Arabic

About this area of study

The Bachelor of Arts course provides opportunities to develop skills of critical and systematic thinking and is structured in a way that offers maximum flexibility to pursue your own ideas and interests.

This major sequence provides for the development of communication skills in modern standard Arabic and language fluency is enhanced through contextual knowledge of Middle Eastern history, culture and society. Students taking Arabic are encouraged to take complementary units in the relevant area studies in order to obtain sound background knowledge of the cultural, geopolitical and historical issues relevant to the regions where Arabic is spoken.

Students who are interested in pursuing a career in international relations, social sciences, education, business or human services will find the addition of a language will enhance employment opportunities. The Arab countries of the Middle East and North Africa form an area of critical global importance having broad strategic, economic, religious and cultural influence. The Middle East comprises the fourth largest trading block among Australia's overseas trading partners, with the total value of Australia's trade with the Middle East more than doubling in the last decade.

Key skills that Bachelor of Arts (Arabic) graduates demonstrate include

- Ability to work with a diverse range of social groups across age groups
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Critical thinking skills through analytical and conceptual thought
- Sensitive to and appreciative of, difference and diversity

Courses offered by Deakin University include

- Bachelor of Arts (Arabic)
- Bachelor of Arts (International Studies)
- Diploma of Language

Labour market information

Grads online has information regarding graduate salaries and where graduates go after completing their course www.gradsonline.com.au

Job Outlook has information about the labour market outlook http://joboutlook.gov.au

Related occupations

Translator

Translators convert written documents from one language to another while maintaining the precise meaning of the original text. Further details on accreditation are available through the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI).

Interpreter

Interpreters usually specialise in a particular language and sometimes a particular subject field such as law or welfare. Interpreters are accredited through the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI).

Teacher

Teachers of English as a Second Language (ESL) or Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) teach and assist students to become proficient in the English language. The workplace settings could be in a school or adult migrant centre.

Public servant

Public servants work in any of the departments of the state or territory government. A broad range of fields are offered in areas such as welfare, education, tourism and legal services.

Diplomat

Foreign affairs and trade officers work on the policy and operational aspects of Australia's foreign policy and trade assets. Officers work in capital cities in Australia or are based in embassies or consulates overseas.

An industry career profile, salary and other employment information can be obtained from the My Future website www.myfuture.edu.au

Descriptions of occupations can be found at The Job Guide www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au

Employers

Australian Government Intelligence Agency (ASIO) www.asio.gov.au

Department of Defence www.defence.gov.au

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) www.dfat.gov.au

Careers with the Victorian Government www.jobs.vic.gov.au

Adult Multicultural Education Services (AMES Central) www.ames.net.au

Department of Immigration and Citizenship www.immi.gov.au

Teaching in Victorian Government Schools www.teaching.vic.gov.au

AusAID www.ausaid.gov.au

For specific employment opportunities visit the following sites

Deakin University Jobshop www.deakin.edu.au/jobshop

Graduate Opportunities www.graduateopportunities.com

Uni Grad www.unigrad.com.au

Seek www.seek.com.au

Career One www.careerone.com.au

Professional associations

Australia Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc. (AACCI) www.austarab.com.au

National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters www.naati.com.au

Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators Inc. www.ausit.org

Victorian Association of TESOL and Multicultural Education Inc. www.vatme.vic.edu.au