



**THEO/PHIL6337-01 ARABIC READING OF THE QUR'AN 1**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Theological and Historical Studies**  
**Fall 2023—Fridays 2:00-4:50**  
**NOLA2U Flex**

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**Mission Statement**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

**Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the Arabic language through a study of the Qur'an. The course also familiarizes students with the basic structure of the Muslim scripture, its textual history, and select qur'anic texts of interest to those engaged in ministry among Muslim peoples. No previous knowledge of the Arabic language is required.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course the student will:

- Comprehend a basic knowledge of the Arabic language as found in select readings of the Qur'an.
- Read the Qur'an more critically in relationship to the meaning of the Arabic language.
- Evaluate the theology of select qur'anic passages.
- Appreciate how the Qur'an shapes the worldviews of Muslim people groups.

**Required Textbooks (All textbooks can be found in PDFs on Canvas)**

Awde, Nicholas, and Putros Samano. *The Arabic Alphabet: How to Read and Write it*. Secaucus, N.J.: Lyle Stuart, 1986.

Jones, Alan. *Arabic through the Qur'an*. Islamic Texts Society: Cambridge, 2006. 331 pages.  
ISBN: 9780946621682.

Naglaa, Ghali. *Write it in Arabic*. Fun With Arabic, n.d.

**Course Requirements and Grading**

**NOTE: Course details are subject to change by the professor who will communicate any changes via Canvas.** Please begin the course by viewing the "Introductory Video." The professor does not accept emailed assignments. Please submit all work on Canvas according to the guidelines below:

- I. **Participation/Attendance/Discussion Boards (10%):** Rather than emailing the

professor directly when questions about the material arise, **students should pose their questions** by starting a **new discussion thread** via the discussion board area in Canvas. The professor will then address these questions **live online each week during the designated class time**. This will help facilitate broad discussion and comprehension of the material in an online format. Many of the questions you have will be similar to questions shared by your fellow students; thus, it is important to pose those questions in a public manner so that everyone can view the answers.

**II. Learning the Alphabet (20%):** This course **requires a very large amount of self-study**. During the first three weeks students will focus on learning the Arabic alphabet quickly so that we can move into the main textbook (Jones). Your books for this part of the course will be **Awde and Naglaa**, supplemented by **YouTube videos** with links in Canvas. The material for these assignments can be found in Canvas under **“Books.”**

- a. Students are to read **chapters 1-2 from the Awde book** and indicate they have done so on Canvas.
- b. Next students are to do the **exercises** from Naglaa Part 1 and Naglaa Part 2. You will scan and submit these for your professor to grade according to the schedule.

**III. Weekly Submission of Jones Homework Assignments (50%):** Students can expect to spend **at least 3 hours on each lesson from the primary textbook, *Arabic through the Qur'an*** (we will cover lessons 1-20 during the first semester). It is **strongly** recommended that you **work on one lesson each day during the week and review regularly (you will not succeed in acquiring Arabic if you attempt to cram all the work into one day!)**. Weekly homework assignments must be done in the **order and format** below and submitted by the deadlines in Canvas. **Please do them in a designated notebook**. After doing the work for each lesson as outlined below, students are required to **scan** their work and **submit** the designated lessons via Canvas in **PDF** format according to the course schedule. Please use the **Jones Homework Form** found in Canvas as a coversheet for **each lesson** (all eight sections listed below must be clearly present **with titles** for **each lesson**—including a **separate coversheet for each lesson**—to receive full credit). Late submissions will be reduced by 50% per day:

- 1) Write your name and the lesson number at the top of the page.
- 2) Listen at least **twice** to the professor reading the vocabulary words for each lesson and repeat each word out loud after him (the audio files are in Canvas).
- 3) Write each of the lesson’s vocabulary words at least **once**, saying them out loud in Arabic and English as you write them. Add the new vocabulary to your vocab cards (see the explanation below about vocab cards).
- 4) Read the assigned chapter/lesson. Take notes on the main grammar points. Write a very brief bullet point summary of your understanding of the grammar in your homework. For verb paradigms, declension patterns, lists of pronouns, etc., add those to your vocab cards.
- 5) Listen at least **once** to the professor reading the exercise phrases/sentences and **repeat each word out loud after him** (the audio files are in Canvas).
- 6) Write each of the lesson’s exercise phrases/sentences at least **once** in Arabic and then translate them into English. **After translating, use the Key in the back of the Jones book to correct any mistakes.**
- 7) Select **one** of the exercise phrases/sentences using the citations given in the lesson and look them up using the QuranApp (or at [www.quran.com](http://www.quran.com)) in order to situate them in their broader context. Briefly comment (50-100 words) on the theology of

the selected verse in your homework, noting key words, names, or phrases. Students' comments should demonstrate an understanding of these phrases/sentences within their qur'anic context and offer a critique of the theological content from a biblical worldview.

- 8) Upon completion of **all** these steps **for each assigned chapter/lesson**, scan your homework with the **Jones Homework Form** as a coversheet (one for each chapter/lesson followed by your work for that lesson) and upload it in **one combined PDF** file to Canvas by the due date for each week.

**Vocab Cards:** Students are strongly encouraged to record each lesson's new vocabulary on 3x5 vocab cards with the Arabic on one side and the English on the other. You should include important lists (e.g., the pronouns from lesson three, pg. 26; the demonstratives from lesson six, pg. 39), verb paradigms (e.g., the verbs in lesson twelve, pgs. 75, 77), etc. in your vocab cards. To keep track of your work, you should put a number at the top corner of your cards indicating the lesson from which the vocabulary words derive (e.g., "1" for lesson one). It is highly recommended that you review your vocabulary daily. While this is strongly recommended, you will not be graded on whether you use vocab cards.

- IV. Mid-Term Exam (10%):** An online (take-home) mid-term exam will be administered according to the schedule in Canvas. Late submissions will be reduced by 50% per day.
- V. Final Exam (10%):** An online (take-home) final exam will be administered according to the schedule in Canvas. Late submissions will be reduced by 50% per day.

**\*\* IMPORTANT NOTES:** The professor does **NOT** accept emailed assignments. All written assignments must scanned and submitted **via Canvas in PDF format only** (assignments with multiple pages must be combined into one file for each assignment, not separate files). No other formats will be accepted. **Students should make sure they have access to a scanner (NOT the camera on your phone) in order to complete all assignments on time.**

### Evaluation of Grade

Grades will be determined on the basis of the NOBTS grading scale—an A for 93-100, B for 85-92, C for 77-84, D for 70-76, and F for 69 or below.

### NOLA2U Flex Students

If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Flex student, please note the following attendance policies:

1. You are required to be in class either through viewing the lectures live or viewing the recorded lectures on Canvas. When you view the recorded lecture, you will be considered present for that class. Regardless of if you watch the class live or recorded, you are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in the graduate catalog. (See page 184 in the graduate catalog: <https://Canvas.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/academics/GraduateCatalog.pdf> ).
2. You will be asked to certify that you have been present for the live session or have viewed the recorded session. This certification will be done through a participation grade after having watched the class live or viewing the recorded session.
3. All video lectures are available for 7 days after the video is posted. If you are unable to view the video within that time frame, you will be considered absent for that class session.
4. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a lecture.

## Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180).

1. [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) or [My.nobts.edu](http://My.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. [Canvas@nobts.edu](mailto:Canvas@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Canvas Learning Management System (Faculty/Students/Staff) [Canvas.NOBTS.edu](http://Canvas.NOBTS.edu).
3. [Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu](mailto:Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Bluejeans & NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus)
4. [TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS On-Campus Phone system.
5. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests in the Flex classrooms and for general technical questions/support requests. If you are not sure who to contact, use this email address!
6. [504.816.8180](tel:504.816.8180) - Call for any technical questions/support requests. (Currently available Mon-Thurs 7:00am-9:00pm & Fri 7:00-7:00pm Central Time)
7. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

## Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

## Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

## Course Schedule/Calendar

DATE	ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE
Week 1 8/18	The Arabic Alphabet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read Awde Parts 1-2 for background on the Arabic language and indicate you have done so on Canvas.</li><li>• Watch the videos in Canvas that teach you the alphabet, memorizing what is said and written, and indicate you have done so on Canvas</li></ul>	Midnight 8/20
Week 2 8/25	The Arabic Alphabet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do all the exercises in Naglaa Part 1, scan and submit via Canvas</li></ul>	Midnight 8/27
Week 3 9/1	The Arabic Alphabet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do all the exercises in Naglaa Part 2, scan and submit via Canvas</li></ul>	Midnight 9/3
Week 4 9/8	Jones 1, 2	Midnight 9/10
Week 5	Jones 3, 4, 5	Midnight 9/17

9/15		
Week 6 9/22	Jones 6, 7, 8	Midnight 9/24
Week 7 9/29	Catch-up, Review, and Work Ahead (online class will meet as needed)	
Week 8 10/6	FALL BREAK – Catch-up, Review	
Week 9 10/13	Take-Home Mid-Term Exam on Canvas (no online class)	<b>Midnight 10/15</b>
Week 10 10/20	Jones 9, 10, 11	Midnight 10/22
Week 11 10/27	Jones 12, 13, 14	Midnight 10/29
Week 12 11/3	Jones 15, 16, 17	Midnight 11/5
Week 13 11/10	Jones 18, 19, 20	Midnight 11/12
Week 14 11/17	Catch-up and Review (online class will meet as needed)	
Week 15 11/24	THANKSGIVING BREAK - Review	
Week 16 12/1	Take-Home Final Exam on Canvas (no online class)	<b>Midnight 12/1</b>