiency-scale

Funding and Scholarships

Arabic Flagship students in good standing with the program are eligible to receive merit based scholarships for summer study in Flagship approved programs and the Capstone year. Full terms and conditions of these awards are detailed in the scholarship offer letter, and must be agreed to and signed by the student before any scholarship funding is awarded.

Important Notes:

- Scholarship amounts are a *maximum cap* and **not** guaranteed. Final funding decisions are subject to approval from our federal sponsors. Students are expected to make every effort to apply for outside scholarships and grants in order to help fund their studies.
- Students must have a current FAFSA on file with the university in order to receive any funding.
- AFP funding is awarded on a “last dollar” basis and no student can receive scholarship funds over and above the cost of attendance for any program. This means that AFP funding will be awarded only after all other scholarships and grants (excluding loans and family contributions) are factored into account. It is essential that students update AFP staff with any changes to their financial aid package to ensure that AFP funding will not affect their other awards.
- The total amount of funding that a Flagship student can receive throughout their career is **\$20,000**.

Scholarship Caps:

Domestic Summer	Summer Overseas	Capstone Year
\$3,500	\$7,000	\$15,000

Please note that these caps reflect a maximum award for each program, but the overall cap for cumulative funding remains \$20,000 regardless of which programs a student participates in.

Pre-Capstone Course

ARAB499A: Arab Cultures, Societies, and Ideologies



4 credits taken in your final Spring semester

Get ready for your Capstone year overseas with in-depth discussions of contemporary sociocultural discourses in Egypt and Morocco, alongside training in Egyptian and Moroccan dialects.



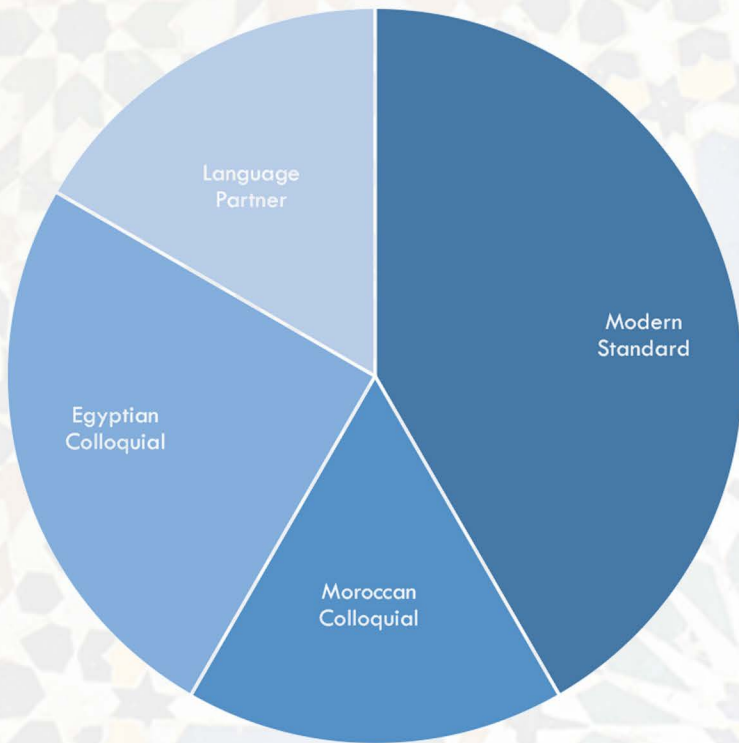
Capstone Year: A Student Guide

Your Application Process



Your Year Abroad

Summer Term



Live with host families

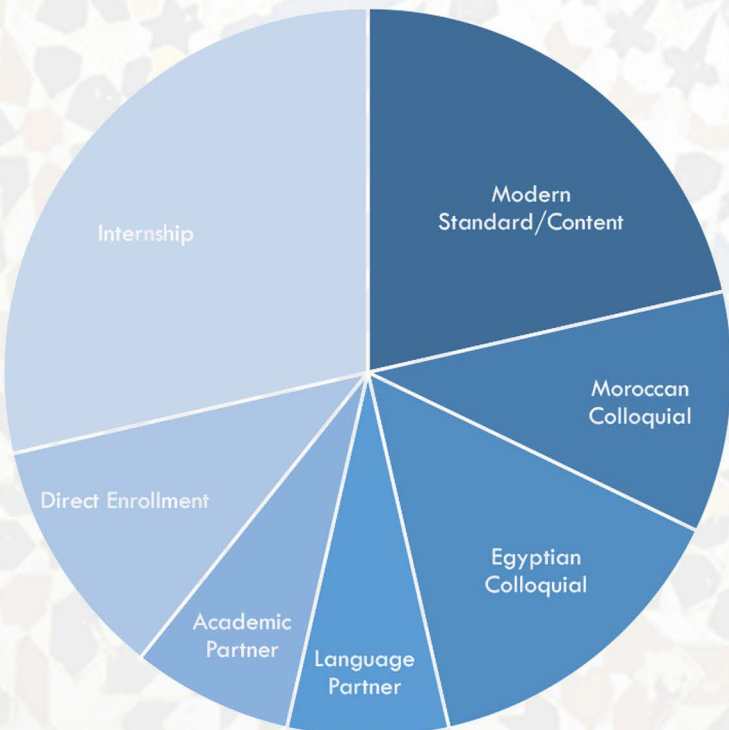


2 week intensive
Darija course



Cultural activities
and excursions

Fall & Spring Terms



Internship choices include:

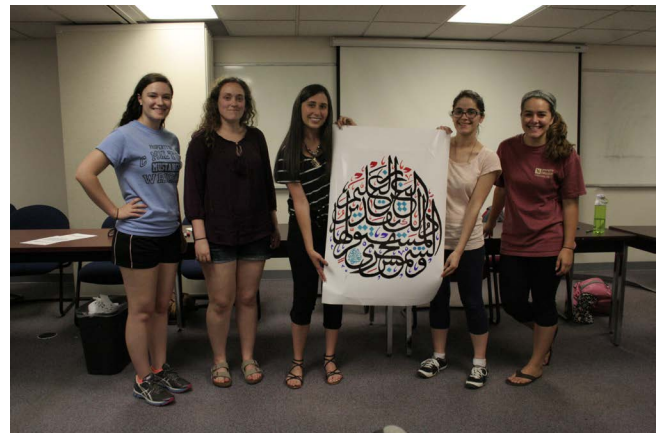
- Center for Traditional Crafts
- Music Conservatory
- Library of the Great Mosque
- Association for Women's Empowerment
- Medical Clinic
- Misapress
- Al-Manar Newspaper
- Elementary School of Mohamed VI
- Law Office of Ismai'li
- Discover Morocco Association
- Aml Association for Social Development
- Meknes Chamber of Commerce

Other Opportunities



The **Arabic Flagship Summer Overseas** program is a two month long immersion program in Meknes, Morocco. Students take courses in Modern Standard Arabic, Arabic Media, and Moroccan Colloquial Arabic. AFP students are eligible to apply beginning the summer after their 3rd year of Arabic.

The **UMD Summer Language Institute** is an intensive domestic program that covers a full academic year's worth of content in 10 weeks. Classes are offered at the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year levels for Arabic. Competitive Summer Institute scholarships are available in addition to AFP funding.



The **Critical Language Scholarship (CLS)** is a fully funded summer program with locations in Jordan, Morocco, and Oman. Students are encouraged to work with the National Scholarships Office on campus to help craft a competitive application.



The **Flagship Research Colloquium** is held every year in late spring. Arabic and Persian Flagship students present their original research in both English and their target language to students, staff, and faculty of the university. Submissions are due in early February.

AFP internships offer students a chance to build their professional and language skills by working on outreach and recruitment, planning clubs and events, creating a student newsletter, and more. Interns earn a \$500 stipend each semester and openings are announced in early fall and spring semesters.



The **Global and Federal Semester Programs** help place students into semester-long internships in the federal government or other globally minded organizations in the area. The two semester long program includes a fall seminar course and a spring internship for credit.

The **Language House** offers immersion living on campus for ten languages, including Arabic. Students live in clusters with other language students and an apartment mentor who pledge to use only Arabic at home. Other Language House activities include clubs, progressive snack, and other in-language apartment projects.



Arabic Studies Major and Minor

Arabic Studies MAJOR

42 Credits

Prerequisite Courses for the Arabic Studies Major

ARAB104 Elementary Modern Standard Arabic I-II (6 credits)
ARAB105 Elementary Modern Standard Arabic III-IV (6 credits)

Core Language Courses (24 Credits)

ARAB204 Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic I (6 credits)
ARAB205 Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic II (6 credits)
ARAB304 Advanced Modern Standard Arabic I (3 credits)
ARAB305 Advanced Modern Standard Arabic II (3 credits)
ARAB206* Intermediate Egyptian Colloquial Arabic III (3 credits)
ARAB207* Intermediate Egyptian Colloquial Arabic IV (3 credits)

**To be taken alongside ARAB304 and ARAB305. If taking 3rd year Arabic in the Summer Institute, replace these courses with 2 electives taught in Arabic.*

Electives** (18 credits)

Electives in Arabic (minimum of 9 credits, 3 credits each)

ARAB321 Arabic Media
ARAB398L Practicum in Arabic Languages and Culture: Lebanon
ARAB401 Readings in Arabic Literature
ARAB402 Arabic English Translation
ARAB499A Arab Cultures, Societies and Ideologies***
ARAB499C Current Social Issues in Egypt
ARAB499G Folklore and Modernism in Arabic Film and Literature
ARAB499J Contemporary Issues in the Arab World
ARAB499M Egyptian Cinema and the Making of Modern Egypt
ARAB499R Roots and Patterns: Verb Meaning in Arabic
ARAB499T Contemporary Arab Political Thought

Electives in English (maximum of 9 credits, 3 credits each)

ARAB253 The Arabian Nights and the Art of Storytelling
ARAB499B Fascinating Monsters: American and Middle Eastern Stereotypes in Popular Film and Television
ARAB398E Egyptian Pop Culture

Arabic Studies MINOR

21 Credits

Prerequisite Courses for the Arabic Studies Minor

ARAB104 Elementary Modern Standard Arabic I-II (6 credits)
ARAB105 Elementary Modern Standard Arabic III-IV (6 credits)

Core Language Courses (18 Credits)

ARAB204 Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic I (6 credits)
ARAB205 Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic II (6 credits)
ARAB304 Advanced Modern Standard Arabic I (3 credits)
ARAB305 Advanced Modern Standard Arabic II (3 credits)

Elective (3 credits)

One upper-level course taught in Arabic, chosen in consultation with the program advisor.

Undergraduate Advisor

Ahmed Hanafy

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Phone: 301-405-8959

Office: 3138 HJ Patterson Hall

***Electives vary by semester and are subject to change.*

****Pre-Capstone Arabic Flagship Students Only*



