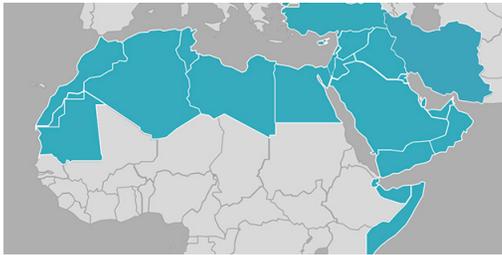


# Why Study Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, or Turkish?

The Middle East and North African (MENA) region stretches from Morocco to Iran. It is one of the linguistically most diverse regions. We teach the four most commonly spoken languages of the region: Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, and Turkish.



Proficiency in a MENA language presents unparalleled opportunities to address the complex political and economic questions involving the MENA region and the world. It also is a real asset for the private and nonprofit sectors, as well as businesses which seek to better understand emerging markets and institutions in the Middle East. Knowledge of a MENA language prepares students for many pursuits, including archeology, business, government, history, journalism, law, political science, and technology, to name just a few.



MENA Languages  
Program Website

Both new language learners and heritage speakers have excelled in our Program and have received many awards, grants, fellowships and scholarships.



Our Program immerses students in both the languages and the rich cultures of the region. We offer language tables, holiday celebrations, cultural festivals, authentic meals, guest speakers, art exhibits, and film events. The vast scope of cultural exposure expands how our students see, understand, talk about, and interact with the world.



Several of our courses can satisfy requirements for:

- a WCAS Distribution (\*);
- a Minor or Major in MENA Studies, German, German Studies, Hebrew Studies, or Jewish Studies;
- the ISP Cert. of Distinction in Foreign Language.

## ARABIC

First-Year and Second-Year Language sequences  
Colloquial Arabic

topics include *Egyptian*, and *Levantine*

Media Arabic

Third-Year Language sequence

Language & Culture

topics include *Arab Immigration*, and  
*Cairo: The Seven Layers of Civilization*

Current Events: Arab Society thru Online Media  
Translation in Practice

Arabic Poetry\*

Classic Arabic Texts\*

topics include *One Thousand and One Nights\**

Arabic Prose\*

topics include *Arab Woman\**, and *I am an Arab\**

## HEBREW

First-Year and Second-Year Language sequences

Third-Year and/or Fourth-Year Language courses

topics include the bridge course *Fun Stuff*,

Current Events: *Israeli Society thru Online Media*,

*The Four-Dimensional Jerusalem\**,

*Parents & Children in Israeli Society\**, and

*Between Two Writers: Sayed Kashua and Etgar Keret\**

## PERSIAN

First-Year and Second-Year Language sequences

## TURKISH

First-Year and Second-Year Language sequences  
capstone course is *Istanbul: Gateway between East & West*

## STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

One of the best ways to become proficient in a language, to expand cultural interests, and to meet different people and native speakers is to live and study abroad. Northwestern University classrooms extend well beyond the Evanston campus. Study Abroad Programs that are affiliated with NU are offered in Morocco, Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, and Turkey.

Notably, Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, and Turkish are considered "important" or "critical" languages by the U.S. Department of State. There are many grants, fellowships, and scholarships available to students who develop language and cultural expertise in the countries where the languages are spoken. Review our students' Study Abroad Experiences on our website!



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OF ARTS & SCIENCES



**Arabic** is the fifth most common language, with over 300 million native speakers. It is one of the six official languages of the U.N.



**Hebrew** has 9 million speakers worldwide. It is the language of the Bible and it was not spoken for centuries, until it was revived 140 years ago.



**Persian** is spoken by over 130 million people. It has a storied literary history, and Persian poetry is inscribed in the Halls of the U.N.



**Turkish** is the native language of 80 million people. Turkey is home to some of the earliest advanced civilizations in human history.

Arabic

Hebrew

Persian

Turkish



MENA Languages Program