

DEPARTMENT OF ARABIC & TRANSLATION STUDIES  
NEWSLETTER

FALL 2022 · ISSUE 01 · ENGLISH EDITION



أهلاً وسهلاً

Ahlan wa  
Sahlan

## WELCOME TO OUR FIRST ISSUE

The Department of Arabic and Translation studies is proud to introduce the first issue of its newsletter, Arabesque, which is meant to cover relevant news about its faculty, courses, scholarship activities and much more. Being the custodian of Arabic and Islamic Heritage, ATS strives to strike a balance between providing quality education and creating an enjoyable learning experience for our students who belong to all academic disciplines in AUS.

The newsletter also aims to provide correct information regarding our course offerings and the minors hosted by the department. As there is always a room for creativity and originality, Arabesque welcomes all contributions for publication from AUS students, faculty and staff members to enrich the future issues. I would like to thank all the current contributors as well as the Newsletter Editor and Designer of the newsletter for their tremendous efforts, and I wish you all a productive and fruitful year.

Dr. Ahmed Ali  
*Department Head*

## OUR SECTIONS

Department News

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Research Rotunda

Meet the Faculty

Yalla Arabic

نخلة غرس ضلّال غرق ظلال غ

Edited by: Dr.Mai Zaki

Designed by: Khaled Khawaja  
*CAAD senior student*

# Department News

## THE DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE:

**13** Faculty members  
with a wealth of teaching  
and research experience.

**5** Core areas of  
teaching:

- Literature and heritage
- Islamic studies
- Translation
- Linguistics
- Teaching Arabic as a foreign language

**3** Minors:

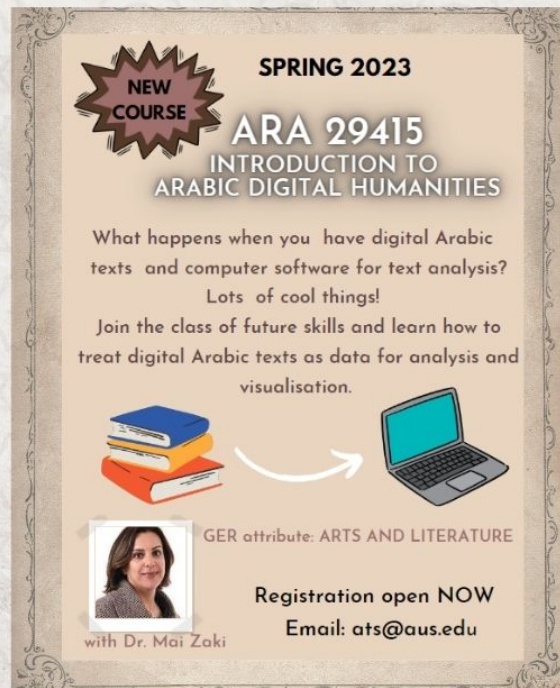
- Minor in Arabic Language and Literature
- Minor in Translation
- Minor in Islamic Studies (forthcoming)

### Did You know?

The Department of Arabic and Translation Studies, in its current form, was established in 2008.

## New Courses


This semester, two new courses were approved to be offered in Spring 2023.



**NEW COURSE** **SPRING 2023**  
**ARA 29415**  
INTRODUCTION TO ARABIC DIGITAL HUMANITIES

What happens when you have digital Arabic texts and computer software for text analysis?  
Lots of cool things!

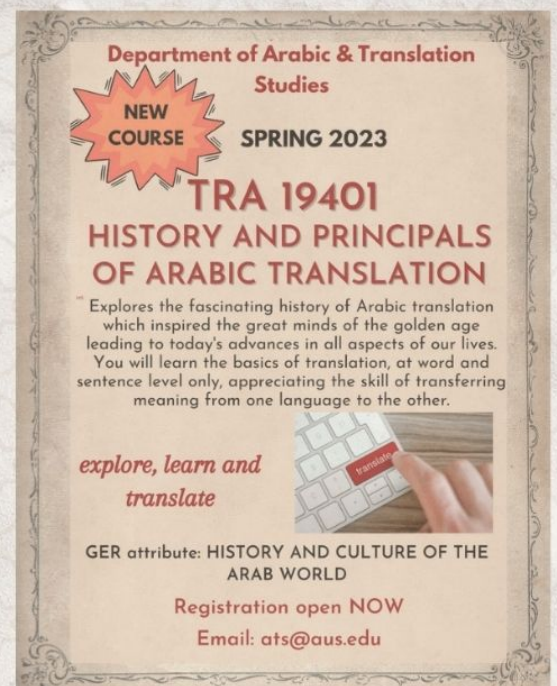
Join the class of future skills and learn how to treat digital Arabic texts as data for analysis and visualisation.



GER attribute: ARTS AND LITERATURE

Registration open NOW  
Email: [ats@aus.edu](mailto:ats@aus.edu)


with Dr. Mai Zaki



Department of Arabic & Translation Studies  
**NEW COURSE** **SPRING 2023**  
**TRA 19401**  
HISTORY AND PRINCIPALS OF ARABIC TRANSLATION

Explores the fascinating history of Arabic translation which inspired the great minds of the golden age leading to today's advances in all aspects of our lives. You will learn the basics of translation, at word and sentence level only, appreciating the skill of transferring meaning from one language to the other.

*explore, learn and translate*



GER attribute: HISTORY AND CULTURE OF THE ARAB WORLD

Registration open NOW  
Email: [ats@aus.edu](mailto:ats@aus.edu)

**Ara-besque**

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# Spring '23 Courses

This Spring we offer a range of courses to suit various attributes, levels and areas.



## Did You know?

This semester, Fall 2022, there are currently 1,289 students taking one of our many courses.

## OUR REGULAR FAVOURITES:

### History and Culture of the Arab world

**ARA 101**-Introduction to Arabic Heritage I

**ARA 102**-Introduction to Arabic Heritage II

**ARA 181**-The life of Muhammad (Seerah)

**ARA 240**-Arab-Islamic Culture and Civilization

**ARA 280**-Introduction to Hadith

## OUR HIGHER LEVEL COURSES:

**ARA 320**-The Andalusian Symbiosis

**ARA 308**-Arabic Grammar in Use

**ARA 385**-Islamic Texts in Translation

**ARA 340**-Social Context of Arabic

**ARA 360**-Arabic Linguistics

### Arts & Literature

**ARA19408**-Introduction to Arabic Poetry.

### Arabic Language Courses

Our department regularly offers Arabic language courses for non-native speakers. You can start your Arabic language journey this Spring and learn the basics of one of the top 5 languages in the world.

**ARA 105**-Elementary Arabic I

### Translation Courses

**ARA 29402**-Arabic for Translators

**TRA 220**-Theoretical & Practical issues in Translation

**TRA 307**-Screen Translation

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# Conference Corner

**LAST YEAR, OUR FACULTY MEMBERS PRESENTED THEIR WORK IN 12 CONFERENCES AROUND THE WORLD**

## **January 2021 - Nuha Alshaar**

*Al-Tawhīd's Perception of the Art of Writing and Aesthetics.*

MLA Annual Convention, Toronto.

## **March 2021 - David Wilmsen**

*A new perspective on Arabic grammatical šī: Functions and possible origins.*

University of Leeds, United Kingdom.

## **April 2021 - Mai Zaki**

*Arabic teacher training for the post-COVID era: Towards a complete model.*

Transformative Paradigms Conference, Arizona.

## **April 2021 - Meis Al-Kaisi & Mai Zaki**

*The Language of Arab Influencers on Twitter and Instagram: Language choices and hash-tagging styles.*

Experimental Arabic Linguistics, Dubai.

## **June 2021 - Bouthaina Khaldi**

*The Critique of Closure in Classical Arabic Self-Elegy,*

American University of Beirut, Lebanon.

## **July 2021 - Mariam Al-Attar**

*Beyond the Traditional Considerations of Ḥalāl and Ḥarām: Genetically Engineered Food as an Example.*

Moral Economies of Religious Reform, Cape Town.

## **December 2021 - Sattar Izwaini**

*The Impact of Translation on the Arabic Language.*

Public lecture, Cairo.

## **Keynote lecture: Said Faiq**

**"Translation, where Culture Manipulates Language," (March, 2022)**

First Language, Translation and Intercultural Communication Forum, Prince Sultan University, Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Faiq explored how intercultural encounters through translation are assumed to celebrate diversity and otherness, but practices indicate that mono-isms have reigned supreme over intended multi-isms. Drawing mostly on translational practices of textual imports from Arabic, Dr. Faiq examined translation as the site where culture manipulates language and thus affects and defines it as process, product and reception.



## **MEET THE FACULTY: DR. USMAN GHANI**

**Q: How many years have you been at AUS?**

This is my 8th Year now.

**Q: What is your favorite course to teach?**

They are all my favorites but the one that tops the list is ARA 280 Hadith.

**Q: When did you know you want to be an academic?**

At the age of 33 - a bit late in life but it has paid off!

**Q: What do you do in your spare time?**

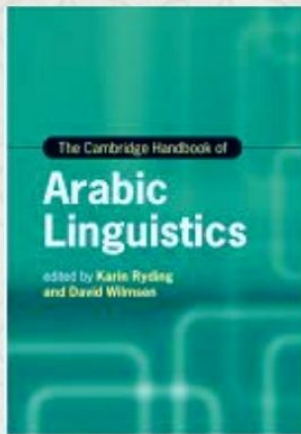
Enjoy it with my family.

**Q: If you can take your students to a field trip tomorrow, where would you go?**

Visit the the cultural and Heritage sites in the UAE.

# Research Rotunda

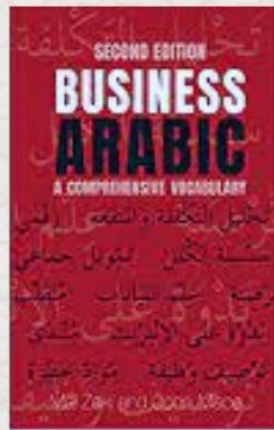
**WHAT DO OUR FACULTY MEMBERS RESEARCH?**  
HERE IS A SELECTION OF BOOKS, CHAPTERS AND JOURNAL PAPERS



**DAVID  
WILMSEN, 2021**

Husni. R and Lanteigne. B (2022) Teaching Implied Meaning Using Written Texts in Public Spaces: Social, Societal, and International Factors in English, Arabic, and Lithuanian, in *Engaging in Critical Language Studies*. Edited by John W. Schwieter and elt. Published by IPA. PP 107-127.

This research evaluates the use of advertisements and a product display containing implied meaning in second language contexts (English, Arabic, and Lithuanian). It further highlights contextual, social, societal, and/or international factors influencing implied meaning, and then describes how this affects teaching language learners the direct and implied meaning found in certain texts.



**MAI ZAKI, 2021**

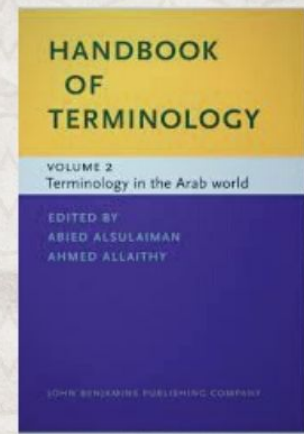
Nsiri, I. (2022). Review of the book *The Music Heritage of Al-Andalus* by D. Reynolds. *Journal of Arabic Literature* 53(3-4), 405-408.

The Musical Heritage of Al-Andalus is a critical account of the history of Andalusian music in Iberia from the Islamic conquest of 711 to the final expulsion of the Moriscos (Spanish Muslims converted to Christianity) in the early 17th century. This volume presents critical and detailed analyses of the historical sources written in Arabic, Old Catalan, Castilian, Hebrew, and Latin.

## **Keynote lecture: Boutheina Khaldi**

**"Unveiling Pseudonymous Writing by Twentieth Century Arab Women,"  
The Lisbon Consortium. Portugal.  
(June 2022)**

Dr. Khaldi discussed the issue of authorship in Arab women's literary production by focusing on the complex ways in which seven twentieth-century Arab women foregrounded the issue of authorship in their published writing. She argued that pseudonymity for these authors was a self-liberating strategy above all.



**AHMED  
ALLAITHY, 2022**

Alshaar, N. (2022). The Interplay of Religion and Philosophy in al-Tawḥīdī's Political Thought and Practical Ethics, in *Journal of Arabic and Islamic Studies*, 21(2), 313-339.

Dr. Alshaar argues in this article that both philosophy and religion, as envisioned by al-Tawḥīdī and his contemporaries, played an integral role in the creation of ethical and political thought. The analysis shows that modern concepts such as 'humanism' and 'political philosophy,' also played a big role. The article argues that a contextual approach to al-Tawḥīdī and his peers should consider the interdisciplinary nature of their work where religious, philosophical, and literary elements are intertwined.

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# Yalla Arabic

A DATE TO REMEMBER

## 18 DECEMBER

### World Arabic Language Day

UNESCO declared this day in December 2012 to celebrate the Arabic language, a pillar of the cultural diversity of humanity with its long and rich history. This date was particularly chosen as it coincides with the day in 1973 when the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted Arabic as its sixth official language. In the words of Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO: "throughout the centuries, Arabic has been at the heart of exchanges between continents and across cultures."



### Did You know?

From the top 10 nationalities of students at AUS, 7 are from Arab countries; with UAE, Egypt and Jordan at the top of the list.

### QUICK FACTS ABOUT ARABIC

- Arabic is spoken by around 450 million people around the world every day.
- There are 25 countries in the world which declared Arabic to be its official or co-official language.
- There are at least 30 different dialects of Arabic in the Arab world. Check out the map of dialects below.

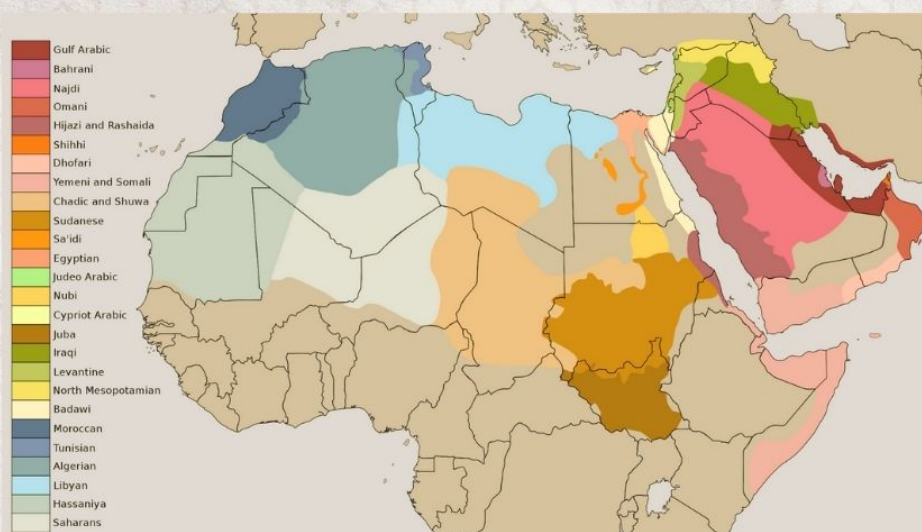


Photo credit: [Maps of the Arabic Language](#)

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# WE ASKED 10 RANDOM AUS STUDENTS:

What was the last ARABIC book you READ? These were their answers.. Well done, keep on reading!



## Events

On the 26th and the 28th of September, the Department held its first photoshoot for all AUS students. Almost 1000 pictures were taken and students left with great edited photos to share with family and friends.



Stay Tuned for Upcoming Events!!

### CONTACT US

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Instagram

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