



Agreement for a regular one-semester program of Arabic

At

**Arabic Language Center/Higher Institute of languages (ALC/HLI),
Damascus University**

**For students of Arabic from the
Department of Cultural Studies and Oriental Languages (IKOS),
University of Oslo, Norway**

1. General Outline

- 1 The semester program will allow students from IKOS to take language courses at ALC/HLI during autumn semester (beginning of September to mid-December).
- 2 IKOS will select the participating students and will give ALC/HLI the number of students and a list of names by the end of April. The students must have qualifications in Arabic corresponding to IKOS ARA1120 (one year intensive grammar and texts of Modern Standard Arabic). In the case where a student fails the examinations at IKOS, and thus does not qualify for joining the program, IKOS will notify ALC/HLI by mid-June.
- 3 On accepting the students, ALC/HLI will issue, as soon possible, one letter of acceptance for each students. The letter will state that the student has been accepted to full-time studies at ALC/HLI for the specified time. The letter will also state the total amount of the tuition fee, in order that the students will be able to apply for funding from the Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund (and for their visa application). ALC/HLI will send these letters to the Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages (address below in the Appendix).
- 4 Specifications of tuition fees and other fees are given in Appendix 1. The fees are decided by Damascus University ALC/HLI, and may be renegotiated from year to year.



2. Teaching and Evaluation

- 1 Students will be given 20 hours of teaching per week, 4 hours 5 days a week. At least 20% of the total time should be spent on teaching the basics of the spoken variety (dialect) of Damascus. Otherwise the program includes training in reading and comprehending various kinds of media and cultural texts, listening and speaking and working with written presentations. The students will already have a good knowledge of Arabic grammar (taught in the "western" way at IKOS), and the main focus should therefore be on training for practical proficiency.
- 2 Students will enter the ordinary courses of the Arabic program for 15 hours a week, which means they will be placed in various classes/levels according to a placement test. The remaining 5 hours they will, as a group, be given special classes with the specialized teacher. ALC/HLI will negotiate with the specialized teacher the optimal distribution of various elements of teaching.
- 3 Evaluation of students in the course will be according to the rules and practices of ALC/HLI. The students will only be given a certificate/transcript by the host institution if they attend at least 75% of the classes. (illness and other legitimate reasons for absence will be considered). Each student will personally bring along her/his evaluation sheets/transcript to Oslo.
- 4 The student will comply with any rules and regulations of the host institutions.
- 5 A- FINANCES

The student are themselves fully financially responsible for:

- Travels to and from Damascus.
- Books, stationary, and other material.
- Relevant international insurance (including health insurance).
- Travel documentations (visa etc).
- Tuition fees.
- Accommodation in a hostel, an apartment, or with a Syrian family.
- Local transport from residence to the teaching institution and back.



B- ACCOMMODATION

ALC/HLI assists student in finding reasonable housing, in apartments or with families.

3 Signature

This agreement is signed in two originals of which the parties receive one each.

Arabic Language Center/Higher Institute
of Languages
Damascus University

Department of Culture Studies and
Oriental Languages,
University of Oslo

Prof. Dr. Wael Barakat

Dean

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Wael Barakat'.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Arne Bugge Amundsen'.

Prof. Arne Bugge Amundsen

Head of the Department