

Careers for Arabic Majors/Diploma of Languages in Arabic

There are a great many career fields which relate to Arabic studies. In choosing your career path, it is important to reflect on the skills you have learned through your major, the ones you prefer using and the careers which are most strongly related.

Skills, knowledge and abilities acquired in the Arabic major

- *Skills to communicate effectively in Arabic in various social and professional contexts*
- *Skills to communicate appropriately with people with various cultural backgrounds which enable balanced interpretation of various social and professional practices in the global scene*

Career fields which build on the skills and knowledge acquired through an Arabic major

The table below lists a range of careers which make use of Arabic Studies. The list is not definitive; language skills can complement almost any occupational field and create specific opportunities.

More information on many of these career fields is available at: <https://careersonline.unimelb.edu.au/students/login?ReturnUrl=%2f> (Career Research - Career Links - Arts)

The table also provides some information about 'next steps' ie. what you might need to do to start a career in the particular field, specifically whether the career field can be entered directly following Bachelor studies, or whether graduate study is required.

A word about post-Bachelor employment

There are two employment types for post-Bachelor graduates:

- General employment positions suitable for new graduates
- Graduate Employment Programs

Graduate Employment Programs are offered by some employers - generally large commercial organisations and government. Graduate Employment Program positions are jobs that include a substantial component of training and development. Recruitment for these programs takes place early in the year (around March-May). Final year tertiary students and recent grads can apply. For some of the career areas discussed, Graduate Employment programs are available. Where this is the case, graduate study may not be required.

For more information on Graduate Employment Programs:

<https://careers.unimelb.edu.au/students/jobs-and-opportunities/professional-and-graduate-work>

Career options generally fall into two categories - those where language is the core activity, and those where language skill is paired with another skill.

'A knowledge of one or more foreign languages can be useful in a wide range of careers. For some jobs, such as translating, interpreting and language teaching, language skills are the main requirement. For other jobs a combination of languages and other qualifications, knowledge or skills may be needed. For example, people with languages plus IT, law, finance or sales skills are much sought-after.'

(Omniglot - Language Learning: <https://www.omniglot.com/language/articles/langlearning.htm>)

Language as 'core business' - specialist language occupations

These options would be available to advanced stream students.

Role	Employers	Next Steps
Translating	Business/multinational companies Media Government Freelance Translating & Interpreting Services (eg Victorian Interpreting & Translating Service/VITS, Translating & Interpreting Service/TIS, All Graduates Interpreting & Translating, ONCALL Interpreters & Translators) NGO/NPO	MA in Translation NAATI accreditation by passing the NAATI accreditation test or by completing a course of studies in translation at an Australian institution approved by NAATI Training in programs provided by private institutions
Interpreting	Business/multinational Companies Media Freelance Government Translating & Interpreting Services (eg Victorian Interpreting & Translating Service/VITS, Translating & Interpreting Service/TIS, All Graduates Interpreting & Translating, ONCALL Interpreters & Translators) Hospital Interpreter Services Community Health Services Courts of Law Police Corrections Victoria Victoria Legal Aid Community Legal Centres Community Migrant Resource Centres NGO/NPO	MA in Translation NAATI accreditation by passing the NAATI accreditation test or by completing a course of studies in interpreting at an Australian institution approved by NAATI Training in programs provided by private institutions
Teaching Arabic	Private institutions Primary/Secondary schools Higher Education	No specific requirements, though qualifications assist Graduate Diploma in Arabic as a Second/Foreign Language OR Master of Teaching MA Applied Linguistics MA or PhD Arabic Studies

Careers which make use of language in conjunction with another skill

Note that language skill can be used to complement almost any other skill to suggest career possibilities. Below are some examples only.

Role	Companion studies	Employers	Next Steps
Diplomacy/international relations <i>Beginners to advanced</i>	Politics and International studies / Master of International Relations (MC-IR) / Islamic Studies	Government Intergovernmental bodies NGO/NPO Business/multinational companies	Graduate Employment Programs (mainly Australian Government) OR Graduate Studies - International Relations
Academia/research Advanced	Any field	University Research Centres	Honours Masters by research PhD
International business, in-country business, import-export in Australia <i>Beginners to advanced</i>	Business Marketing Commerce Economics	Commercial businesses (eg fashion, food, manufacturing, agriculture, petroleum) Trading companies	Graduate employment OR Graduate Studies- International Business
Translation software, language engineering Advanced	IT/Computer Science Linguistics	Software companies IT Venture business	Degree in Computational Linguistics or Computer Science
Tourism - in Australia, in the Arab World <i>Intermediate to Advanced</i>	Arts Commerce	Tourism operators Tour guiding Hotels Restaurants Transport (eg Airline industry)	Graduate employment OR Graduate Studies eg Business, Tourism Management
TESOL <i>Beginners to Advanced</i>	English Applied Linguistics Education CELTA/DELTA (Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages and Diploma in Teaching ...)	Teaching in the Arab World (private colleges schools universities) Teaching at Australian universities, colleges and language schools & the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP)	Some may require CELTA MA in TESOL Master of Education in TESOL (generally required but some private colleges may not require)
Cultural exchange (project and program management roles) <i>Beginners to advanced</i>	Arts	Cultural exchange associations, industry groups	Graduate study in various areas may be appropriate eg Marketing, Arts Management, Master of Art Curatorship

Role	Companion studies	Employers	Next Steps
Archaeology <i>Beginners to advanced</i>	Archaeology & Classics	Archaeological contractors Universities & Colleges National / government / private organisations working in the Middle East & North Africa	Master of Arts in Classics & Archaeology PhD
Law <i>Advanced</i>	Law	Law firms Companies Victoria Legal Aid Community Legal Centres	Graduate studies in Law - JD OR Graduate entry to undergraduate Law courses
Policy and Public sector Administration <i>Beginners to advanced</i>	Law Political Science	Consulate and embassy Government Consultant	Graduate Employment Programs (mainly Australian Government) OR Graduate Studies – Public Policy, EMA, Law
Defence and National Security <i>Intermediate to advanced</i>		Defence force	Defence Academy
Social work <i>Beginners to advanced</i>	Arts	Government Community Migrant Resource Centres Community Services Community Care NGOs The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture (Foundation House) Action on Disability within Ethnic Communities (ADEC) Child Protection Youth Work	Graduate Studies in Social Work (eg Master of Advanced Social Work)
Police (Community policing, international liaison, international deployment group, counter terrorism, intelligence, specialist and non-policing roles, etc.) <i>Intermediate to advanced</i>	Any field	Victoria Police Australian Federal Police	Australian Federal Police College ACT Policing and Federal Agent recruit training

Role	Companion studies	Employers	Next Steps
Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Midwifery, Mental health professional, Physiotherapy Beginners to advanced	Biomedicine Science Oral health Nursing Physiotherapy	In Australia & in the Middle East & North Africa: Hospitals Medical centres Dental surgeries Mental health services Maternal & Child Health Services	Graduate courses in medicine, with specialisation Doctor of Dental Science Doctor of Dental Surgery Master of Advanced Nursing Practice (with specialisation) Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Science
Journalism Intermediate to advanced	Arts Eg: Journalism Travel writing	National & international news agencies or individual newspapers/magazines TV channels & networks Radio channels (eg SBS)	Graduate courses in media & communication, journalism, global crisis reporting, video & audio journalism, etc.

Links

Careers in Languages (other discussions)

Careers in Languages: <http://lrc.wfu.edu/careersinlanguages/>

Omniglot: <http://www.omniglot.com/links/careers.htm>

Career Views - Victoria University of Wellington

https://www.victoria.ac.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/1362900/career-view-languages-and-cultures-web.pdf
(Languages and Cultures)

https://www.victoria.ac.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/1362904/career-view-linguistics-and-applied-language-studies-web.pdf

(Linguistics and Applied Language Studies)

Working in the Arab World

Academic & University Jobs in the Middle East

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/unijobs/en-au/middle-east/>

UN Jobs Vacancies for 'Arab Countries'

<http://unjobs.org/themes/arab-countries>

Bayt The Middle East #1 Job Site

<http://www.bayt.com/>

Aljazeera Network

<https://services.aljazeera.net/Recruitment/Portal/Pages/frnJobList.aspx?lang=en> (Human Resources Division)

<http://www.aljazeera.com/aboutus/2009/10/2009103081456514230.html>

Organisations

Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne
<http://asiainstitute.unimelb.edu.au/research>

National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters
(NAATI): http://www.naati.com.au/home_page.html

The Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators Inc. (AUSIT):
www.ausit.org

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade:
<http://aid.dfat.gov.au>
(See all the different Arab countries under *Countries and regions*.)

Council of Australian-Arab Relations
<http://www.dfat.gov.au/caar/>

Australian Trade Commission (AUSTRADE)
<https://www.austrade.gov.au/About-Austrade/Employment>

United Nations:
<http://www.un.org/eg/AllCareers.aspx?pageID=48> (Egypt)
http://unjobs.org/duty_stations/amm (Jordan)
http://unjobs.org/duty_stations/lebanon (Lebanon)
http://unjobs.org/duty_stations/tip (Libya)
http://unjobs.org/duty_stations/rba (Morocco)
http://unjobs.org/duty_stations/zdm (Palestinian Territory)
http://unjobs.org/duty_stations/qatar (Qatar)
http://unjobs.org/duty_stations/jed (Saudi Arabia)
http://unjobs.org/duty_stations/tun (Tunisia)
http://unjobs.org/duty_stations/sah (Yemen)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP):
<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/jobs/internships.html>
<http://www.eg.undp.org/content/egypt/en/home/operations/jobs.html>
<http://www.jo.undp.org/content/jordan/en/home/operations/jobs.html>
<http://www.undp.org.lb/jobs/Index.cfm>

Embassy of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Canberra
<http://www.algeriaemb.org.au/>

Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Canberra:
<http://www.embassypages.com/missions/embassy8624/>

Consulate General of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Sydney:
<http://www.egypt.org.au/>

Embassy of the State of Kuwait
<http://www.kuwaitemb-australia.com/ContactUs.html>

Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco, Canberra:
<http://www.moroccoembassy.org.au/>

Consulate General of the Sultanate of Oman, Melbourne:
<http://www.oman.org.au>

Embassy of the State of Qatar, Canberra:
<http://www.embassypages.com/missions/embassy24185/>

Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Canberra
<http://embassies.mofa.gov.sa/sites/Australia/EN/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://embassies.mofa.gov.sa/sites/Australia/AR/Pages/default.aspx>

Embassy of the Republic of Tunisia, Canberra

<http://www.embassypages.com/missions/embassy24183/>

Embassy of the United Arab Emirates, Canberra

<http://uae-embassy.ae/embassies/au>

The Victorian Arabic Language Teachers' Association (VALTA)

<http://www.mltav.asn.au/arabic/>

Tourism Australia:

<http://www.tourism.australia.com/>

SBS Arabic service:

<http://www.sbs.com.au/yourlanguage/arabic/home/page/in/english>

Australia Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry

<http://www.austarab.com.au/about-aacci>

<http://australiantradelinks.com.au/page/knowledge-centre/bi-lateral-organisations-and-service-providers/australian-arab-chamber-of-commerce-and-industry>

<http://www.business.gov.au/GBDirectory/A/Pages/AustraliaArabChamberofCommerceandIndustryInc%28AACI%29.aspx>

The Australian Lebanese Chamber of Commerce

<http://alcc.com.au/>

Australian Arab Business Network

<http://www.australianarabbusiness.org.au/>

Arab Council Australia

<http://www.arabcouncil.org.au/>

Australian Arabic Council

<http://www.aac.org.au/>

The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture (Foundation House)

<http://www.foundationhouse.org.au/employment/index.htm>

Arabic Jobs in Australia

[http://au.jobrapido.com/Arabic-jobs-in-](http://au.jobrapido.com/Arabic-jobs-in-Australia?utm_source=adwords&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=ADWORDS_AU_COMBINED_SEARCH&utm_agid=1993033375&utm_kwid=13702104230&adwords=)

[Australia?utm_source=adwords&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=ADWORDS_AU_COMBINED_SEARCH&utm_agid=1993033375&utm_kwid=13702104230&adwords=](http://au.jobrapido.com/Arabic-jobs-in-Australia?utm_source=adwords&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=ADWORDS_AU_COMBINED_SEARCH&utm_agid=1993033375&utm_kwid=13702104230&adwords=)

Language Proficiency tests

LOTE (Language Other Than English):

http://asiainstitute.unimelb.edu.au/help/undergraduate_students/lote_accreditation_exams

NAATI (National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters) Accreditation Test (Translator & Interpreter Testing)

<http://www.naati.com.au/testing.html>

& [http://www.naati.com.au/PDF/Booklets/Accreditation by Testing booklet.pdf](http://www.naati.com.au/PDF/Booklets/Accreditation_by_Testing_booklet.pdf)