March 6, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ann Wylie  
Interim Dean, Graduate School

FROM: Phyllis Peres  
Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to Modify the Curriculum of the Graduate Certificate of Professional Studies in Arabic (PCC Log No. 05042)

At its meeting on March 3, 2006, the Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses approved your proposal to modify the curriculum of the Graduate Certificate of Professional Studies in Arabic. A copy of the approved proposal is enclosed.

The Committee expressed concern about having graduate courses taught by individuals who are not candidates for admission to the Graduate School faculty. However, they also appreciated the need for immediate action to establish the Flagship programs. The proposal was approved on the understanding that the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures will ensure that all courses will be taught by regular faculty in the near future.

The changes are effective immediately. All advisors should be notified and the College should ensure that the approved guidelines are followed.

/cwr
Enclosure

cc: James Baeder, Chair, Senate PCC
Sarah Bauder, Office of Student Financial Aid
Mary Giles, University Senate
Barbara Hope, Data Administration
Anne Turkos, Archives
Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar
Gay Gullickson, Graduate School
Judith Broida, Office of Professional Studies
Kristin Owens, Office of Professional Studies
Michael Long, School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/ CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

DIRECTIONS:
- Provide one form with original approval signatures in lines 1 - 4 for each proposed action. Keep this form to one page in length.
- Early consultation with the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs is strongly recommended if there are questions or concerns, particularly with new programs.
- Please submit the signed form to Claudia Rector, Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.
- Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

DATE SUBMITTED March 3, 2006

COLLEGE/SCHOOL
Office of Professional Studies/Graduate School/ College of Arts and Humanities

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM School of Languages Literatures and Cultures - GCPS Arabic

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each) ADD ___ DELETE ___ CHANGE ___

DESCRIPTION (Provide a succinct account of the proposed action. Details should be provided in an attachment. Provide old and new sample programs for curriculum changes.)

Attached program revision is to change courses to delete required courses ARAB 614, ARAB 616, ARAB 623 and ARAB 625 and to add ARAB 415, ARAB 603, ARAB 620, and ARAB 630. Total credit hours remain unchanged.

JUSTIFICATION/REASONS/RESOURCES (Briefly explain the reason for the proposed action. Identify the source of new resources that may be required. Details should be provided in an attachment.)

After offering coursework for first semester of the new Flagship Arabic certificate program, it was evident that students did not have standardized language abilities and curriculum needed to be revised.

ORIGINAL

APPROVAL SIGNATURES DATE
1. Department Committee Chair
2. Department Chair
3. College/School PCC Chair N/A
4. Dean
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required) 2/21/06
6. Chair, Senate PCC 3/3/06
7. Chair of Senate
8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost 3/07/06
Program Agreement

*REVISION FEB 14, 2006*

Graduate Certificate of Professional Studies
Arabic Flagship Program 2005-06

This curriculum is being submitted as a revision to the original program approved July 15, 2005. This revision is for the current academic year 2005-2006.

The University of Maryland is committed to providing educational programs that meet the needs of a variety of audiences. As part of our graduate offerings, the Masters of Professional Studies and the Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies are designed for adult students who wish to increase their subject-matter knowledge as well as prepare them for new challenges related to their professional areas. These programs are managed by the Office of Professional Studies, with academic oversight by Academic units, and housed in the Graduate School.

Academic Oversight Committee Members

CORE Representative (committee chair and graduate director):
Alaa Elgibali, Associate Professor
School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Graduate School Representative:
Ann Wylie, Dean
Graduate School

OPS Program Manager:
Kristin Owens, Assistant Dean
Professional Studies

Certificate Description

The School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures (SLLC), the College of Arts and Humanities and the campus, as a whole, are committed to the development of existing strengths in Middle East studies. SLLC is contributing with rapid development of its Arabic and Persian programs. The School was recently awarded National Flagship
contracts for new advanced programs in Persian and Arabic, and the proposed GCPS program in Arabic is a function of the Arabic award, being the mechanism by which selected applicants will enroll. The University of Maryland is utilizing the GCPS program model for the Flagship program. The Flagship Programs are endorsed by the Provost as academically important to the growth of language study to the university.

The National Arabic Flagship Program at the University of Maryland is part of the National Flagship Language Initiative (NFLI). This federally funded, full-time program offers students with basic functional ability in Arabic an unprecedented opportunity to develop professional proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic and to expand their repertoire to include either the Egyptian or the Levantine dialects. The program employs an innovative, modular, multi-strand curriculum, which may be customized for individual students' professional domains.

The program offers courses in Arabic grammar, translation, literature, culture, as well as a number of specially designed courses. These sheltered, content-based courses are taught in Arabic to meet the specific needs of the students in a number of critical areas: Arabic for International Relations, Arabic for Media, Arabic for Business and Arabic for Islamic Culture. In addition, the program incorporates task-based instruction which is tied to internships in the local Arabic-speaking community.

The Arabic Flagship students can simulate living in an Arabic-speaking environment during their time at Maryland. They can avail themselves of six hours a day of structured language learning experiences, Arabic throughout the day with language partners who are Arabic native speakers matched – to the extent possible - with Flagship students in the same career field, a dedicated Arabic study area filled with Arabic multimedia resources, a variety of visiting speakers, field trips, and other formal and informal cultural experiences.

The Flagship Program lasts up to two years: the first year is at the University of Maryland, College Park with an overseas second year component for those who qualify. In exceptional situations students may be offered the opportunity to place directly into the overseas program. At UM, the program is delivered over a summer and two consecutive semesters. The program accepts students on a fulltime basis only and no partial registration is allowed. Upon completing the required credits at the university, Arabic Flagship Program students will receive a Graduate Certificate in Professional Studies with Arabic as their specialization.

**Admissions Criteria**

The admissions policy will reflect current university standards, including the prerequisite bachelor’s degree and a 3.0 GPA is all undergraduate classes. Official undergraduate transcripts from all colleges attended must be provided. As is currently the case, professional experience may be substituted for an entrance exam and students must have completed the prerequisites for courses in the program.
Prior to admission each student will be pre-tested to gauge their level of proficiency in Arabic (reading, listening, and speaking). The minimum language proficiency required for admission is 1+ (ILR) or Intermediate High (ACTFEL). Arrangements for a telephone oral proficiency interview (OPI) will be made individually with applicants. For Reading and listening, pre-testing will take place on February 16th at the University of Maryland.

**Required Courses**

**ARAB 306 Intermediate Egyptian Colloquial Arabic I (3):** Covering the spoken variety of Egypt in an extended range of communicative contexts where Egyptian Colloquial and Modern Standard Arabic are certain to merge.

**ARAB 307 Intermediate Egyptian Colloquial Arabic II (3):** Covering the spoken variety of Egypt in an extended range of communicative contexts where Egyptian Colloquial and Modern Standard Arabic are certain to merge. Focus is on integrating the Colloquial with the Standard. Prerequisite ARAB 306 or placement.

**ARAB 310 Intermediate Levantine Colloquial Arabic I (3):** Covering the spoken variety of the Levant in an extended range of communicative contexts where Levantine Colloquial and Modern Standard Arabic are certain to merge.

**ARAB 311 Intermediate Levantine Colloquial Arabic II (3):** Covering the spoken variety of the Levant in an extended range of communicative contexts where Levantine Colloquial and Modern Standard Arabic are certain to merge. Focus is on integrating the Colloquial with the Standard. Prerequisite ARAB 310 or placement.

**NEW: ARAB 415 Issues in Arabic Media (3):** Examines current issues in Arabic media with special focus on radio and television. Practice in explicit linguistic strategies, especially aural, for performance at Superior level. Department permission required.

**NEW: ARAB 603 Issues in Arabic/English Translation (3):** Practicum in translation from Arabic into English; authentic texts. Focus on written texts. Study of interdependence of language, context and culture. Department permission required.

**ARAB 613 Arabic for Islamic Culture V (3):** Advanced task-based course aiming to provide students with extensive exposure to more complex and elaborate authentic texts related to Islamic culture and history. Focus is on enhancing further linguistic proficiency in all language skills, developing more sophisticated knowledge of topics related to Islamic culture and history, as well as engaging learners in real-life tasks that allow them to use Arabic to write/talk/conduct research about issues specific to Islamic culture and history. Prerequisite: ARAB 314 or instructor’s permission.

**ARAB 615 Arabic for Media V (3):** Advanced task-based course aiming to provide students with extensive exposure to more complex and elaborate authentic texts from Arabic media. Focus is on enhancing further linguistic proficiency in all language skills, developing more sophisticated knowledge of the topics covered in the Arabic media, as
well as engaging learners in real-life tasks that allow them to use Arabic to write/talk/conduct research about issues specific to the world of the media.

**NEW: ARAB 620 The Arab World and Contemporary International Relations (3):** Study of political interests and diplomatic positions of Arabic-speaking countries in the contemporary international context. Research projects using primary and secondary sources. Department permission required.

**ARAB 622 Arabic for Business V (3):** Advanced task-based course aiming to provide students with extensive exposure to more complex and elaborate authentic texts relating to contemporary issues of business between the Arab World and the West. Focus is on enhancing further linguistic proficiency in all language skills, developing more sophisticated knowledge of the topics covered in the Arabic media, as well as engaging learners in real-life tasks that allow them to use Arabic to write/talk/conduct research about issues specific to the world of business.

**ARAB 624 Arabic for International Relations V (3):** Advanced task-based course aiming to provide students with extensive exposure to more complex and elaborate authentic texts relating to contemporary issues of international relations between the Arab World and the West. Focus is on enhancing further linguistic proficiency in all language skills, developing more sophisticated knowledge of the topics covered in the Arabic media, as well as engaging learners in real-life tasks that allow them to use Arabic to write/talk/conduct research about issues specific to the realm of international relations.

**NEW: ARAB 630 Special Issues in Arabic Studies (3):** Examines both common and unique problems facing a number of countries in the middle-east today, and compares and contrasts the varying approaches currently utilized from one country to the next in dealing with them. Research projects using primary and secondary sources. Topics to be announced when course is offered. Repeatable to 6 credits if content differ. Taught in Arabic.

**Faculty**

Faculty selection and appointments are made by the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures. Current faculty may include:

*Alaa Elgibali*
Associate Professor of Arabic
Director of the Arabic Program
Office: 3121 JMJZ Hall
Tel: 301-405-4037
elgibali@umd.edu

*Yehia Mohammad*
Lecturer of Arabic
Office: 4122 JMJZ Hall
Tel: 301-405-0197
ymohamed@umd.edu
Program Timeline

Courses will follow a traditional semester format.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 2005</th>
<th>Course 1</th>
<th>ARAB 306 or 310</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course 2</td>
<td>ARAB 613</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course 3</td>
<td>ARAB 615</td>
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<td>Course 4</td>
<td>ARAB 622</td>
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<td>Course 5</td>
<td>ARAB 624</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring 2006</th>
<th>old course</th>
<th>new course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course 6</td>
<td>ARAB 307 or 311</td>
<td>same</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course 7</td>
<td>ARAB 614</td>
<td>ARAB 415</td>
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<td>Course 8</td>
<td>ARAB 616</td>
<td>ARAB 603</td>
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<td>Course 9</td>
<td>ARAB 623</td>
<td>ARAB 620</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course 10</td>
<td>ARAB 625</td>
<td>ARAB 630</td>
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Graduation - GCPS

Outcomes and Assessment Plan

The purpose of this plan is to set clear guidelines, identify articulated outcomes and ensure avenues for continuous improvement for each graduate certificate and program managed by the Office of Professional Studies. It is our mission to provide high quality programs that meet UMD’s institutional goals and objectives for educational activities, while providing flexibility for curricular changes as needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Assessment Measures and Criteria</th>
<th>Assessment Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Students will demonstrate understanding of Arabic studies related to interdisciplinary content-areas</td>
<td>Successful completion of required integrated coursework, including politics, literature, international relations and</td>
<td>This data will be collected annually, beginning Fall 2006. After each program cycle, curriculum will be reviewed to</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Students will demonstrate gains in Arabic language proficiency</td>
<td>All courses will be instructed in Arabic. Students will conduct all class discussions and assignments in Arabic.</td>
<td>All data will be collected annually, beginning Fall 2006.</td>
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<td>Criterion: attainment of level 2+ on the USG proficiency scale (equivalent to ‘Professional’ on the ACTFL Scale)</td>
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<tr>
<th>3. Students will increase knowledge base of current issues related to Arabic culture</th>
<th>Successful completion of special topics course; with paper and/or special project focusing on current world issues.</th>
<th>All data will be collected annually, beginning Fall 2006.</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Criterion: attainment of B (3.0) grade or better</td>
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<td>An exit interview will be conducted with a random sample of graduates (20%) to assess their overall satisfaction with the certificate.</td>
<td>Responses will be collected and discussed with the Academic Oversight committee for retention purposes.</td>
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## Campus Approvals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Department</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judith K. Broida</td>
<td>Associate Provost, Dean of Professional Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Harris</td>
<td>Dean, Arts and Humanities</td>
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<td>Michael Long</td>
<td>Director, School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alaa Elgibali</td>
<td>Professor, School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures</td>
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<td><strong>PCC, Graduate Council</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Wylie</td>
<td>Dean, Graduate School</td>
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<td><strong>PCC, Campus Senate</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Phyllis Peres</td>
<td>Associate Provost, Academic Affairs</td>
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