

SOAS LANGUAGE CENTRE

Arabic Speaking Skills Course

Upper Intermediate - Advanced

Material: Specially selected and created materials are provided by the teacher

Overview of Course Contents

Students will be given the opportunity at the beginning of course to choose topics from any of the following:

- Arab culture: discussing traditions surrounding festivals, social occasions, etc.
- Personal experiences: narrating anecdotes, stories, work experiences, etc.
- Current affairs: topics and issues relating to government, politics, social changes, etc.
- Economic development: business, finance, markets, investment, trade relations, etc.
- Social issues: population, mobility, migration, refugees, education, health, medicine, etc.
- Science and Technology: research, scientific development, environmental issues, etc.
- Media and press: coverage of events in a variety of media, impact of social media, etc.
- Travel and tourism: holidays, visits, cross-cultural impressions, etc.
- Any other topics proposed by students and agreed by the teacher.

Synopsis

This Arabic Speaking Skills Course is a new addition to the range of Arabic courses currently available at SOAS Language Centre. It is to be introduced initially for students who have done Arabic up to or beyond Upper Intermediate level. It aims to:

- activate and expand students' vocabulary for comprehension and communication,
- improve and develop students' speaking skills in the areas of initiating and sustaining longer conversations, participating in discussions/debates, etc.
- Enhance students' confidence in actively using the Arabic they have learnt

There is no specific text book for this course. Instead, a variety of authentic and specially adapted materials will be provided by the teacher to stimulate speaking on a variety of topics relevant to understanding different communities of the Arabic-speaking world: its society, culture and current affairs.

The language used in the course will be formal spoken Arabic, a vernacular which is close to MSA rather than one specific regional dialect. However, some vocabulary and expressions from other Arabic dialects may occasionally be encountered. The overall aim is to enable students to achieve accuracy, clarity and fluency in speaking