



The way forward in Arabic Education.

Bayyinah**Summer**: The Fundamentals of Classical Arabic

C O U R S E D E S C R I P T I O N

Course Prerequisites:

1. An ability to read the Qur'an in Arabic without comprehension.
2. No knowledge of the science of Tajweed required.
3. Arabic writing skills not required.
4. Arabic vocabulary not required.

Course Goals:

5. To build a strong foundational understanding of the core principles governing Classical Arabic.
6. To do so using examples, citations, drills and other materials exclusively from the Qur'an so as to provide students a focused learning experience with tangible results.
7. To understand the bigger picture of Classical Arabic studies so students know how to map what they are learning and what lies ahead in their journey into Classical Arabic.
8. To be lightly exposed to the literary beauty of the Qur'an through one case study example each session so as to motivate the student to continue his or her own Arabic studies long term.
9. To develop a sound grasp of critical vocabulary (in simple terms, vocabulary that shows up on virtually every page of a copy of the Qur'an) and to memorize it with meaning.

Course Content & Instructional material:

1. From studymaterials.bayyinah.com, students download the 201_handouts.pdf document that serves as the primary in-class study packet for this seminar. The downloads are free but students should note that these handouts are not self explanatory, rather they almost appear encrypted at first glance. This is done by design to ensure that students benefit from the material exclusively in the context of the live sessions.
2. Every evening, students are emailed a PDF format transcript of the entire lecture session walking students through the logical flow of each day's work.
3. Additional study resources, review recordings and continuing studies resources are shared with students at the conclusion of the course so they can keep up with and develop further their knowledge of Classical Arabic at their own pace.

Instructional Methodology:

1. **Concepts over terminology:** Arabic grammar is an ocean of knowledge. Students can easily get intimidated and overwhelmed by scores of technical terms and lost sight of the fact that the language is actually structured in an amazingly logical fashion. To ensure that students don't lose themselves, we ensure that students are taught concepts with not-so-intimidating substitute terminology in the early stages of learning and are introduced to the technical labels later on in their journey.
2. **Motivation is key:** The first thing a student will need in Arabic studies and the first thing you'll lose while studying Arabic is motivation. To keep the students' spirits high, an awe inspiring example of Qur'anic eloquence is shared in every session the purpose of which is to give students a taste of what they will be able to appreciate on their own by the end of this journey. We feel that developing an appreciation of the Qur'an is the single most powerful motivator in a Muslim's journey towards understanding the Qur'an.
3. **Seeing Results Right Away:** Often students learn lots of Arabic but don't see its direct benefit in their daily experience. Our philosophy ensures that we teach students that which is immediately relevant and beneficial so after every session, their listening of Qur'anic recitation goes through a slight transformation.
4. **Focusing on 2 Language Skills Instead of 4:** In language, the four core skills are reading, writing, speaking and listening comprehension. Of these, we hone in on reading and listening comprehension while compromising speaking and writing. We do so because early on, our students are not interested in composing Arabic or conversing in it as much as they are in understanding the sacred text while reading or listening to it. This allows us to focus the students attention and not divide up the energies and efforts of students. Whatever students would have had to write down in Arabic will already be made available to them. Their notes may be entirely in English so they can focus on understanding.
5. **Session Breakdown:** Each session is 20% language lecture, 70% discussion and interaction and 10% Qur'anic literary appreciation.

Beyond the Fundamentals of Classical Arabic:

1. Bayyinah has developed a comprehensive Qur'anic Arabic self-study curriculum and is making it accessible for free in the form of online streaming videos and accompanying handouts. This curriculum can best be taken advantage of by students that attend the Fundamentals course because it gives them a solid boost early on propelling them far enough to be able to continue effectively on their own.
2. Bayyinah is also developing a Classical Arabic student forum where students can discuss the material and interact with a qualified instructor to address their questions about the material and share notes & other resources.

Course Outline:

Please download 201_outline.pdf from studymaterials.bayyinah.com for a map of the course.