

Why study Arabic?

Spring 2016

ARA 101

Elementary Arabic I *5 credits* M-F (MWF 9:00-9:50am & Tues/Thur. 9:30am-10:20am)

*Arabic is the 5th most commonly spoken native language in the world and is also an official language of the United Nations.

*There is a high demand and low supply of Arabic-speakers in the Western world. Those who study Arabic can find careers in a variety of fields: journalism, business and industry, education, finance and banking, translation and interpretation, consulting, foreign service and intelligence, and many others. Only 1 % of the United States 12,000 FBI agents have any knowledge of Arabic at all, and this includes those who know only a few words.

*Arabic-speaking nations are a fast growing market for trade. With a GDP of over 600 billion dollars annually, the region also has much to offer the world market. In order to do business effectively, one must understand the language and culture of the people with whom one hopes to negotiate and conduct trade.