



Arabic Reading of the Qur'an I THEO/PHIL6337
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Theological and Historical Studies
Summer 2021
Monday 8-12:20
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

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

1. comprehend a basic knowledge of the Arabic language as found in selected readings of the Qur'an.
2. value the study of the Arabic language.
3. read the Qur'an more critically in relationship to the meaning of the Arabic language.

Textbooks

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.

**Upon purchasing the texts, please view the video entitled, "Using the Textbook" in the Introductory Videos.

Optional

QuranExplorer App (please download and purchase the full version):

1. Apple: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/quran-explorer/id451133186?mt=8>

2. Android:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.quranexplorer.QuranExplorer>

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies:

Lecture and discussion of Arabic language and grammar.

Memorization of Arabic vocabulary and grammar practices.

Discussion of principles for exegeting the Qur'an

Course Requirements

NOTE: Please begin the course by viewing the all the videos in the section, “Introductory Videos.” Also, the professor does NOT accept emailed assignments. Please submit them according to the guidelines below:

- I. Participation/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. 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 (10%):** This course requires a large amount of self-study. During the first three weeks students will focus on learning the Arabic alphabet. Your books for this part of the course will be Awde and Naglaa. The material for these assignments can be found in BB (BlackBoard) under “Learning Materials” along with other video resources that will assist you in acquiring the alphabet quickly.
 - a. Students are to read chapters 1-2 from the Awde book and indicate they have done so on the front page of the work due for Awde chapter 3. Additionally, for Awde chapter 3, you are to read the discussion of each letter and then write each letter 5 times (pronouncing them out loud as you do so) **in the PDF provided** on BB (5 times for each form of the letters). Then you are to write each of the sample.
 - b. Concurrently with the Awde text, you are to do the 15 writing exercises from Naglaa’s text and write each of the sample words that come after the exercises once then **scan and submit** them via BB in **PDF** format according to the schedule. **NOTE:** Naglaa is Egyptian and it is common for Egyptians to remove the two dots under the *yaa* ’ ﻱ in its final form so that it looks like an *alif maqsūra* ﻱ as you can see in the book on p. 65 (G), p. 70 (A and C), and other places. Please do not allow this to confuse you.

- III. Weekly Submission of Homework Assignments (40%):** 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 BB. 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 BB in **PDF** format according to the course schedule.

Please use the **Jones Homework Form** found in BB 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).

 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 BB).

3. Write each of the lesson's vocabulary words at least twice, 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 lesson. Take notes on the main grammar points. Write a very brief summary of your understanding of the grammar in your homework in bullet format. 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 BB).
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 at least two of the exercise phrases/sentences using the citations given in the lesson and look them up using the QuranApp (or at www.quran.com) in order to situate them in their broader context. Briefly comment (50-100 words) on the theology of the selected verses 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 of these steps for each designated lesson, **scan** your homework with the **Jones Homework Form** as a coversheet (one for each lesson followed by your work for that lesson) and upload it in **one combined PDF** file to BB 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 BB. Late submissions will be reduced by 50% per day.

V. Qur'anic exegesis paper (20%): Each student is required to develop a translation and exegetical study from a Qur'anic passage from a list made available during the first week of class. Students will employ Turabian formatting and submit a double spaced paper of 5-8 pages the content guidelines listed below in the syllabus. The paper is to be submitted via BlackBoard in PDF format on the first class day after semester break before 8PM Central time.

VI. Final Exam (10%): An online (take-home) final exam will be administered according to the schedule in BB. Late submissions will be reduced by 50% per day.

**** IMPORTANT NOTES:** The professor does **NOT** accept emailed assignments. All written assignments must be scanned and submitted **via BB 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

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Participation in Discussion 10%

Learning the Alphabet	10%
Weekly homework	40%
Qur'anic exegesis	20%
Mid Term Exam	10%
Final Exam	10%

A = 93–100

B=85-92

C=77-84

D=70-76

F= 69 and below

Additional Course Information

This course uses Blackboard to assist with information distribution. The professor will post announcements and grades in the course shell. Students should check regularly as professor will also post links to helpful websites and videos.

In addition some students may employ the NOLA2U Flex option:

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 Blackboard. 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. \
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 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

Study Tips

1. Plan to study 2-3 hours for every 1 hour in class.
2. Read your textbook even when you do not expect to be tested on the material.
3. Rewrite your new class notes each week.

Policy Regarding Late Work

Late work will not be accepted.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. 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

(NOTE: Class will meet for 4 hours on Monday as assigned by the dean. The homework assignments listed for each week are due on Monday by 8PM)

Week 1 (5/31-6/4) The Arabic Alphabet-Read Awde 1-3 and begin writing and saying the letters; watch the videos and memorize what is said and written.

Week 2 (6/7-6/11) Do the Naglaa writing exercises. Submit Awde ch. 3 and Naglaa writing exercises Monday 6/14 8 PM.

Week 3 (6/14-6/18) Jones 1, 2 and 3

Week 4(6/21-6/25) Jones 4, 5 and 6

Week 5 (6/28-7/2) Jones 7, 8, 9 and 10 — Mid-Term Exam (see Overview Week 1) due July 12 8 PM

Week 6 (7/5-7/9) Independence Day Break!

Week 7 (7/12-7/16) Jones 11, 12, 13, and 14

Week 8 (7/19-7/23) Jones 15, 16 and 17

Week 9(7/26-7/30) Jones 18, 19 and 20— Final Exam (see Overview Week 1) due July 29 8 PM

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