Universidad Rey Juan Carlos

TEACHING GUIDE

SECOND LANGUAGE (ARABIC). BASIC LEVEL

GRADO EN RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES (INGLÉS)

ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27

Q2803011B UNIVERSIDAD REY JUAN CARLOS
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I.-Subject Identification	
Type	OBLIGATORIA
Teaching period	3 course, annual
Nº of credits	9
Language in wich the subject is taught	English

II.-Presentation

Basic Arabic in the Degree in International Relations is designed to introduce students to one of the languages of greatest relevance within the framework of diplomatic relations, particularly in today's globalised international context. Arabic is one of the official languages of international organisations such as the United Nations, among others, as well as the official language of most countries in the southern Mediterranean basin and of all member states of the Arab League, with which both Spain and the EU maintain prominent relations in the political, economic and other spheres.

The course focuses on the acquisition of the geographical, sociocultural and sociolinguistic knowledge necessary to interact effectively with speakers of Arabic, as well as on attaining a basic cultural understanding that enables an adequate comprehension of the Arab world and its linguistic and cultural distinctiveness.

Taking the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) as a point of reference, the programme's objective is the acquisition of communicative competence in Modern Standard Arabic (fusha) at A1 level, which will enable students to hold simple conversations, request and provide basic information, and read and write simple documents.

III.-Learning outcomes

CG04. Students must be able to transmit information, ideas, problems and solutions to others, be they specialised or not.
CG05. Students must be able to work in groups, transmitting, sharing and processing information.
CG06. Students must have developed the learning skills required to deal with further study with a high degree of independence.
CE05. Students must acquire sufficient skills in a foreign language to enable them to acquire further knowledge, transmit information, ideas, problems and solutions for improved professional performance.

- Key for degrees not adapted to RD 822/21: **CB** - basic competences, **CG** - generic competences, **CE** - specific competences, **CT** - transversal competences.
- Key for degrees adapted to RD 822/21: **CON** - knowledge, **COM** - competences, **HAB** - skills.

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IV.-Contents

IV.A.-Syllabus

1. Grammatical content:

• Script: introduction to and description of the Arabic language and its writing system.
• Auxiliary signs and graphemes of the vowel system.
• Diphthongs and the absence of vowels.
• Consonant gemination: the shadda.
• Arabic numerals of Indian origin: zero to ten.
• Personal pronouns, 1st, 2nd and 3rd person singular.
• Simple nominal sentence.
• Singular demonstratives.
• Interrogative pronouns.
• Adverbs of place.
• The Arabic definite article.
• Gentilic (demonym) adjectives.
• Introduction to verb tenses in Arabic.
• Clarifications on the verb to be in Arabic.
• Present and past tense of the verb in the singular.
• Introduction to conjugation with plural pronouns (present, past).
• Possessive pronouns.
• Masculine and feminine gender.
• Regular plural of nouns and adjectives: masculine, feminine.
• Writing numbers 0 to 10 in words.
• Prepositions.
• Negation of the nominal sentence with laysa.
• The negative question with laysa and its rule.
• The simple verbal sentence.
• Expressing possession and its negation.

2. Lexical content and oral skills:

• Greetings and farewells: responding to greetings and welcoming someone.
• Introducing oneself: name, surname, address, nationality, age, studies and profession.
• Professions.
• Family: introduction and description.
• Introducing someone.
• Describing one's home.
• Extending and accepting an invitation.
• Weather.
• Days of the week.
• Months of the year.
• Countries and capitals.
• Countries of the Arab League.
• Continents and cities of the world.

3. Cultural and sociolinguistic content:

• Brief introduction to the history of the Arabic language.
• Arabic calligraphy.
• Gestures and non-verbal language related to greetings in the Arab world.
• Brief overview of the Arab League: member countries.
• Multicultural diversity.
• Customary traditions and customs in the Arab world.
• Public office hours.

IV.B.-Training activities	
Type	**Title**
Individual work	Essays about cultural and educational topics
Individual work	Writing a journal during the Christmas holidays
Practical sessions	Writing a letter to an Arab friend who wants to visit Spain describing their city, its most emblematic places and explaining where they are, how to get there from a train station, or how to get from the airport to the university or to places related to the Arab world (monuments, official centers, etc.)
Lectures	Further readings will be indicated by the teacher during the course
Practical sessions	Writing a journal during the Eastern holidays
Theoretical sessions	Attendance to theoretical classes: acquisition of theoretical knowledge.
Resolution of exercises, problems, case studies	Practice preparation: studying the theoretical content required for the proposed exercises.
Other activities	Laboratory practice development: acquisition of the skills necessary to apply theoretical knowledge to the analysis of international relations.
Other activities	Attendance to related activities: complement the knowledge acquired in the course and improve the ability to learn independently.

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V.-Student workload	
Theoretical sessions	30
Resolution of exercises, problems, case studies, etc.	50
Practical sessions in experimental, technological and clinical laboratories, fieldwork, etc.	0
Tests and/or exams	10
Academic tutorials	40
Related activities: conferences, seminars, etc.	32
Preparation of theoretical sessions and self-study	28
Preparation of practical tasks, exercises, case studies, projects, etc.	60
Preparation for tests and/or exams	20
Total student workload	270

VI.-Methodology and academic programme

Type	Period	Content
Tests and/or exams	Week 24 to Week 24	A test will be carried out on the date established by the academic organization of the URJC in person.
Academic tutorials	Week 14 to Week 23	An individual or group tutored follow-up of the following tasks will be carried out: The students may ask the doubts that have not been resolved in the classes, as well as request an extension bibliography and / or any type of information related to the subject.

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Fecha firma: 25/10/2026 07:00 | Hash: 6e3e12551ae8aef41e5b7d365ec56567.

Practical sessions	Week 15 to Week 23	Practical classes The practices will be carried out in person at the established time until completing the teaching hours as foreseen in the teaching guide. The practical tasks will consist of carrying out grammatical exercises and essays in order to strengthen the vocabulary studied in the units. They will be carried out in a complementary way to the development of the theoretical part. in the time allocated by the FCJS as the student's autonomous learning time. The active participation of the student will be positively valued through the resolution of questions raised and the presentation of doubts.
Theoretical sessions	Week 1 to Week 14	Theoretical classes The classes will have a theoretical-practical approach to encourage the active participation of students. The teacher will explain the main contents of each topic, present practical activities, respond to the questions raised, give indications on how to find additional information and promote open, critical and constructive debate.

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VII.-Assessment methods

The general assessment method is continuous as established in the *Regulation for the Assessment of Learning Outcomes* of Rey Juan Carlos University.
All the assessment systems established in the degree report must be employed, except for those that have a minimum weight of 0%, which can be used by professors in the academic years they consider relevant. Each assessment system may be applied through one or more assessment activities, consistent with the system. No assessment activity can exceed individually 60% of the overall grade for the subject.
The sum of non re-evaluable activities cannot exceed 40% of the overall grade for the subject and, in general, should not have an established minimum grade (except for practical activities in which, strictly speaking, the conditions of the ordinary call cannot be reproduced in the extraordinary call).
Those students who do not manage to pass the subject in the ordinary call, or do not attend this first call, may attend the extraordinary call only for failed re-evaluable assessment activities.
The distribution and characteristics of the assessment activities are described below.

VII.A.-Description and weight of the assessment activities

Q2803011B UNIVERSIDAD REY JUAN CARLOS
Fecha firma: 25/10/2026 07:00 | Hash: 6e3e12551ae8aef41e5b7d365ec56567.

I. Students not participating in any Erasmus or similar programme, and not granted an academic exemption

1. Participation in in-person activities. **Weighting: (10%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** entire course. Content: participation in and completion of in-class activities, contribution to collaborative work, and engagement in the development of sessions are assessed. This will only be counted if the student attends at least 80% of classes. Attendance will be recorded through the Virtual Classroom attendance log. Assessed exclusively during the ordinary assessment period. NOT revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

2. Submission of all written and oral assignments requested, in the required form and within the required time. **Weighting (20%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** entire course. Content: all requested compositions are submitted for grading. Assessed exclusively during the ordinary assessment period. NOT revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

3. Preparation and presentation of an individual assignment. **Weighting (10%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** entire course. Content: the activity concerns a topic to be set by the lecturer during the course. Assessed exclusively during the ordinary assessment period. NOT revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

4. Assessment test: Midterm Examination. **Weighting: (20%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** held from the last week of December onwards. Content: (Grammar, reading comprehension, productive skills). Assessed during the continuous assessment period. Revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

Ordinary sitting:

5. Assessment test: Final Examination. **Weighting: (40%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** the URJC's official examination calendar will be observed. Content: (Grammar, reading comprehension, productive skills). Assessed during the ordinary assessment period. Revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

Extraordinary sitting:

Students who fail to pass the ordinary assessment, or who did not sit it, will undergo an extraordinary assessment to verify the acquisition of the competences set out in this guide, covering only the revaluable assessment activities. (60%)

II. Students with an academic exemption

1. Completion of a cultural assignment. **Weighting: (10%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** entire course. Content: the activity concerns a topic to be set by the lecturer during the course. This activity will replace the grade corresponding to active class participation. NOT revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

2. Submission of all written and oral assignments requested, in the required form and within the required time. **Weighting (20%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** entire course. Content: all requested compositions are submitted for grading. Assessed exclusively during the ordinary assessment period. NOT revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

3. Preparation and presentation of an individual assignment. **Weighting (10%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** entire course. Content: the activity concerns a topic related to the content covered in class, to be set by the lecturer during the course. Assessed exclusively during the ordinary assessment period. NOT revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

4. Assessment test: Midterm Examination. **Weighting: 20%.** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** held from the last week of December onwards. For students unable to sit the test on the scheduled date, provided documentary justification is supplied, this test may be replaced by the preparation of a portfolio of activities including grammar exercises, productive skills and reading comprehension tasks. Revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

Ordinary sitting:

5. Assessment test: Final Examination. **Weighting: (40%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** the URJC's official examination calendar will be observed. Content: (Grammar, reading comprehension, productive skills). Assessed during the ordinary assessment period. Revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

Extraordinary sitting:

Students who fail to pass the ordinary assessment, or who did not sit it, will undergo an extraordinary assessment to verify the acquisition of the competences set out in this guide, covering only the revaluable assessment activities. (60%)

III. Students enrolled in an Erasmus or similar programme:

1. Completion of a cultural assignment. **Weighting: (10%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** entire course. Content: the activity concerns a topic to be set by the lecturer during the course. This activity will replace the grade corresponding to active class participation. NOT revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

2. Submission of all written and oral assignments requested, in the required form and within the required time. **Weighting (20%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** entire course. Content: all requested compositions are submitted for grading. Assessed exclusively during the ordinary assessment period. NOT revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

3. Preparation and presentation of an individual assignment. **Weighting (10%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** entire course. Content: the activity concerns a topic related to the content covered in class, to be set by the lecturer during the course. Assessed exclusively during the ordinary assessment period. NOT revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

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4. Assessment test: Midterm Examination. **Weighting: 20%.** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** held from the last week of December onwards. For students on an Erasmus or similar programme, the examination may be held on an alternative date following their return, to be determined and communicated by the lecturer responsible for the course. For students undertaking the Erasmus programme for the entire academic year and who are therefore unable to sit the midterm examination on the scheduled dates, this test may be replaced by the preparation of a portfolio of activities including grammar exercises, productive skills and reading comprehension tasks. Revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

Ordinary sitting:

5. Assessment test: Final Examination. **Weighting: (40%).** Minimum mark: No. **Period:** the URJC's official examination calendar will be observed. Content: (Grammar, reading comprehension, productive skills). Assessed during the ordinary assessment period. Revaluable in the extraordinary sitting.

Extraordinary sitting:

Students who fail to pass the ordinary assessment, or who did not sit it, will undergo an extraordinary assessment to verify the acquisition of the competences set out in this guide, covering only the revaluable assessment activities. (60%)

Note: the URJC may, under certain conditions, recognise credits for the Basic Arabic course where these have been awarded by an official body, such as partner universities under the Erasmus programme or an official language school.

VII.B. Assessment of students with academic exemption from class attendance

Having Academic Exemption from Class Attendance (DAAC) does not imply that students are automatically exempt from participating in the continuous assessment activities or in the training activities of compulsory attendance as established in the teaching guide. Once the exemption has been granted, students must contact the subject's teaching staff, who will propose the adaptations he/she may consider relevant, as long as they guarantee the acquisition and adequate assessment of the learning goals established. Students must maintain adequate communication with the teaching staff so that they may provide information on the dates for training and assessment activities, if these are not established in the programme and available for students at the time of achieving the exemption.

Subject with possibility of academic exemption: Yes.

VII.C. Review of assessment activities

In accordance with the Regulation for the Assessment of Learning Outcomes of Rey Juan Carlos University.

VII.D.-Students with a disability or special educational needs

In order to guarantee equal opportunities, non-discrimination, universal accessibility and academic success, students with disabilities or especial education needs may request curricular adaptations to follow their studies. These adaptations will be provided by the Unit of Attention to People with Disabilities of Rey Juan Carlos University, in accordance with the regulation which regulates the service for the Attention of People with Disabilities at the University. This Unit will issue a report for curricular adaptations, so that students with disabilities or special education needs must contact the service (at e-mail discapacidad.programa@urjc.es) in order to provide relevant information for different educational alternatives.

VII.E.-Academic behaviour, academic integrity and honesty

Rey Juan Carlos University is fully committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty, so studying at the URJC means assuming and subscribing to the values of integrity and academic honesty set out in the University's Ethical Code. To support this process, the University has Rey Juan Carlos University's Academic Conduct Regulation as well as different tools (anti-plagiarism, supervision...) that offer a collective guarantee for the full development of these essential values.

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VIII.-Teaching resources and materials

Basic bibliography

Materials for the Basic Arabic Course:

- Abd El-Khalek, M. F. y Mohamed El-Jarah, M. I. (2025). Arabic for Business. Yidda, King Abdulaziz University.
- Abd El-Khalek, M. F. y Mohamed El-Jarah, M. I. (2025). Arabic for Diplomats. Yidda, King Abdulaziz University.
- Aguilar Cobos, J. D. et al. (2008). An-nafura. Lengua árabe. Almería: Albujayra SL.
- Aguilar, V. (2014). Mabrouk A2.1. Diego Marín Librero.
- Aguilar, V. M.Á. Manzano y J. Zanón (2010). Alatul. Iniciación a la lengua árabe. Barcelona.
- Haywood N. (1992). Nueva gramática árabe. Madrid, Coloquio.
- Hernández Martinez, J. (2009) Gramática práctica de árabe: A1,A2, B. Almería: Albujayra, D.L.
- Varios autores (2025). Al-mu´asis: El habla. Nivel 1. Yidda, King Abdulaziz University.
- Varios autores (2025). Al-mu´asis: La escritura. Nivel 1. Yidda, King Abdulaziz University.
- Varios autores (2025). Al-mu´asis: La escucha. Nivel 1. Yidda, King Abdulaziz University.

Basic Complementary Resources:

- Verb conjugator with downloadable app: https://qutrub.arabeyes.org/
- Vowelizer for words: https://www.tahadz.com/mishkal
- Spelling, grammar, and style checker: https://sahehly.com/ http://www.arabele.org/pasoapaso -Download the file jutwa.zip http://www.ub.edu/luga/AeLL Árab online - Interactive website of the University of Barcelona.
- Arabic teaching portal with different levels and a variety of materials: https://learning.aljazeera.net/ar
- University of Texas portal with materials to develop listening comprehension in Arabic Aswaat alarabia: http://www.laits.utexas.edu/aswaat/index.php
- Arabic resources for practicing listening comprehension http://mumkin.es/

Consultation bibliography

Additional material

Wightwick, J. y M. Gaafar. Mastering Arabic grammar. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005.
Wightwick, J. y Mahmoud Gaafar. Mastering Arabic grammar 2. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009.
Tawfik, Y. As-salamu `aliakum. Corso di arabo modern. Edizione aggiornata conenente CD. Torino: Ananke. 1999
Tresso, C. Lengua araba contemporánea. Grammatica ed esercisi. Milano: Hoelpi. 2003.
Gema Martín Muñoz, G. et al. El Islam y el mundo árabe: guía didáctica para profesores y formadores. Madrid: Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional, 1996.
Ferro, M. (2004): El conflicto del Islam. Madrid: Cátedra. 2004

Dictionaries

- Cortés, J. Diccionario de árabe culto moderno: Árabe-español, Madrid, Gredos, 1996.
- F. Corriente, F. e I. Ferrando. Diccionario avanzado árabe, Barcelona, Herder, 2005.

General complementary resources

- Arabic calligraphy http://www.sakkal.com/ArtArabicCalligraphy.html
- Aguilar, V.; Manzano, M. Á. y J. Zánon. Hayya natakallam al-`arabiyya. Cuaderno para leer y escribir árabe. Lérida: DM, ICEUniversidad de Murcia, 1998
- Islamic date converter http://www.islamicfinder.org/
- Arab culture http://www.araboislamica.blogspot.com.es/

IX.-Professors

Name and surname	SAIF EL ISLAM BENABDENNOUR EL HAMZAOUI
E-mail address	saif.el@urjc.es
Department	Estudios Históricos y Sociales, Lengua Española, Literatura, Filosofía Moral y Didácticas Específicas.
Campus	Madrid - Vicálvaro

Category	Profesor/a Ayudante Doctor/a
Academic degree	Doctor
Person responsible for the subject	Yes
Tutorial timetable	Para consultar las tutorias póngase en contacto con el/la profesor/a a través de correo electrónico
Number of quinquennia	0
Number of sexennia	0
No. of positive evaluations by Docentia	0

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