



BA ARABIC & ISLAMIC STUDIES Outline

The programme

The bachelor semester Arabic & Islamic Studies targets second-year bachelor students of Arabic. The programme, which runs only in the Spring semester, aims to familiarize students with Arabic as a spoken and living language. Therefore, the emphasis is on acquiring proficiency in Colloquial Egyptian Arabic, and enhancing reading, writing, and listening skills in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). In addition to this, attention will be devoted to aspects of the history, culture, and current affairs of Egypt and the Arab World in the capita selecta module. Students will attend guest lectures by experts in their fields, and weekly excursions are an integral part of the programme.

The programme consists of the following modules:

<i>Course module</i>	<i>Hours/week</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Egyptian Colloquial Arabic	6	10
MSA: Writing	2	4
MSA: Media	2	4
MSA: Listening	2	4
MSA: Literature/reading	2	4
Capita Selecta	4	4
TOTAL	18	30

Full semester syllabuses will be available to students at the beginning of each semester.

Language Level

Students will be placed in classes depending on their level of Arabic. Students are expected to have completed at least three semesters of Arabic training at their home universities.

Admission

Admission to the programme is subject to the following conditions :

- The student has successfully completed three semesters of Arabic & Islamic studies or an equivalent programme;
- The student has the permission of a lecturer at the home university to join the programme;
- The student is registered at one of the affiliated universities during their stay in Cairo;

If maximum capacity is reached, an admission test will be organized.



NEDERLANDS-VLAAMS INSTITUUT IN CAIRO
المعهد الهولندي الفلمنكي بالقاهرة
NETHERLANDS-FLEMISH INSTITUTE IN CAIRO

Semester dates

The Arabic and Islamic Studies programmes runs during the spring semester. This programme is not offered in the autumn semester.

Costs and charges

Students from our participating universities in the Netherlands and Flanders are charged € 250 at the beginning of the programme for course and study materials as well as excursions within Cairo. Additional costs may be incurred for excursions outside of Cairo. International students pay a tuition fee on top of the € 250 course and excursions fee.

About NVIC

The Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo (NVIC) is an academic institute located on the island of Zamalek, in the heart of Egypt's bustling capital. It is one of five Dutch Scientific Institutes Abroad (NWIB) and is supported by the Research Fund-Flanders (FWO-Vlaanderen). NVIC provides services to six Dutch and three Flemish universities. It offers undergraduate and graduate programmes in Arabic & Islamic Studies as well as Egyptology & Archaeology. For more information on NVIC, its staff, its activities, and its teaching programmes, visit <http://www.institutes.leiden.edu/nvic/>

Security and safety in Cairo

In all its activities, NVIC adheres to the security and travel advice of the Dutch and Belgian Embassies in Egypt. We forward any travel or security notice to the students. The student's stay in Cairo is, however, voluntary and their own responsibility. NVIC is not accountable for any harm or damage caused by students to third parties during their stay in Cairo, nor for any physical harm or material loss or damage suffered by the students during their stay. Upon arrival, participants of the programme will be required to sign an indemnification statement. Students also agree to inform NVIC of any physical or psychological condition that pose challenges for their stay in Cairo. This information is treated confidentially. Travel and health insurance are not covered by the programme. Please inquire with your public or private insurance provider and take the necessary measures.

Cost of living

Students should expect to pay anywhere between EGP 15000-20000 per month on rent (room in a flat shared with other students) and EGP 500-1000 per month on utilities (electricity, water, gas, phone/internet, doorman if present) per student in a shared flat. Students often pay an average of EGP 500 per month for mobile phone cost and around EGP 100-700 per day for food and transport. (As of October 2026, 1 EURO= 59EGP). Prices and exchange rate change often, so in the weeks before the semester, NVIC will provide updated information.

Application/registration

Students must fill in an application form on our website before the deadline. The deadline for admission into the spring semester is 15 November.