



## **STARTALK Summer Arabic Language Camp for High School Students**

**Arabic Language Camps (We may hold shorter camps during one of these time periods—let us know if this would be better for you!)**

**June 22–July 15**

**July 20–August 12**

Welcome to the study of Arabic at Brigham Young University. Arabic is the language of worship for over a billion Muslims throughout the world and the language of daily communication in the Arabic world, which consists, more or less, of 22 nations of the Middle East and North Africa, as well as of the Arab Diaspora.

The objective of the 2009 BYU Summer Arabic Language Camp is to assist high school students to acquire at least novice high-level proficiency in using both written and spoken Arabic through an intensive and inspirational Arabic language program. Students will be exposed to both written and spoken Arabic.

**Application:** <http://nmlrc.byu.edu/startalk>

**Tuition: \$800 plus textbooks**

**Scholarships are available for students needing tuition assistance.**

### **Why Learn Arabic?**

- **It's Useful:** Arabic is the 5th or 6th most widely spoken language in the world, yet few Americans know it.
- **It's Fun:** As an active learner you'll soon be talking and experiencing Arab culture. STARTALK will expand your worldview.
- **It's Impressive:** You think people who can speak and understand Arabic are pretty smart, don't you? When you learn Arabic you'll find your friends and others (like employers) will think so, too.
- **It's growing:** National and state governments support Arabic language programs.

### **Activities Include:**

1. Daily outdoor recreational activities that use the language
2. Daily cultural activities feature Middle Eastern dance, art, cooking, etc.
3. Weekly fieldtrips to Middle Eastern restaurants and mosques
4. Weekly "celebrations" that include a Bedouin tent dinner, a Ramadan meal, etc.

**Don't miss this amazing cultural experience!**





## STARTALK Arabic Course Description

### **Course Introduction and Assessment**

Brigham Young University is home to a distinguished Arabic program. This STARTALK program builds on its considerable resources and expertise. BYU is a pioneer in its approach to Arabic. Its graduates are counted among the best Arabists in the world. Like regular BYU Arabic 101 students, STARTALK students will gain practical ability to use two varieties of Arabic: Standard Written Arabic, used in books, newspapers, news broadcasts and formal speeches, and informal Spoken Arabic, often called dialect, colloquial or vernacular Arabic, which is used at home and in daily life. The Written Arabic variety is much the same across the Arab World, while the vernacular varieties vary from one place to another, often quite dramatically. The written and spoken forms, although quite different from each other in some ways, are still closely related, and much of what you learn of one can be transferred to the other. In the beginning, students mix the two (like most Arabs). It's all part of the process of learning Arabic (more on this below).

The objective of the 2009 BYU Summer Arabic Camp is to assist high school students to acquire at least Novice High level proficiency in using both Written and Spoken Arabic (for more information on proficiency levels see the [ACTFL web site](#)). Initial focus will be on developing speaking ability, with more attention to literacy in the second half of the program, after students have the tools to interact verbally with the faculty, staff and each other. The program is designed to help every student succeed. It's very much about learning through doing. Given that academic credit will be awarded, you should know that grades will be determined by the level and quality of participation in daily learning activities, a series of authentic language-use simulations conducted in interviews, and tests that focus on one's ability to use Arabic.



### **Task-Based Learning**

Fluent speakers of Arabic use the language to live life within a community through various cooperative "problem solving" activities. Based upon this real-life model, the goal of this program is *the meaningful and practical use of Arabic*. The students will learn through acquiring facility in performing a series of communicative tasks throughout the program, such as ordering a meal, asking and following directions, and writing a short letter.

### **Culture Objectives**

All of the target tasks involve acquiring some knowledge of Arab culture. Thus, many cultural recreational activities (culture lessons, movies, calligraphy, fieldtrips, etc.) will be woven in with the learning experiences. An example of this will be the authentic meals, prepared and eaten as a group. Students should be prepared to participate in the cooking and eating of foods such as hummus, pita, kebab, eastern salads, rice, and beans..

### **On Intensive Arabic Study**

Arabic is a relatively challenging language to learn. Research indicates that it takes longer for native speakers of English to learn it than to learn a language like Spanish or German. However, Arabic can be quite learnable (if one doesn't become distracted with non-essential details). Students will acquire basic conversational facility in the first week of the program.

The program is an **intensive** language program; the pace is reasonable, but brisk. Daily activities vary somewhat throughout the week, most notably on the weekends. Interested participants should come prepared to participate fully in each activity, to fully immerse themselves in Arabic language and culture every day of the camp. You'll have a great experience if you do. That's the key to learning: doing!

### **Program Materials and Resources**

Each student will be provided with all program materials and resources, including texts, supplementary DVDs, program binder, and portfolio. For your information, the texts for the course are:

Kristen Brustad, et al., *Alif Baa* (2nd edition)

The students will use computers to utilize on-line Arabic resources and manage their learning portfolios. Although participants will have access to a computer lab, students are encouraged to bring wireless-capable personal laptops, if available.

***Participant Expectations***

As previously mentioned, participating students are expected to involve themselves fully in *all* learning experiences. Specifically, this means being 100% present, on time, alert, consistent, communicative, cooperative, cheerful, uncomplaining, and willing to work hard and try new things. Homework is assigned daily and is always due the following day; thus, "Study Hall" must be used to its fullest capacity. While this program has the undeniable ability to be a memorable experience, a negative attitude and poor work ethic will ruin it—not only for the complainer but for everyone. Please carefully consider your goals and maturity level as you make your decision to participate in this program.



## STARTALK Arabic Sample Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7:00am	Wake Up/Personal Time	Wake Up/Personal Time	Wake Up/Personal Time	Wake Up/Personal Time	Wake Up/Personal Time	Wake Up/Personal Time	Wake Up/ Personal Time
7:30am	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:00am							
8:30am	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Personal Time/Theatre Club
9:00am							
9:30am							
10:30am							
11:00am							
11:30am							
12:00pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:30pm	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time
1:00pm	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Forum
1:30pm							
2:00pm							Culture
2:30pm							
3:00pm							Current Events
3:30pm	Culture	Technology	Culture	Technology	Culture	Technology	
4:00pm	Language Recreation	Language Recreation	Language Recreation	Language Recreation	Language Recreation	Language Recreation	Personal Time
4:30pm	Personal Time		Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time		
5:00pm	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Fieldtrip	Dinner	Celebration
5:30pm							
6:00pm	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time		Personal Time	
6:30pm	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Learning Activities	Learning Activities		Learning Activities	Personal Time
7:00pm							
7:30pm							
8:00pm	Cinema	Forum	Cinema	Current Events	Fieldtrip Reflection/ Learning Activities	Story Telling	
8:30pm							
9:00pm	Sharing Time	Sharing Time	Sharing Time	Sharing Time	Sharing Time	Sharing Time	Sharing Time
9:30pm	Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall
10:00pm							
10:30pm	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time	Personal Time
11:00pm	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out			Lights Out
11:30pm							
12:00am					Lights Out	Lights Out	



## STARTALK Registration for Accepted Participants

### **Announcement**

Your application must be submitted and you must be accepted into the program before you are allowed to register.

### **Tuition**

\$800 plus Books

Scholarships are available for qualified applicants.

### **FERPA Policy**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects the privacy of your educational record. In order to be in compliance with FERPA, we require verification of your identity before releasing any personally identifiable or educational information to you. Please do not ask spouses, friends, or siblings to request this information for you.

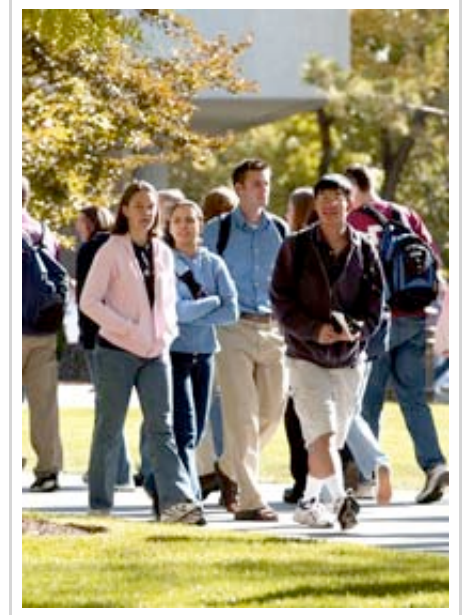
### **Admission and Standards**

Participants of any race, color, creed, and ethnic or national origin are accepted for admission to this program provided they maintain the university standards while on campus. These include modesty in dress and conduct and abstinence from alcohol, tobacco, coffee, tea, and harmful drugs.

We are committed to providing a learning atmosphere that reasonably accommodates persons with disabilities who are otherwise qualified. At least two weeks prior to the start of the program, applicants with disabilities are invited to discuss the program content and available facilities with the program director.

### **Substitutions and Cancellations**

There will be no refunds once the accepted students have registered, unless the camp is cancelled. However, the university cannot be responsible for any cancellation or change charges assessed by airlines, travel agencies, or other institutions.





## Food and Housing

### Food

STARTALK students will take most meals in the new Cannon Commons which offers an expanded array of healthy and tasty menu options. STARTALK registration fees cover the cost of these meals. For more information about this facility visit the [Cannon Commons Website](#). Students may also purchase food from the Cougar Eat, the BYU Creamery, or local stores.

### Housing

Students will be living at Bountiful Court Apartments ([www.bcprovo.com/](http://www.bcprovo.com/)), located just south of Brigham Young University campus. There are separate residence hall buildings provided for girls and boys. Each apartment accommodates six students, two students per bedroom. Guests of the opposite sex are permitted in living rooms and kitchens, but not in the bedrooms in off-campus living units. Students will be supervised by bilingual Arabic/English resident facilitators. Lights on, lights off, and study times will be strictly observed, with counselors conducting bed checks every night. All students must be in their own apartment by 10:00 p.m. and lights out is at 11:00 p.m. every day of the week.

Please leave electronic gaming devices and computers at home. Cell phones are allowed but use is restricted to free time.





## Contact Us

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**Questions regarding the BYU Arabic Summer Camp please contact:**

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### **By Phone**

General information: 1-801-422-4853

### **In Person**

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