



# Ribāt University

*Ribāt University cultivates luminaries of cultural renewal*

## Academic Catalog 2026–2027

### **Student Responsibility**

Students are held responsible for all information published in the Ribāt University Academic Catalog and the Student Handbook.

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# About Rabata

## Mission

Rabata creates positive cultural change through creative educational experiences.

## Vision

Rabata envisions a rising tide of Muslim women teachers, faith leaders, and community stewards in every digital and local neighborhood around the world.

## Theory of Change

At Rabata we work to build a better society through the educational and spiritual development of women by women, amplifying the female voice in scholarship and publishing, and graduating teachers and religious leaders ready to serve their communities.

## Narrative Story

Muslim women historically have been a vital part of the foundation of Islamic scholarship, leadership, and community care. Today, Rabata provides a platform for the rising tide of Muslim women becoming scholars, community leaders, and positive cultural change agents. Through online classes, literature, and spiritual mentorship, women are finding hope once again. Muslim women are raising their voices and amplifying their power across six continents as they live in the shelter of one another and uplift themselves and the next generation. Each woman brings with her a unique ability to be the needed change through education, *tarbiya*, and community.

## Non-Profit Status

Ribāṭ University is part of Rabata's educational mission and operates under Rabata, Inc., a recognized nonprofit organization by the IRS, section 501(c)(3) Tax Identification Number: 46-4208628



## About Ribāṭ University

Ribāṭ University is an online, degree-granting university established in 2026, offering undergraduate and graduate degrees, certificate and *ijāza* programs, and continuing education courses to Muslim women around the world. A project of Rabata, Ribāṭ University builds on Rabata's long-standing tradition of promoting Islamic scholarship and leadership for Muslim women. Ribāṭ University offers educational programs that integrate traditional Islamic studies with contemporary academic disciplines. The university aims to produce graduates who are not only academically capable but also spiritually rooted, socially conscious, and prepared to lead and educate in different global contexts.

Graduates of Ribāṭ University will emerge with a strong academic foundation rooted in traditional Islamic scholarship, informed by the realities of the modern world. They will be equipped with the knowledge, skills, and credentials necessary to access new professional pathways, contribute thoughtfully to their communities, and lead with confidence. Through a supportive learning environment that fosters inquiry, honors creative perspectives, and encourages spiritual development, students will cultivate the character, leadership, and vision needed to educate others and embody the values of Islam with integrity and purpose.

### Mission

Ribāṭ University cultivates luminaries of cultural renewal—Muslim women grounded in faith, equipped with knowledge, and prepared with practical skills through innovative distance learning for the betterment of the *ummah* and the world.

### Vision

Ribāṭ University envisions a rising tide of Muslim women graduates—scholars, professionals, and community leaders—who, through academic degrees and spiritual formation, contribute meaningfully to the *ummah* and help build a better world.

### Institutional Aspirations

#### **A Rising Tide of Muslim Women Scholars, Professionals, and Community Leaders**

Flood communities with joyful and thoughtful scholars, professionals, and community leaders.

## **Luminaries of Renewal**

Luminaries are experts and influential women who bring light to everything they touch. They are brilliant achievers, creative thinkers, and problem solving contributors to the *ummah*.

## **Degrees for Muslim Women Worldwide**

Ensure that women in varied contexts can pursue affordable, academic, faith-centered programs through flexible, innovative distance learning.

## **Strategies**

### **Practical and Purposeful Education**

Ribāṭ University is committed to offering practical, purposeful programs that equip students with skills and insights they can immediately apply in their lives and careers. Our graduates are prepared to serve as catalysts for cultural change—bringing *iḥsān* into the workplace, making innovative contributions to their communities, and cultivating joyful, faith-centered family ecosystems. Through relevant and actionable learning, Ribāṭ inspires women to lead, create, and instigate positive transformation.

### **Spiritually Grounded Pedagogy**

Ribāṭ University is rooted in the spiritual and pedagogical traditions of Islamic thought, grounding all learning in Islamic epistemology. We affirm that the sacred and the secular are not divided but indivisible—shaping both study and practice, knowledge and living. Through this holistic approach, Ribāṭ nurtures a way of learning that cultivates spiritual depth, academic excellence, and the integration of faith into every aspect of life.

### **Affordable and Attainable Education**

Ribāṭ University is dedicated to making higher education affordable and attainable for women around the world. By lowering barriers to entry, Ribāṭ makes possible what was once out of reach: a world where more women earn degrees across disciplines, step into fields of influence, and bring their knowledge to bear on the challenges of our time. Each graduate adds to a rising tide of women whose learning uplifts families, invigorates communities, and reshapes society with wisdom, creativity, and faith.

### **Nondiscrimination Policy**

Ribāṭ University is committed to providing a respectful learning environment for all students, faculty, and staff. Discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, disability, gender, marital status, or any other protected characteristic is strictly prohibited. The university promotes equitable access to educational

opportunities and expects all members of the community to uphold this standard of equity and respect.

**Contact Information**

Address: 3533 Lexington Ave N. Arden Hills MN, 55126

Phone: +(612) 584-3359

Website: [academy.rabata.org/university](http://academy.rabata.org/university)

**Hours of Operation**

While Ribāṭ courses occur at different times of the day and week, administrative offices are available weekdays 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, United States Central Time (CT).

# Ribāṭ University Schools

## |— School of Religion and Epistemological Studies

### | |— Department of Islamic Studies

- | Associate of Arts in Islamic Studies and Liberal Arts
- | Associate of Arts in Teaching Islam
- | Bachelor of Arts in Islamic Teachings and Traditions (ITT)
- | Minor in Islamic Studies
- | Certificate in Teaching Islam
- | Graduate Certificate in Islamic Belief and Practice
- | Master of Theological Studies (MTS) in Islamic Belief and Practice
- | Doctor of Theology (ThD) in Islamic Belief and Practice
- | Riverstead Islam

### | |— Department of Quranic Studies

- | Ribāṭ *Tajwīd*<sup>1</sup> 5 *Ajzā* ' Certification
- | Ribāṭ *Tajwīd* *Ijāza* Certification
- | Riverstead Quran

### | |— Department of Hadith Studies

- | *Ijāza* in the Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī
- | ***Ijāza* in the Forty Hadith of Palestine**
- | *Ijāza* in *al-Shama'il al-Muhammadiyah*
- | *Ijāza* in *al-Adab al-Mufrad*
- | *Ijāza* in the 100 Hadith Collection

### | |— Department of Philosophical Studies

### | |— Department of World Religions

## |— School of Arts and Humanities

### | |— Department of Arabic Language and Culture

- | Associate of Arts in Teaching Arabic
- | Bachelor of Arts in Arabic Language, Literature, and Linguistics (ALLL)
- | Minor in Arabic
- | Certificate in Arabic Language and Cultural Fluency
- | Riverstead Arabic

### | |— Department of English Language and Literature

- | Bachelor of Arts in Literature, Writing, and Publishing (LWP)

### | |— Department of Historical and Cultural Inquiry

- | Bachelor of Arts in History and Futures Studies (HiFS)

### | |— Department of Art and Creative Expression

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<sup>1</sup> *Tajwīd* is the science of reciting the Quran correctly.

- |— **School of Education and Behavioral Sciences**
- |   |— **Department of Education**
- |       Bachelor of Arts in Applied Pedagogy and Innovative Learning (APIL)
- |   |— **Department of Psychological Sciences**
- |       Bachelor of Arts in Applied Psychology (AP)
  
- |— **School of Business and Leadership**
- |   |— **Department of Leadership and Strategy**
- |       Bachelor of Arts in Business, Organizational Leadership, and Development (BOLD)
- |   |— **Department of Business Administration**

## **Ribāṭ Riverstead**

Founded in 2013, Ribāṭ Riverstead (previously Ribaāt Academic Institute) is an online space of lifelong learning for Muslim women around the globe that has reached more than 10,000 students across 90 countries. The program is designed to nurture and support Muslim women through a structured curriculum that balances deep scholarship with practical application. Taught by qualified female scholars, these comprehensive courses guide students through the foundational and advanced fields of Islamic knowledge in 9 tracks of learning: *‘Aqīda*, *Fiqh*, Hadith, History, *Tafsīr*, *Tajwīd* of the Quran, *Tazkiya*, *Sīra*, and Social Sciences. The curriculum provides a rich and well-rounded education that aligns with traditional Islamic scholarship utilizing modern methodologies. Understanding the Muslim woman’s needs, Ribāṭ Riverstead aims to make learning flexible, affordable, and attainable. Some Riverstead credits will transfer to degree programs. Students may connect with the admissions department to determine eligibility.

## **Ribāṭ Ijāza Certifications**

An *ijāza* is a specialist degree in either the recitation of the Quran or reading of hadith which connects the student through a chain of scholars directly to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Students enrolled in any of the certification programs receive certificates upon successful completion of their prescribed course of study. Prerequisites and required courses are outlined in this catalog as well as the university website.

# **Ribāṭ University Curriculum**

## **Educational Approach**

Rooted in authenticity and guided by a commitment to excellence, Ribāṭ University bridges traditional Islamic scholarship with the realities of the modern world. We prioritize an environment where questions are welcomed, unique perspectives are shared, and spiritual and academic development is balanced.

Ribāṭ University strives to equip women not only with knowledge but with the tools and confidence needed to be leaders, educators, and active contributors to their communities, embodying the teachings of Islam in daily life.

The aim of the university is to graduate women prepared to build communities, work in their chosen field, and serve humanity.

## **A Well-Rounded Liberal Arts Education**

Every student at Ribāṭ University receives a comprehensive liberal arts education that combines academic breadth with spiritual depth. As part of the core curriculum, students complete general education courses that cultivate critical thinking, communication, and analytical skills across disciplines. All students also pursue a minor in Islamic Studies or Arabic, grounding their academic journey in traditional scholarship and ethical principles.

All students study Arabic as a foreign language, opening the door to engagement with primary Islamic texts and enhancing cultural and linguistic understanding.

To culminate their studies, bachelor's students complete a practical capstone course that integrates and applies the skills and knowledge gained throughout their academic journey, preparing them for meaningful contributions in their personal and professional lives.

## **Discovering Your Purpose and Potential**

At Ribāṭ University, our academic experience is rooted in the Ribāṭ Core Curriculum, designed to nurture students as impactful leaders, reflective thinkers, and engaged community members, all grounded in Islamic values. Through foundational courses, core competencies, and electives, students are invited to develop their unique strengths and passions, exploring how their talents align with the needs of their communities and the broader world and discovering their personal path of service and impact.

Across all fields of study, Ribāṭ courses emphasize lifelong skills essential for success and leadership: effective communication, problem solving, critical thinking, and ethical reasoning. Through this integrated approach, students graduate with the knowledge and tools to contribute meaningfully in both professional and spiritual spheres.

## Cross-Curricular Strands

At Ribāṭ University, cross-curricular strands represent the foundational goals and values that permeate every academic experience—across degrees, certificates, majors, minors, and general education. These strands reflect the university’s mission to foster positive culture change by embedding essential competencies in all areas of study. They include problem-solving skills, spiritual formation and *tarbiya*, excellence in communication, and the integration of a variety of viewpoints with a focus on women’s contributions. Through these strands, every course contributes to shaping women who are intellectually capable, spiritually grounded, emotionally resilient, and articulate contributors to society. Positive culture change becomes possible when women are equipped with the tools to solve complex problems, the strength and awareness developed through spiritual formation, and the ability to communicate effectively in a diverse and dynamic world.

- **Problem Solving**

Courses incorporate real-life scenarios and case studies to develop contextual learning and collaborative problem-solving. Critical thinking is fostered through methods such as root cause analysis, decision trees, and SWOT analysis. Students engage in logic puzzles, "what if" scenarios, and trial-and-error exercises to strengthen analytical skills. Role-play and experiential learning are used to test solutions, followed by facilitated reflection—journaling, discussion, and case analysis. Narrative approaches highlight stories of successful problem solvers, and emotional aspects such as motivation, stress management, and overcoming fear of failure are intentionally addressed.

- **Spiritual Formation and *Tarbiya***

Spiritual formation is embedded into the curriculum and fosters *muhāsaba* (self-awareness) and *murāqaba* (God-consciousness). Courses integrate spiritual biographies to inspire connection with spiritual traditions. *Tarbiya* is cultivated through studying virtues and vices, receiving mentorship, and developing a personal vision of *khilāfa* (stewardship), helping students grow in character, resilience, and ethical leadership.

- **Communication Skills (Receptive and Productive)**

Receptive skills are developed through structured reading and listening strategies: speed reading, close textual analysis, summarization, content analysis, and vocabulary expansion. Students learn to engage with varied texts and perspectives across cultures and genres. Productive skills focus on clear and purposeful writing and speaking—developing theses, constructing arguments, and expressing insights through different genres. Writing is also used as a tool for learning and

reflection. Students are guided to translate their knowledge into coherent writing or visual communication.

- **Multiplicity of Voices**

Every course intentionally includes numerous perspectives by integrating readings, case studies, and examples from scholars, writers, historical figures, and communities across the globe. Women's voices are centered throughout the curriculum, ensuring representation in both content and pedagogy. Students gain a global awareness and an appreciation for the richness of human experience through this broad, integrative approach.

## **Core Competencies**

In addition to core requirements, general education courses—referred to as core competencies—are included in the curriculum to provide students with essential academic, financial, and reflective skills while fostering deep intellectual engagement across disciplines. Through courses in the arts, sciences, humanities, and leadership, students develop the ethical grounding, global awareness, and cultural literacy needed to navigate and contribute meaningfully to today's world.

## **Language Requirements**

The Ribāṭ University curriculum includes Arabic language study as part of each degree program. Rooted in the Islamic scholarly tradition, this requirement equips students with the linguistic knowledge needed to access the Quran, hadith, and classical texts, fostering both intellectual depth and spiritual growth. The required level of Arabic is mentioned in each program description. A placement test is required for all students and will determine courses that may be waived.

Students who place out of the required Arabic courses through an assessment will instead fulfill the equivalent number of credits by completing approved elective courses within their program of study. This ensures that all students meet the total credit requirements for graduation while allowing advanced Arabic learners to pursue coursework that complements their academic and professional goals.

## **Electives**

As part of a well-rounded liberal arts education, students customize their academic journey through elective courses. These electives provide the flexibility to explore further areas of interest in Islamic Studies, strengthen Arabic language proficiency, or broaden



perspectives by taking courses from other degree programs. Students should consult with their academic advisors when choosing electives to ensure their selections align with degree requirements, career goals, and personal aspirations.

### **Required Minor**

As part of Ribāṭ University's commitment to developing thoughtful, informed, and community-minded graduates, all bachelor's level students\* are required to complete a minor in either Islamic Studies or Arabic. This strong foundation in the language, history, and intellectual traditions of the Muslim world will support those seeking to lead, serve, and contribute meaningfully within a range of communities. Whether students are pursuing careers in education, social work, leadership, or other fields, this requirement ensures they graduate with cultural literacy and ethical grounding.

\*A major in Arabic Language, Literature, and Linguistics or Islamic Teachings and Traditions fulfills this requirement. Students may also choose to complete an additional minor or apply these credits toward other areas of academic or professional interest.

# Degree Programs

## Associate of Arts in Islamic Studies and Liberal Arts

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
ISL 1701	Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	1
ISL 1702	Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	1
ISL 1601	Training the Tongue, Purifying the Heart	1
ISL 1502	Reflections from the Quran	1
ISL 1703	Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	1
ISL 1704	Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	1
ISL 2301	The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 1	1
ISL 2302	The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 2	1
ISL 2201	<i>Fiqh al- 'Ibādāt: al-Madh-hab al-Shāfi'ī</i>   Part 1	1.5
ISL 2202	<i>Fiqh al- 'Ibādāt: al-Madh-hab al-Shāfi'ī</i>   Part 2	1.5
ISL 1105	Introduction to Islamic 'Aqīda   Part 1	1.5
ISL 1106	Introduction to Islamic 'Aqīda   Part 2	1.5
HFS 1003	<i>Mujaddidīn</i> : Crises and Cures of Muslim History	1
HFS 1005	<i>Al-Khulafā' al-Rāshidūn</i> : The Rightly Guided Caliphs	1
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		33
Language Requirements		4.5
Electives		6.5
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>60</b>

## Associate of Arts in Teaching Arabic

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
EDU 1001	Foundations of Education	3
ARL 2110	Grammar Intensive I: Foundations of Arabic Structure	3
ARL 2111	Grammar Intensive II: Precision, Syntax, and Readiness for Advanced Study	3
EDU 2005	Theories of Language Acquisition and Instruction	3
ARL 2201	Introduction to Arabic Linguistics	3
EDU 2001	Classroom Management: Creating Space for Learning and Growth	3
EDU 2003 Or: EDU 2004	Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Classroom Teacher Or: Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Subject Teacher	3
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		33
Electives		6
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>60</b>

### Language Requirement

Students entering the Associate of Arts in Teaching Arabic must demonstrate Arabic proficiency at Advanced High 3 or above through a placement test. Students who are not yet at this level may still begin the program and complete the required Arabic language courses while progressing through their degree.

## Associate of Arts in Teaching Islam

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
ISL 1701	Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	1
ISL 1702	Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	1
ISL 1601	Training the Tongue, Purifying the Heart	1
ISL 1101	Foundations, Flounderings, and Faith	1
ISL 1201	Fast and Friendly <i>Fiqh</i> : An Introduction to Worship Essentials	1
ISL 1703	Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	1
ISL 1704	Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	1
ISL 2501	<i>Tafsīr</i> Juz' 'Amma	1
ISL 2301	The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 1	1
ISL 2302	The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 2	1
QUR 2201	<i>Tajwīd</i> Part 1: Letters and Phonetics	2
QUR 2202	<i>Tajwīd</i> Part 2: Rules and Rhythm of Recitation	2
EDU 2001	Classroom Management: Creating Space for Learning and Growth	3
EDU 2003 Or: EDU 2004	Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Classroom Teacher Or: Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Subject Teacher	3
HFS 1005	<i>Al-Khulafā' al-Rāshidūn</i> : The Rightly Guided Caliphs	1
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		33
Language Requirements		4.5
Electives		1.5
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>60</b>

## Bachelor of Arts in Islamic Teachings and Traditions (ITT)

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
ISL 1102	Foundations of Islamic Theology	3
ISL 2701	Sīra: Exploring the Life and Legacy of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	3
ISL 2502	Tafsīr Traditions: Windows of Meaning	3
ISL 2203	Fiqh of Worship: Incorporating Rules and Ritual into Daily Life	3
ISL 2500	The Art and Science of Tajwīd	3
ISL 2303	Hadith Literature: History, Methodology, and Reading	3
ISL 3202	Usūl al-Fiqh: The Building of Islamic Knowledge and Understanding	3
ISL 3201	Fiqh of Transactions	3
HFS 3005	Women, Culture, and the Shaping of Civilization	3
HFS 3004	Transformational Change: Tajdīd and Visionary Leadership	3
ISL 4201	Maqāṣid al-Sharī'a: The Higher Objectives of Islamic Law	3
ARL 3204	Sacred Texts: The Language and History of the Quran and Hadith	3
ISL 4101	Comparative Muslim Theologies	3
ISL 4601	Spiritual Formation: Tazkiya, Tarbiya and the Inner Path	3
ISL 4900	Capstone: Applied Islamic Studies	3
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		33
Language Requirements		9
Electives		18
Optional minor or additional electives		15
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

## Bachelor of Arts in Applied Pedagogy and Innovative Learning (APIL)

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
EDU 1001	Foundations of Education	3
EDU 2001	Classroom Management: Creating Space for Learning and Growth	3
EDU 2002 Or: EDU 2005	Leading the Educational Institution Or: Theories of Language Acquisition and Instruction	3
EDU 2003	Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Classroom Teacher	3
EDU 2004	Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Subject Teacher	3
EDU 3001	Instructional Design: Creating Learning for Impact	3
EDU 3002	Inclusive Teaching: Supporting Students with Exceptionalities	3
PSY 3003	Educational Psychology: Understanding the Learner	3
EDU 3003	Curriculum Program Design: Building Culture	3
EDU 4001	Assessment in Practice: Theories, Feedback, and Evaluation	3
EDU 4002	Principles of Pedagogy: Theories and Traditions of Transformative Teaching	3
EDU 4003	Ethics in Education	3
HFS 4003	The History and Development of Schooling	3
EDU 4900	Capstone Teaching Practicum	3
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		33
Language Requirements		9
Electives		21
Minor		15
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

## Bachelor of Arts in Applied Psychology (AP)

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
PSY 1001	Foundations of Psychology: Theory, Practice, and Worldviews	3
PSY 1002	Theories of Personality and the Self	3
PSY 2001	Introduction to Islamic Psychology: History and Contemporary Practice	3
PSY 2002	Lifespan Development	3
PSY 2003	Physiopsychology	3
PSY 2004	Psychology and the Family: Systems and Support	3
PSY 3001	Abnormal Psychology and the Ethics of Diagnosis	3
PSY 3002	Counseling and Helping Skills	3
PSY 3004	Social Psychology and Group Dynamics	3
PSY 3005	Trauma, Healing, and the Restoration of Wholeness	3
PSY 4001	Consciousness, Energy, and Healing	3
PSY 4002	Ethics, Identity, and Careers in Applied Psychology	3
PSY 4003	Psychological Research and Inquiry	3
PSY 4900	Capstone Seminar: Integration and Application in Applied Psychology	3
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		33
Language Requirements		9
Electives		21
Minor		15
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

## Bachelor of Arts in Arabic Language, Literature, and Linguistics (ALLL)

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
ARL 1101	Arabic Novice Beginner	1.5
ARL 1102	Arabic Novice Middle	1.5
ARL 1103	Arabic Novice High	1.5
ARL 2101	Arabic Intermediate Beginner 1	1.5
ARL 2102	Arabic Intermediate Beginner 2	1.5
ARL 2103	Arabic Intermediate Beginner 3	1.5
ARL 2104	Arabic Intermediate Middle 1	1.5
ARL 2105	Arabic Intermediate Middle 2	1.5
ARL 2106	Arabic Intermediate Middle 3	1.5
ARL 2107	Arabic Intermediate High 1	1.5
ARL 2108	Arabic Intermediate High 2	1.5
ARL 2109	Arabic Intermediate High 3	1.5
ARL 2110	Grammar Intensive I: Foundations of Arabic Structure	3
ARL 2111	Grammar Intensive II: Precision, Syntax, and Readiness for Advanced Study	3
LIT 2002	Introduction to Arabic Literature	3
EDU 2005	Theories of Language Acquisition and Instruction	3
ARL 2201	Introduction to Arabic Linguistics	3
ARL 3201	Translation Theory and Practice	3
ARL 3202	Oral Communication and Expression: Speak with Confidence	3
ARL 3203	Write with Purpose: Arabic Communication Across Genres	3
ARL 3204	Sacred Texts: The Language and History of the Quran and Hadith	3
ARL 4201	Arabic Dialects: Language, Region, and Identity	3
ARL 4202	Advanced Arabic Literature: Reading Classical and Modern Texts	3
ARL 4203	Media, Music and Cinema in the Arabic-Speaking World	3



ARL 4900	Capstone: Applied Arabic	3
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		33
Electives		15
Optional minor or additional electives		15
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

## Bachelor of Arts in Business, Organizational Leadership, and Development (BOLD)

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
BLD 1002	Introduction to Leadership Theory and Practice: The Discipline of Following and Leading	3
BLD 2001	Business Management and Social Entrepreneurship: Enterprise with Purpose	3
BLD 2002	Introduction to Revenue: Finance and Fundraising for Sustainability	3
BLD 2003	Human Resource Management and Talent Development: Building Mission Driven Teams	3
EDU 2002	Leading the Educational Institution	3
BLD 3001	Introduction to Accounting and Cost Management: Bookkeeping and Accounting for For-Profit and NPO Sectors	3
BLD 3002	Strategic Management: Strategy, Entity, and Program Design and Evaluation	3
BLD 3003	The Human Art of Service and Experience Design: Hospitality and the Open Door	3
HFS 3005	Women, Culture, and the Shaping of Civilization	3
BLD 4001	Marketing: Brand Design, Identity, and Market Presence	3
WRI 4001	Business Writing: Strategy, Clarity, and Impact	3
BLD 4002	Organizational Design: Theory, Culture, and Change	3
BLD 4003	Topics in Advanced Business and Organizational Leadership	3
BLD 4900	Capstone: Applied Theory	3
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		33
Language Requirements		9
Electives		21
Minor		15
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

## Bachelor of Arts in History and Futures Studies (HIFS)

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
HFS 1001	Histories of Change and Continuity	3
HFS 1002	Introduction to Futures Thinking: Mapping Possibilities in an Uncertain World	3
ISL 2701	Sīra: Exploring the Life and Legacy of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	3
HFS 2001	The Early Islamic World (632–1258 CE): Rashidun, Umayyads, Abbasids, and Civilizational Flow	3
HFS 2002	The Later Islamic World (1258–1500s CE): Knowledge, Power, and Pluralism	3
HFS 2003	The Early Modern Islamic World (1300s–1924 CE): Ottomans and the Threshold of Modernity	3
HFS 3001	Histories of Innovation and Disruption	3
HFS 3002	Political Linguistics: Shaping Culture and Belief	3
HFS 3003	Mechanisms of Change: Rethinking Impact	3
HFS 3004	Transformational Change: <i>Tajdīd</i> and Visionary Leadership	3
HFS 3005	Women, Culture, and the Shaping of Civilization	3
HFS 4001	Forecasting, Backcasting, and Trend Analysis	3
HFS 4002	Storytelling, Oral History, and Intergenerational Learning	3
HFS 4003	The History and Development of Schooling	3
HFS 4900	Capstone in History and Future Studies	3
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		33
Language Requirements		9
Electives		18
Minor		15
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

## Bachelor of Arts in Literature, Writing, and Publishing (LWP)

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
LIT 1001	Intro to Literature, Writing and Publishing	3
WRI 2001	Fiction Writing Across Genres: Fantasy, Sci-Fi, Romance, and More...	3
WRI 2002	Creative Nonfiction: The Craft of Literary Truth-Telling	3
WRI 2003 Or: WRI 2004	Poetry: Sonnets to Slam Or: Writing for Children and Young Adults: The Art and Impact of Narrative	3
LIT 2001	Islam in Western Literature: The Mirror and the Mirage	3
LIT 2002	Introduction to Arabic Literature	3
WRI 3001	Advanced Editing and Revision for Writers	3
LIT 3001	Writing for Change: Revolution, Culture, and Society	3
WRI 3002	Topics in Advanced Writing [Poetry, Fiction, Nonfiction]	3
PUB 3001	The History and Artistry of the Book	3
PUB 4001	The Business of Publishing: From Manuscript to Market	3
WRI 4001	Business Writing: Strategy, Clarity, and Impact	3
WRI 4002	Rhetoric and Literary Devices: The Art and Architecture of Language	3
LWP 4900	Capstone: Write and Publish	3
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		33
Language Requirements		9
Electives		21
Minor		15
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

## Core Competencies

Code	Course Name	Credits
Information Literacy and Written and Oral Communication – Required		
COM1001	Foundations for Success	3
COM1002	Rhetoric and Public Speaking	3
WRI1001	Building Blocks of Writing	3
Quantitative Literacy – Required		
BLD1003	Quantitative Literacy: Personal and Organizational Finance	3
Natural Sciences – Choose 1		
SCI1001 Or: SCI1002	From Molecules to Miracles: Everyday Science in Action Or: Human Biology: Women's Health Across the Lifespan	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences – Required		
SOC1001	Books that Shaped the World	3
BLD1001	Anchored Leadership: Self, Service, and Sacred Trust	3
Critical Thinking Skills – Required		
SOC2001	Ideologies and Worldviews: Isms and Prisms	3
Humanities and the Arts – Choose 3		
ART2101 Or: ART2201	Visual Arts: Beauty, Design, and Creative Expression Or: Music, Rhythm and Meaning: The Sound of Culture	3
PHI2001 Or: REL1001	Foundations of Philosophy Or: World Religions	3
HFS2005	Modern History of the Middle East	3

## Language Requirements

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Language Requirements</b>		
ARL 1101	Arabic Novice Beginner	1.5
ARL 1102	Arabic Novice Middle	1.5
ARL 1103	Arabic Novice High	1.5
ARL 2101	Arabic Intermediate Beginner 1	1.5
ARL 2102	Arabic Intermediate Beginner 2	1.5
ARL 2103	Arabic Intermediate Beginner 3	1.5
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>9</b>

## Minor in Islamic Studies

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Islamic Studies Requirements</b>		
ISL 1102	Foundations of Islamic Theology	3
ISL 2203	<i>Fiqh</i> of Worship: Incorporating Rules and Ritual into Daily Life	3
ISL 2701	<i>Sīra</i> : Exploring the Life and Legacy of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	3
ISL 3202	<i>Usūl al-Fiqh</i> : The Building of Islamic Knowledge and Understanding	3
ISL 4601	Spiritual Formation: <i>Tazkiya</i> , <i>Tarbiya</i> , and the Inner Path	3
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>15</b>

## Minor in Arabic

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
Language Requirements		
ARL 2104 and ARL 2105	Arabic Intermediate Middle 1 and 2	3
	Or:	
ARL 2110	Grammar Intensive I: Foundations of Arabic Structure	
Arabic Studies Requirements		
LIT 2002	Introduction to Arabic Literature	3
ARL 2201	Introduction to Arabic Linguistics	3
ARL 3204	Sacred Texts: The Language and History of the Quran and Hadith	3
ARL 4201	Arabic Dialects: Language, Region, and Identity	3
Total Required Credits		15

## Certificate in Teaching Islam

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
ISL 1102	Foundations of Islamic Theology	3
ISL 2203	<i>Fiqh</i> of Worship: Incorporating Rules and Ritual into Daily Life	3
ISL 1701	Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	1
ISL 1702	Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	1
ISL 2701	<i>Sīra</i> : Exploring the Life and Legacy of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	3
ISL 2502	<i>Tafsīr</i> Traditions: Windows of Meaning	3
ISL 2504	Introduction to <i>Tafsīr</i> and Teaching the Quran	1
ISL 2500	The Art and Science of <i>Tajwīd</i>	3
ISL 4601	Spiritual Formation: <i>Tazkiya</i> , <i>Tarbiya</i> , and the Inner Path	3
EDU 2003 Or: EDU 2004	Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Classroom Teacher Or: Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Subject Teacher	3
HFS 1005	<i>Al-Khulafā' al-Rāshidūn</i> : The Rightly Guided Caliphs	1
HFS 1003	<i>Mujaddidīn</i> : Crises and Cures of Muslim History	1
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Arabic Novice High (tested for level)*		NA
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>26</b>

\*Students are assessed for Arabic language proficiency to ensure they are at least at Novice High level. Placement or exemption is determined through testing, with additional coursework recommended as needed to support advanced theological study.



## Certificate in Arabic Language and Cultural Fluency

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
ARL 3101	Arabic Advanced Beginner 1	1.5
ARL 3102	Arabic Advanced Beginner 2	1.5
ARL 3103	Arabic Advanced Beginner 3	1.5
ARL 3104	Arabic Advanced Middle 1	1.5
ARL 3105	Arabic Advanced Middle 2	1.5
ARL 3106	Arabic Advanced Middle 3	1.5
ARL 3107	Arabic Advanced High 1	1.5
ARL 3108	Arabic Advanced High 2	1.5
ARL 3109	Arabic Advanced High 3*	2
ARL 3202	Oral Communication and Expression: Speak with Confidence	3
ARL 3204	Sacred Texts: The Language and History of the Quran and Hadith	3
ARL 4201	Arabic Dialects: Language, Region, and Identity	3
ARL 4203	Media, Music, and Cinema in the Arabic-Speaking World	3
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>26</b>

\*Based on the placement test, students who place higher than Arabic Advanced High 3 will complete 2 alternative courses: Arabic Grammar Intensive 1 and 2 in place of all Arabic Advanced modules.

## Graduate Certificate in Islamic Belief and Practice

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
ISL 5501	Scholars and Methods of <i>Tafsīr</i>	3
ISL 5201	Comparative <i>Fiqh</i> : The Four Sunni Schools	3
ISL 5101	Sunni Theologies	3
ISL 6701	The Study of <i>Sīra</i> – Muslims, Orientalists, and More	3
ISL 6601	<i>Tazkiya</i> and <i>Akhlaq</i>	3
<b>Electives – Choose 1</b>		
ISL 5401	Major Figures	3
ISL 6201	Contemporary <i>Fiqh</i>	3
ISL 6801	Religious Leadership	3
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>18</b>

## Master of Theological Studies (MTS) in Islamic Belief and Practice

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
ISL 5101	Sunni Theologies	3
ISL 5201	Comparative <i>Fiqh</i> : The Four Sunni Schools	3
ISL 5401	Major Figures	3
ISL 5501	Scholars and Methods of <i>Tafsīr</i>	3
ISL 5901	Introduction to Researching Religion	3
WRI 5001	Academic Writing: Research, Articles and Books	3
ISL 6201	Contemporary <i>Fiqh</i>	3
ISL 6601	<i>Tazkiya</i> and <i>Akhlaq</i>	3
ISL 6701	The Study of <i>Sīra</i> : Muslims, Orientalists, and More	3
ISL 6801	Religious Leadership	3
ISL 6901	Scholarly Personal Narrative (SPN)	6
<b>Electives – Choose 4</b>		
ISL 7101	Beyond the Sunni Canon: Variant Muslim Theologies	3
ISL 7201	Methodology and People of <i>Fiqh</i> : Directed Studies in <i>Madhahib</i>	3
ISL 7301	Topics in Hadith: <i>Ijāza</i> in <i>Shamā'il</i>	3
ISL 7401	<i>Da'wa</i> Movements: Instigation, Impact, and Ideology	3
ISL 7501	Topics in <i>Tafsīr</i>	3
ISL 7701	Readings in <i>Sīra</i>	3
EDU 7001	Pedagogy and Presence: Teaching as Transformative Practices	3
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Electives		12
Arabic Proficiency (tested for level)*		N/A
Quran Proficiency (tested for level)**		N/A
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>48</b>

\*All MTS students are assessed for Arabic language proficiency to ensure their ability to engage directly with foundational Islamic texts. Placement or exemption is determined through testing, with additional coursework recommended as needed to support advanced theological study. To qualify for graduation, students must be at the skill level of Advanced Beginner 1 or higher.

\*\*Students demonstrate proficiency in Quran recitation (fluency and *tajwīd*) through a placement assessment administered by qualified instructors. Where needed, students are directed to supplementary study to strengthen their recitational skill as part of their academic and spiritual development.

## Doctor of Theology (ThD) in Islamic Belief and Practice

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
EDU 7001	Pedagogy and Presence: Teaching as Transformative Practices	3
ISL 7101	Beyond the Sunni Cannon: Variant Muslim Theologies	3
ISL 7401	Da'wa Movements: Instigation, Impact, and Ideology	3
ISL 7201	Methodology and People of <i>Fiqh</i> : Directed Studies in <i>Madhāhib</i>	3
ISL 7601	Comparative Mysticism: Paths of the Sacred Across Traditions	3
ISL 7602	Language of the Heart: Poetic Theology in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Malay, and Urdu Traditions	3
ISL 7801	Advanced World Religions, Philosophies, and Ways of Life	3
ISL 7802	Digital Religion: Leadership, Authority, and Community in Online Spaces	3
ISL 7803	Spiritual Leadership in Community Practice: Teaching, <i>Tarbiya</i> , and Transformation	3
ISL 7901	Quantitative Research	3
ISL 8201	<i>Fiqh</i> of Minorities	3
ISL 8801	Negotiating Modernity: Muslim Intellectual Responses	3
ISL 8802	Women, Knowledge, and the Transmitting of Culture	3
ISL 8901	Advanced Qualitative Research	3
ISL 8902	Literary Review and Scholarly Synthesis	3
ISL 8903	Research Design for Religious Studies	3
ISL 9902	Dissertation Proposal	3
ISL 9903	Dissertation	10
ISL 9901	Teaching Practicum	3
<b>Electives – Choose 3</b>		
ISL 5101	Sunni Theologies	3
ISL 5501	Scholars and Methods of <i>Tafsīr</i>	3
ISL 5201	Comparative <i>Fiqh</i> : The Four Sunni Schools	3
ISL 5401	Major Figures	3

ISL 6701	The Study of <i>Sīra</i> - Muslims, Orientalists, and More	3
ISL 6601	<i>Tazkiya</i> and <i>Akhlaq</i>	3
ISL 6201	Contemporary <i>Fiqh</i>	3
ISL 6801	Religious Leadership	3
ISL 7301	Topics in Hadith: <i>Ijāza</i> in <i>Shamā'il</i>	3
ISL 7501	Topics in <i>Tafsīr</i>	3
ISL 7701	Readings in <i>Sīra</i>	3
<b>University Requirements</b>		
Electives		9
Arabic Proficiency (tested for level)*		NA
Quran Proficiency (tested for level)**		NA
<b>Total Required Credits</b>		<b>73</b>

\*All ThD students are assessed for Arabic language proficiency to ensure their ability to engage directly with foundational Islamic texts. Placement or exemption is determined through testing, with additional coursework recommended as needed to support advanced theological study.

\*\*Students demonstrate proficiency in Quran recitation (fluency and *tajwīd*) through a placement assessment administered by qualified instructors. Where needed, students are directed to supplementary study to strengthen their recitational skill as part of their academic and spiritual development.

## Ribāṭ *Tajwīd* 5 *Ajzā* ' Certification

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name
<b>Prerequisites*</b>	
QUR 0101	Quran Fluency   Part 1
QUR 0102	Quran Fluency   Part 2
QUR 2201	<i>Tajwīd</i> Part 1: Letters and Phonetics
QUR 2202	<i>Tajwīd</i> Part 2: Rules and Rhythm of Recitation
QUR 0301	Quran <i>Khitma</i> Project
QUR 0401**	The Crowning Venture: Quran Memorization
<b>Required Courses***</b>	
QUR 0405	<i>Tajwīd</i> 5 <i>Ajzā</i> ' Memorization

\*Students entering the program will begin with a placement test. Based on the result, some levels may be waived.

\*\*Students applying for this program are required to recite Juz' 'Amma to a certified Ribāṭ *tajwīd* teacher as part of QUR 0401 or QUR 0402.

\*\*\*Competency based program that must be fulfilled within 5 years. While registered, students are eligible to attend the *Tajwīd* Retreat.

## Ribāṭ *Tajwīd Ijāza* Certification

### Required Courses

Code	Course Name
<b>Prerequisites*</b>	
QUR 0101	Quran Fluency   Part 1
QUR 0102	Quran Fluency   Part 2
QUR 2201	<i>Tajwīd</i> Part 1: Letters and Phonetics
QUR 2202	<i>Tajwīd</i> Part 2: Rules and Rhythm of Recitation
QUR 0301	Quran <i>Khitma</i> Project
QUR 0401**	The Crowning Venture: Quran Memorization
ARL 1103	Arabic Novice High
<b>Required Courses***</b>	
QUR 0405	<i>Tajwīd</i> 5 <i>Ajzā'</i> Memorization
QUR 0406	<i>Tajwīd Ijāza</i> Retreat
QUR 0500 Or: QUR 0501	<i>Tajwīd Ijāza</i> Track - Reading Or: <i>Tajwīd Ijāza</i> Track - Memorizing
QUR 0502	<i>Al-Jazariyyah</i> : A Poem in Study of the Rules of <i>Tajwīd</i>

\*Students entering the program will begin with a placement test. Based on the result, some levels may be waived.

\*\*Students applying for this program are required to recite Juz' 'Amma to a certified Ribāṭ *tajwīd* teacher as part of QUR 0401 or QUR 0402.

\*\*\*Competency based program that must be fulfilled within 2 years for students in the Reading track and 7 years for students in the Memorizing track.



## ***Ijāza* in the Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī**

### **Required Courses**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Course Name</b>
<b>Prerequisites</b>	
ISL 2301	The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 1
ISL 2302	The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 2
ARL 2106	Arabic Intermediate Middle 3*
<b>Required Courses</b>	
ISL 0303	<i>Ijāza</i> in the Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī

\*Students may submit a placement test to waive some or all levels of Arabic.

# Ribāṭ Riverstead

## Riverstead: Islam

Code	Course Name	Credits
COM 0101	Public Speaking and Community Outreach	NA
COM 0102	Writing Your Story: Creative Writing	NA
EDU 0101	Teaching Skills and Methodology	NA
HFS 1003	<i>Mujaddidīn</i> : Crises and Cures of Muslim History	1
HFS 1004	Shaykha Nana Asma'u: Her World, Writings, and Legacy	3
HFS 1005	<i>Al-Khulafā' al-Rāshidūn</i> : The Rightly Guided Caliphs	1
HFS 1006	Trials and Triumphs: A Look at Black Religion and Spirituality	3
HFS 2004	The Masjid: Past and Present	3
ISL 0102	The Soul's Journey After Death	NA
ISL 0301	Conversations with the Prophet ﷺ	NA
ISL 0302	Designed in Excellence: Hadith on the Character of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	NA
ISL 0303	<i>Ijāza</i> in the Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī	NA
ISL 0304	The Prophet ﷺ Speaks: Selected Hadith	NA
ISL 0305	<i>Shamā'il</i> : The Qualities of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	NA
ISL 0306	The Forty Hadith of Palestine	NA
ISL 0311	<i>Riyāḍ al-Ṣaliḥīn</i>   Part 1	NA
ISL 0312	<i>Riyāḍ al-Ṣaliḥīn</i>   Part 2	NA
ISL 0313	<i>Riyāḍ al-Ṣaliḥīn</i>   Part 3	NA
ISL 0314	<i>Riyāḍ al-Ṣaliḥīn</i>   Part 4	NA
ISL 0401	Superwomen: Powers, Kryptonite, and <i>Karamāt</i>	NA
ISL 0402	Superwomen One and All: Finding My Powers, Avoiding My Kryptonite, Reaching for <i>Karamāt</i>	NA
ISL 0501	<i>Tadabbur</i> : Building a Personal Relationship with the Quran	NA

ISL 0601	<i>Falah</i> : Seven Fundamentals of Personal and Spiritual Excellence	NA
ISL 0602	The Return of <i>Falah</i> : Cancel Chaos, Break Away from Burnout, and Let the Force of <i>Falah</i> be with you!	NA
ISL 0604	The Spiritual Journey with Ibn Ata'	NA
ISL 0605	The Spiritual Journey with Al-Ghazālī	NA
ISL 0606	<i>Tazkiya</i> : Islamic Principles of the Betterment of the Self	NA
ISL 1101	Foundations, Flounderings, and Faith	1
ISL 1103	The Prophets: Lives and Lessons   Part 1	1
ISL 1104	The Prophets: Lives and Lessons   Part 2	1
ISL 1105	Introduction to Islamic 'Aqīda   Part 1	1.5
ISL 1106	Introduction to Islamic 'Aqīda   Part 2	1.5
ISL 1201	Fast and Friendly <i>Fiqh</i> : An Introduction to Worship Essentials	1
ISL 1501	Quran Inspirations	1
ISL 1502	Reflections from the Quran	1
ISL 1601	Training the Tongue, Purifying the Heart	1
ISL 1701	Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	1
ISL 1702	Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	1
ISL 1703	Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	1
ISL 1704	Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	1
ISL 2103	The 99 Names of Allah ﷻ	1
ISL 2201	<i>Fiqh al- 'Ibādāt: al-Madh-hab al-Shāfi'ī</i>   Part 1	1.5
ISL 2202	<i>Fiqh al- 'Ibādāt: al-Madh-hab al-Shāfi'ī</i>   Part 2	1.5
ISL 2301	The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 1	1
ISL 2302	The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 2	1
ISL 2303	Hadith Literature: History, Methodology, and Reading	3
ISL 2401	Lessons from the <i>Tabi'īn</i> : Those who Carried the Legacy of the Prophet ﷺ	1
ISL 2402	Major Muslim Scholars: Women	2

ISL 2403	Muslim Men Scholars	2
ISL 2501	<i>Tafsīr</i> Juz' 'Amma	1
ISL 2503	<i>‘Ulūm al-Quran</i> : The Sciences of the Quran	3
ISL 2504	Introduction to <i>Tafsīr</i> and Teaching the Quran	1
SOC 0101	A Look at Poverty, Justice, and Race in America	NA
SOC 0102	Leadership and Cultural Change	NA
SOC 0103	Exploring the Global Muslim World	NA

## Riverstead: Quran

Code	Course Name	Credits
QUR 0101	Quran Fluency   Part 1	NA
QUR 0102	Quran Fluency   Part 2	NA
QUR 2201	<i>Tajwīd</i> Part 1: Letters and Phonetics	2
QUR 2202	<i>Tajwīd</i> Part 2: Rules and Rhythm of Recitation	2
QUR 0203	Accelerated <i>Tajwīd</i> Rules	2
QUR 0301	Quran <i>Khitma</i> Project	NA
QUR 0302	Guided Group Quran Reading	NA
QUR 0401	The Crowning Venture: Quran Memorization	NA
QUR 0402	Quran Memorization 30: Juz' 'Amma	NA
QUR 0403	Quran Memorization 29: Juz' Tabarak	NA
QUR 0404	Quran Memorization 28: Juz' Qad Sami'	NA

## Riverstead: Arabic

Code	Course Name	Credits
ARL 1101	Arabic Novice Beginner	1.5
ARL 1102	Arabic Novice Middle	1.5
ARL 1103	Arabic Novice High	1.5
ARL 2101	Arabic Intermediate Beginner 1	1.5
ARL 2102	Arabic Intermediate Beginner 2	1.5
ARL 2103	Arabic Intermediate Beginner 3	1.5
ARL 2104	Arabic Intermediate Middle 1	1.5
ARL 2105	Arabic Intermediate Middle 2	1.5
ARL 2106	Arabic Intermediate Middle 3	1.5
ARL 2107	Arabic Intermediate High 1	1.5
ARL 2108	Arabic Intermediate High 2	1.5
ARL 2109	Arabic Intermediate High 3	1.5
ARL 3101	Arabic Advanced Beginner 1	1.5
ARL 3102	Arabic Advanced Beginner 2	1.5
ARL 3103	Arabic Advanced Beginner 3	1.5
ARL 3104	Arabic Advanced Middle 1	1.5
ARL 3105	Arabic Advanced Middle 2	1.5
ARL 3106	Arabic Advanced Middle 3	1.5
ARL 3107	Arabic Advanced High 1	1.5
ARL 3108	Arabic Advanced High 2	1.5
ARL 3109	Arabic Advanced High 3	2

# Program Descriptions: Associate of Arts

## Associate of Arts in Islamic Studies and Liberal Arts

Program Description	
<p>The Associate of Arts in Islamic Studies and Liberal Arts provides a foundational education in the essential disciplines of Islam, rooted in classical scholarship and relevant to contemporary life.</p> <p>Through a sequence of text-based study, reflection, and spiritual practice, students develop literacy in Islamic knowledge and cultivate habits of faith, worship, and character.</p> <p>This program prepares learners to approach sacred texts with humility and understanding, apply Islamic principles to personal and communal contexts, and embody the Prophetic model in thought, word, and deed. This degree serves as a strong foundation for further study in Islamic scholarship and related fields or for personal and spiritual enrichment grounded in an authentic understanding of the Islamic tradition.</p>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Islamic Studies:</b> Demonstrate foundational literacy in the core Islamic fields by identifying key concepts, principles, and historical contexts that shape Islamic thought and practice.</li> <li>2. <b>Sacred Texts:</b> Interpret and apply primary Islamic texts to contemporary life with integrity and insight, drawing ethical, spiritual, and practical guidance from the Quran and Sunna.</li> <li>3. <b>Reflection, Reason, and Revelation:</b> Reflect critically on one's own learning, recognize the limits of human knowledge and centrality of the Islamic tradition.</li> </ol>	
Course Name	Description
ISL 1701 Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	The first of a two-part course providing an in-depth study of the sixty companions discussed in the book <i>Stars in the Prophet's Orbit</i> . Students will learn the stories of these companions, draw conclusions about Islamic precepts from their lives, understand their relationship to the Prophet ﷺ, and derive personal lessons from their lives. Students will apply and extend what they have learned in class by writing an analysis paper about one of the companions studied.

	<p>The first thirty companions of this text are covered in Part 1 of the course, and the second thirty are covered in Part 2. It is not required to complete Part 1 before Part 2.</p>
<p>ISL 1702 Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2</p>	<p>An in-depth study of the sixty companions discussed in the book <i>Stars in the Prophet's Orbit</i>, this is a continuation of <i>Companions of the Prophet ﷺ</i>, Part 1. Students will learn the stories of these companions, draw conclusions about Islamic precepts, understand their relationship to the Prophet ﷺ, and derive personal lessons from their lives. Students will apply these skills to an additional companion upon whom research will be done.</p> <p>The first thirty companions of this text are covered in Part 1 of the course, and the second thirty are covered in Part 2. It is not required to complete Part 1 before Part 2.</p>
<p>ISL 1601 Training the Tongue, Purifying the Heart</p>	<p>An introduction to the concept of <i>tazkiya</i> (purification of the self/heart in Islam), this course will provide an introductory look at diseases of the heart and sins of the tongue, as well as the relationship between the two. Students will learn some general cures and understand some of the skills necessary to begin the path of <i>tazkiya</i>.</p>
<p>ISL 1502 Reflections from the Quran</p>	<p>This course guides students through an in-depth <i>tafsir</i> experience, exploring a selected sura or group of suras from the Holy Quran each term. Under the guidance of an instructor deeply rooted in traditional scholarship, students will discover the layered meanings of the verses while connecting them to modern-day realities. The course bridges the legacy of women's Quranic scholarship with contemporary reflection, allowing participants to extract profound life lessons and strengthen their relationship with Allah ﷻ and His words.</p>
<p>ISL 1703 Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1</p>	<p>A survey of the life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, beginning with an understanding of the political and social layout of the Arabian Peninsula at the time of his birth and concluding with a deeper understanding of why he was indeed "the chosen one". Throughout Part 1, students examine the major events and incidents that took place up until the <i>hijra</i> of the Prophet ﷺ to Medina, extrapolating the wisdom and lessons one can gain from them. Weekly assignments focus on the lessons learned, enabling students to draw parallels to modern day struggles in their own lives and make lasting changes, following in the footsteps of the Prophet ﷺ.</p>



<p>ISL 1704 Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2</p>	<p>This course covers lessons we can gather for our lives from the beautiful life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. The focus is to examine events and circumstances and consider deeply how the Prophet ﷺ responded. In Part 2, students will examine the major events and incidents that took place after the hijra to Medina, extrapolating the wisdom and lessons one can gain from them. Assignments focus on these lessons learned, enabling students to draw parallels to modern-day struggles in their own lives and make lasting changes, following in the footsteps of the Prophet ﷺ.</p>
<p>ISL 2301 The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 1</p>	<p>An in-depth study of the forty-hadith compilation of Imām al-Nawawī, this course is designed to provide students with a foundation in the hadith of the Prophet ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ was given <i>jawāmi‘ al-kalim</i> (جوامع الكلم), or the ability to say much in very few words. The hadith of the Prophet ﷺ combine eloquence with deep, encompassing meanings in a uniquely simple way. This particular compilation was chosen because it includes <i>ṣaḥīḥ</i> hadith and covers a variety of subjects.</p> <p>By the end of this course, students will be able to translate, understand, and draw practical life lessons from the text of the forty hadith in this compilation. The first twenty hadith are covered in Part 1 and the second twenty hadith are covered in Part 2.</p>
<p>ISL 2302 The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 2</p>	<p>An in-depth study of the forty-hadith compilation of Imām al-Nawawī, this course is meant to provide students with a foundation in the hadith of the Prophet ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ was given <i>jawāmi‘ al-kalim</i> (جوامع الكلم), or the ability to say much in very few words. The hadith of the Prophet ﷺ combine eloquence with deep, encompassing meanings in a uniquely simple way. This particular compilation was chosen because it includes <i>ṣaḥīḥ</i> hadith and covers a variety of subjects.</p> <p>By the end of this course, students will be able to translate, understand, and draw practical life lessons from the text of the forty hadith in this compilation. The first 20 hadith are covered in Part 1 and the second 20 hadith are covered in Part 2.</p>
<p>ISL 2201 <i>Fiqh al-‘Ibādāt:</i> <i>al-Madh-hab</i> <i>al-Shāfi‘ī</i>   Part 1</p>	<p>An introduction to the foundation of Islamic law as the basis for a life of devotion and servitude to God. Students will learn about the reasons Islamic schools of law evolved and the nature and rationale of the legal schools. Students will learn the detailed rulings relating to purification (<i>ṭahāra</i>) and prayer (<i>salah</i>), including its pillars, conditions of correctness, nullifiers, how to</p>

	perform congregational prayers, and other prayers.
ISL 2202 <i>Fiqh al- 'Ibādāt:</i> <i>al-Madh-hab</i> <i>al-Shāfi'ī</i>   Part 2	An introduction to the foundation of Islamic law as the basis for a life of devotion and servitude to God, students will learn the detailed rulings related to fasting (ṣawm), charity (zakat), major pilgrimage (Hajj), and minor pilgrimage (‘umra). Students will delve into the intricate details of each pillar, gaining a deep understanding of their significance, conditions, and practical applications. The course will cover topics such as the spiritual benefits of fasting, the categories of wealth subject to zakat, and the rituals and etiquettes of Hajj and ‘umra.
ISL 1105 Introduction to Islamic ‘Aqīda   Part 1	This course provides a foundational study of Islamic ‘aqīda (creed), guiding students toward a deeper understanding of faith at both the intellectual and spiritual levels. Over the semester, students will examine core tenets of belief, including the oneness of God (tawḥīd) and divine decree (qaḍā’ and qadar). By integrating academic study with reflection and dialogue, students develop the ability to articulate their beliefs with clarity, confidence, and sincerity—strengthening their own connection to faith and their capacity to convey its beauty to others.
ISL 1106 Introduction to Islamic ‘Aqīda   Part 2	This course provides a foundational study of Islamic ‘aqīda (creed), guiding students toward a deeper understanding of faith at both the intellectual and spiritual levels. Over the semester, students will examine core tenets of belief, including prophethood, revelation, the unseen world, death, resurrection, and the Day of Judgment. By integrating academic study with reflection and dialogue, students develop the ability to articulate their beliefs with clarity, confidence, and sincerity—strengthening their own connection to faith and their capacity to convey its beauty to others.
HFS 1003 <i>Mujaddidīn:</i> Crises and Cures of Muslim History	This course provides a survey of the crises and trials that have challenged Islamic civilization over the centuries, along with an account of the Muslim “renewers” of the faith ( <i>mujaddidīn</i> ). As the Prophet ﷺ said, "Allah ﷻ will raise for this community at the end of every hundred years one who will renew its religion for it." Throughout this course, students will study the lives of those whom Allah ﷻ sent as a cure for the crises and trials faced by the <i>ummah</i> , and how they were able to overturn the current situation, renew the religion, and restore peace and faith to the Muslim <i>ummah</i> . Students will learn about the factors that contributed to each trial, how each <i>mujaddid</i> was able to overcome the trials of the time, and gain an understanding of the characteristics that enabled each to succeed.

HFS 1005 <i>Al-Khulafā'</i> <i>al-Rāshidūn</i> : The Rightly Guided Caliphs	This course explores the lives and legacies of the four Rightly Guided Caliphs—Abu Bakr, 'Umar, 'Uthmān, and 'Alī ( <i>raḍīya Allāhu 'anhum</i> )—as models of leadership, faith, and resilience in the face of historical and moral challenges. Through a study of key events, decisions, and societal transformations during their eras, students examine how each khalifa embodied prophetic guidance while navigating times of political transition, social unrest, and emerging diversity within the Muslim community. Emphasis is placed on extracting lessons in governance, justice, and spiritual steadfastness that remain relevant to contemporary leadership and community life.
Graduation Requirements	
Required Credits: 16	
Additional requirements : 33 credits in Core Competencies 4.5 credits (or equivalent) for language requirement 6.5 elective credits	
Total credits to graduate: 60 (minimum)	

## Associate of Arts in Teaching Arabic

Program Description	
<p>The Associate of Arts in Teaching Arabic equips fluent and native speakers of Arabic with the pedagogical knowledge and practical skills needed to teach the language effectively in weekend, community, and Islamic school settings. Rooted in grounded pedagogy, cultural literacy, and Islamic values, the program helps students move from knowing Arabic to knowing how to teach it. Coursework builds a deep understanding of Arabic grammar and structure while developing the ability to explain these concepts clearly in English.</p> <p>Students study theories of language acquisition, classroom management, and age-appropriate instructional methods, gaining the confidence to plan, deliver, and assess meaningful Arabic lessons. Emphasis is placed on creating learner-centered, values-based classrooms that nurture curiosity, respect, and connection to the sacred language of the Quran.</p> <p>This degree provides a strong foundation for continued study in education, Arabic linguistics, or translation, and prepares graduates to serve as thoughtful, skilled Arabic teachers within diverse educational contexts.</p>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Articulate and teach core Arabic grammatical structures</b> with clarity and accuracy in English, demonstrating the ability to explain <i>naḥw</i>, <i>ṣarf</i>, and related linguistic concepts to learners across proficiency levels.</li> <li>2. <b>Apply foundational theories of language acquisition and pedagogy</b> to design, deliver, and assess engaging Arabic lessons that respond to learners' developmental, linguistic, and cultural needs in diverse classroom contexts.</li> <li>3. <b>Create learner-centered, values-based learning environments</b> that integrate effective teaching methodologies, technology, and classroom management strategies while embodying <i>adab</i>, empathy, and professional integrity.</li> </ol>	
Course Name	Description
EDU 1001 Foundations of Education	This course explores the historical, philosophical, psychological, and sociological foundations of education through both Western and Islamic perspectives. Students examine major learning theories and educational movements while reflecting on the role of educators in shaping just,

	purposeful, and transformative learning environments. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking, reflective practice, and the societal impact of education.
ARL 2110 Grammar Intensive I: Foundations of Arabic Structure	This foundational course strengthens students' grasp of essential Arabic grammar through focused study of sentence formation, verb conjugation, and noun-adjective agreement. Designed for returning learners and heritage speakers, the course emphasizes accuracy and fluency through drills, analysis, and practical application. Students will gain confidence reading and constructing early-intermediate Arabic texts.
ARL 2111 Grammar Intensive II: Precision, Syntax, and Readiness for Advanced Study	This advanced preparatory course deepens students' mastery of Arabic grammar, focusing on complex structures such as irregular verbs, case endings, particles, and embedded clauses. Through text analysis and writing practice, students refine their linguistic precision and fluency. Emphasis is placed on readiness for advanced study in Arabic language, literature, and scholarship.
EDU 2005 Theories of Language Acquisition and Instruction	This course explores how languages are learned, with a particular focus on Arabic as a second and heritage language. Students examine key theories of first and second language acquisition, as well as cognitive, emotional, and learner-specific factors that influence language development. The course also introduces a range of instructional methods and teaching strategies relevant to diverse learning contexts. Emphasis is placed on connecting research to practice, equipping students to deliver effective, learner-centered Arabic instruction that supports the needs of diverse learners.
ARL 2201 Introduction to Arabic Linguistics	This course introduces students to key linguistic concepts through the lens of the Arabic language, covering phonetics, morphology, syntax, semantics, and sociolinguistics. Students will explore the historical development of Arabic, analyze its sound and sentence structures, and compare Arabic and English grammatical frameworks. Emphasis is placed on both structural analysis and sociolinguistic variation, providing a strong foundation for advanced linguistic study.
EDU 2001 Classroom Management: Creating Space for Learning and Growth	This course prepares educators to build structured, respectful, and spiritually grounded learning environments. Students explore approaches such as social-emotional learning, restorative practices, and culturally responsive discipline, with special attention to Islamic educational values. Emphasis is placed on fostering routines, dignity, and belonging to support both academic and moral development.

EDU 2003 Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Classroom Teacher	This course introduces foundational teaching methods for children ages 5–10, emphasizing lesson planning, classroom management, and age-appropriate instruction. Rooted in both educational theory and Islamic pedagogical values, students explore child development, the Prophetic model, and the role of the educator in nurturing holistic growth. Emphasis is placed on practical skills, reflection, and compassionate, purposeful teaching.
EDU 2004 Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Subject Teacher	<p>This course focuses on effective teaching strategies for young adult and adult learners in secondary/higher education, and community contexts. Students explore lesson planning, engagement techniques, and adult learning theory, while integrating Islamic values and the Prophetic model. Emphasis is placed on culturally responsive pedagogy, critical thinking, and building respectful, transformative learning environments.</p> <p>Each semester, the course may center on a distinct subject area or theme—such as literature, social change, spirituality, or leadership—allowing students to practice teaching content through adaptable, topic-based design. This flexible approach cultivates pedagogical creativity and prepares educators to teach diverse subjects with confidence and depth.</p>
Graduation Requirements	
Required Credits: 21	
Additional requirements : 33 credits in Core Competencies 6 elective credits	
Total credits to graduate: 60 (minimum)	

## Associate of Arts in Teaching Islam

Program Description	
<p>The Associate of Arts in Teaching Islam offers a strong foundation for those seeking to teach Islam with knowledge, wisdom, and impact. Designed for community educators, weekend-school teachers, and homeschooling parents, this program blends core Islamic studies with practical training in teaching. Students engage with beginning level courses gaining fluency in essential knowledge and pedagogical insight. Direct instruction in teaching methodology and best practices equips students to translate Islamic principles into meaningful lessons for children, youth, and adult learners alike.</p> <p>Graduates will be well-prepared to continue toward a bachelor's degree, pursue further religious education, or serve their communities as thoughtful contributors and emerging educators.</p>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Islamic Disciplines:</b> Demonstrate essential literacy in the Islamic disciplines by explaining core beliefs, practices, and Prophetic examples relevant to Muslim life and teaching</li> <li>2. <b>Pedagogy:</b> Apply foundational theories of teaching and learning to plan, deliver, and assess effective lessons in Islamic education, employing age-appropriate methods, clear instructional objectives, and reflective evaluation of learner outcomes</li> <li>3. <b>Recite and Teach Quran with Accuracy and Reverence:</b> Apply correct <i>tajwīd</i> and pronunciation in recitation, modeling appropriate etiquette for students of the Quran.</li> </ol>	
Course Name	Description
ISL 1701 Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	The first of a two-part course providing an in-depth study of the sixty companions discussed in the book <i>Stars in the Prophet's Orbit</i> . Students will learn the stories of these companions, draw conclusions about Islamic precepts from their lives, understand their relationship to the Prophet ﷺ, and derive personal lessons from their lives. Students will apply and extend what they have learned in class by writing an analysis paper about one of the companions studied.

	<p>The first thirty companions of this text are covered in Part 1 of the course, and the second thirty are covered in Part 2. It is not required to complete Part 1 before Part 2.</p>
<p>ISL 1702 Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2</p>	<p>An in-depth study of the sixty companions discussed in the book <i>Stars in the Prophet's Orbit</i>, this is a continuation of <i>Companions of the Prophet ﷺ</i>, Part 1. Students will learn the stories of these companions, draw conclusions about Islamic precepts, understand their relationship to the Prophet ﷺ, and derive personal lessons from their lives. Students will apply these skills to an additional companion upon whom research will be done.</p> <p>The first thirty companions of this text are covered in Part 1 of the course, and the second thirty are covered in Part 2. It is not required to complete Part 1 before Part 2.</p>
<p>ISL 1601 Training the Tongue, Purifying the Heart</p>	<p>An introduction to the concept of <i>tazkiya</i> (purification of the self/heart in Islam), this course will provide an introductory look at diseases of the heart and sins of the tongue, as well as the relationship between the two. Students will learn some general cures and understand some of the skills necessary to begin the path of <i>tazkiya</i>.</p>
<p>ISL 1101 Foundations, Flounderings, and Faith</p>	<p>This course provides an introduction to the Islamic worldview and core beliefs, exploring how faith shapes one's understanding of truth, morality, and human purpose. Students study foundational theological principles alongside key social and legal questions facing Muslims today. Through guided discussion and reflection, the course addresses controversial and contemporary issues—such as gender, authority, ethics, and pluralism—within the framework of Islamic thought. Emphasizing intellectual honesty and spiritual grounding, students learn how to navigate doubts, reconcile faith with modern challenges, and engage confidently in conversations about Islam in diverse social settings. The course nurtures clarity, resilience, and conviction in belief while fostering compassion and integrity in dialogue.</p>
<p>ISL 1201 Fast and Friendly <i>Fiqh</i>: An Introduction to Worship Essentials</p>	<p>This course introduces students to the core acts of worship in Islam—<i>ṭahāra</i> (purification), <i>ṣalāh</i> (prayer), and <i>ṣawm</i> (fasting)—with a focus on both understanding and application. Students explore the rulings, wisdoms, and spiritual dimensions of these pillars through straightforward readings, class discussion, and practical assignments. Emphasis is placed on practical guidance for everyday life, including how to maintain purification, perform prayer in public or workplace settings, and navigate common challenges in</p>



	modern contexts. The course also develops students' ability to teach and coach others in these essential practices with clarity, confidence, and compassion—fostering both personal discipline and community leadership grounded in the Prophetic example.
ISL 1703 Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	A survey of the life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, beginning with an understanding of the political and social layout of the Arabian Peninsula at the time of his birth and concluding with a deeper understanding of why he was indeed "the chosen one". Throughout Part 1, students examine the major events and incidents that took place up until the hijra of the Prophet ﷺ to Medina, extrapolating the wisdom and lessons one can gain from them. Weekly assignments focus on the lessons learned, enabling students to draw parallels to modern day struggles in their own lives and make lasting changes, following in the footsteps of the Prophet ﷺ.
ISL 1704 Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	This course covers lessons we can gather for our lives from the beautiful life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. The focus is to examine events and circumstances and consider deeply how the Prophet ﷺ responded. In Part 2, students will examine the major events and incidents that took place after the hijra to Medina, extrapolating the wisdom and lessons one can gain from them. Assignments focus on these lessons learned, enabling students to draw parallels to modern-day struggles in their own lives and make lasting changes, following in the footsteps of the Prophet ﷺ.
ISL 2501 <i>Tafsīr</i> Juz' 'Amma	<p>This course offers an introductory exploration of Juz' 'Amma, guiding students through its short yet profound suras that illuminate the themes of faith, morality, and the afterlife. Students study selected verses with attention to language, context, and spiritual insight, developing a foundational understanding of Quranic meaning and method. Alongside textual study, the course introduces practical training for those who teach or share Quranic knowledge—emphasizing audience awareness, developmental appropriateness, and compassionate pedagogy.</p> <p>Students learn how to convey the Quran's messages of mercy, justice, and accountability with wisdom and sensitivity, ensuring that lessons uplift and nurture rather than overwhelm. By the end of the course, students will be able to explain key themes of Juz' 'Amma, connect them to daily life, and model a Prophetic approach to teaching that balances truth with gentleness.</p>

<p>ISL 2301 The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 1</p>	<p>An in-depth study of the forty-hadith compilation of Imām al-Nawawī, this course is designed to provide students with a foundation in the hadith of the Prophet ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ was given <i>jawāmi‘ al-kalim</i> (جوامع الكلم), or the ability to say much in very few words. The hadith of the Prophet ﷺ combine eloquence with deep, encompassing meanings in a uniquely simple way. This particular compilation was chosen because it includes <i>ṣaḥīḥ</i> hadith and covers a variety of subjects.</p> <p>By the end of this course, students will be able to translate, understand, and draw practical life lessons from the text of the forty hadith in this compilation. The first twenty hadith are covered in Part 1 and the second twenty hadith are covered in Part 2.</p>
<p>ISL 2302 The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 2</p>	<p>An in-depth study of the forty-hadith compilation of Imām al-Nawawī, this course is meant to provide students with a foundation in the hadith of the Prophet ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ was given <i>jawāmi‘ al-kalim</i> (جوامع الكلم), or the ability to say much in very few words. The hadith of the Prophet ﷺ combine eloquence with deep, encompassing meanings in a uniquely simple way. This particular compilation was chosen because it includes <i>ṣaḥīḥ</i> hadith and covers a variety of subjects.</p> <p>By the end of this course, students will be able to translate, understand, and draw practical life lessons from the text of the forty hadith in this compilation. The first 20 hadith are covered in Part 1 and the second 20 hadith are covered in Part 2.</p>
<p>QUR 2201 <i>Tajwīd</i> Part 1: Letters and Phonetics</p>	<p>This is a study of the science of <i>tajwīd</i> (proper pronunciation of the Holy Quran) accompanied by an instructor-led recitation of Juz’ ‘Ammā. This is a two-part course:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will gain an understanding of introductory <i>tajwīd</i> concepts [including points of articulation (<i>makhārij</i>) and letter attributes (<i>ṣifāt</i>)] during weekly online sessions with the instructor.</li> <li>2. Students will work with a recitation teacher in small groups during two additional weekly sessions in which they will practice the theory learned in class. By the end of the course, students will read through Juz’ ‘Ammā, applying the rules of <i>tajwīd</i> they have learned and pronouncing each letter correctly.</li> </ol>
<p>QUR 2202 <i>Tajwīd</i> Part 2:</p>	<p>Building upon concepts taken in <i>Tajwīd</i> Part 1, students will complete the study of the rules of <i>tajwīd</i>, accompanied by an instructor-led recitation of</p>

Rules and Rhythm of Recitation	<p>Juz' Tabārak. This is a two-part course:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will gain an understanding of the rules of <i>tajwīd</i> during weekly online sessions with the instructor.</li> <li>2. Students will work with a recitation teacher in small groups during two additional weekly sessions in which they will practice the theory learned in class. By the end of the course, students will read through Juz' Tabārak, applying the rules of <i>tajwīd</i> and pronouncing each letter correctly.</li> </ol>
EDU 2001 Classroom Management: Creating Space for Learning and Growth	<p>This course prepares educators to build structured, respectful, and spiritually grounded learning environments. Students explore approaches such as social-emotional learning, restorative practices, and culturally responsive discipline, with special attention to Islamic educational values. Emphasis is placed on fostering routines, dignity, and belonging to support both academic and moral development.</p>
EDU 2003 Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Classroom Teacher	<p>This course introduces foundational teaching methods for children ages 5–10, emphasizing lesson planning, classroom management, and age-appropriate instruction. Rooted in both educational theory and Islamic pedagogical values, students explore child development, the Prophetic model, and the role of the educator in nurturing holistic growth. Emphasis is placed on practical skills, reflection, and compassionate, purposeful teaching.</p>
EDU 2004 Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Subject Teacher	<p>This course focuses on effective teaching strategies for young adult and adult learners in secondary, higher education, and community contexts. Students explore lesson planning, engagement techniques, and adult learning theory, while integrating Islamic values and the Prophetic model. Emphasis is placed on culturally responsive pedagogy, critical thinking, and building respectful, transformative learning environments.</p> <p>Each semester, the course may center on a distinct subject area or theme—such as literature, social change, spirituality, or leadership—allowing students to practice teaching content through adaptable, topic-based design. This flexible approach cultivates pedagogical creativity and prepares educators to teach diverse subjects with confidence and depth.</p>
HFS 1005 <i>Al-Khulafā' al-Rāshidūn</i> : The Rightly Guided	<p>This course explores the lives and legacies of the four Rightly Guided Caliphs—Abu Bakr, 'Umar, 'Uthmān, and 'Alī (<i>radiya Allāhu 'anhum</i>)—as models of leadership, faith, and resilience in the face of historical and moral challenges. Through a study of key events, decisions, and societal</p>

Caliphs	transformations during their eras, students examine how each khalifa embodied prophetic guidance while navigating times of political transition, social unrest, and emerging diversity within the Muslim community. Emphasis is placed on extracting lessons in governance, justice, and spiritual steadfastness that remain relevant to contemporary leadership and community life.
Graduation Requirements	
Required Credits: 21	
Additional requirements : 33 credits in Core Competencies 4.5 credits (or equivalent) for language requirement 1.5 elective credits	
Total credits to graduate: 60 (minimum)	

## Program Descriptions: Bachelor of Arts

### Bachelor of Arts in Islamic Teachings and Traditions (ITT)

Program Description
<p>The Bachelor of Arts in Islamic Teachings and Traditions (ITT) is a comprehensive academic program that offers students a rigorous foundation in classic Islamic studies, integrated with critical inquiry into historical, social, and intellectual developments across the Muslim world. Designed to prepare students for scholarly, educational, and community-facing roles, the program engages Islamic knowledge as both a tradition of learning and a dynamic framework for ethical and spiritual formation.</p> <p>Rooted in Islamic epistemology, the program emphasizes mastery of core disciplines. These are examined in conversation with spiritual formation and the lived experiences of Muslim communities past and present. Throughout the program, students will develop skills in textual analysis, critical thinking, historical contextualization, and ethical reasoning. They will explore Islamic legal and theological thought, the structures and processes of knowledge transmission, and the intersection of religious tradition with life.</p> <p>By the conclusion of the program, graduates will demonstrate a broad and coherent understanding of Islamic intellectual and spiritual traditions, the ability to interact intelligently with primary and secondary sources, and the capacity to apply Islamic teachings thoughtfully in contemporary academic and communal settings.</p>
Program Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Islamic teachings:</b> Demonstrate a broad and coherent understanding of Islamic intellectual and spiritual traditions, the ability to interact intelligently with primary and secondary sources, and the capacity to apply Islamic teachings thoughtfully in contemporary academic and communal settings.</li><li>2. <b>Historical and Global Contexts:</b> Assess major intellectual, educational, and civilizational developments in Islamic history—including women’s contributions and regional multiplicity—while critically evaluating the impact of modernity, colonialism, and cultural change on Muslim scholarship and practice.</li><li>3. <b>Leadership:</b> Integrate spiritual discipline and ethical reasoning, drawing on <i>tazkiya</i>, <i>tarbiya</i>, and Prophetic character, to guide decision-making and leadership practice.</li></ol>

<p><b>Capstone:</b> Demonstrate integrative learning by completing one of three culminating experiences—Quran recitation and reflection, hadith <i>ijāza</i> and analysis, or a supervised professional internship—each designed to synthesize Islamic knowledge, ethical understanding, and practical application through performance, analysis, and reflective writing.</p>	
Course Name	Description
ISL 1102 Foundations of Islamic Theology	This course introduces students to the core beliefs of Islam through the framework of Islam, <i>Īmān</i> , and <i>Iḥsān</i> as outlined in the Hadith of Jibrīl. Grounded in classical Sunni theology, students explore the six pillars of faith and key concepts such as <i>tawḥīd</i> , prophecy, and Divine decree. Emphasis is placed on understanding creed as a foundation for worldview, character, and spiritual growth.
ISL 2701 <i>Sīra</i> : Exploring the Life and Legacy of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	This course offers a chronological and thematic study of the Prophet Muhammad’s ﷺ life, examining major events alongside the development of the <i>sīra</i> tradition. Students explore key sources, narrative methods, and the integration of <i>sīra</i> with hadith, law, and ethics. Emphasis is placed on understanding the Prophet’s ﷺ enduring legacy and the role of <i>sīra</i> in shaping Muslim identity, spirituality, and community across time.
ISL 2502 <i>Tafsīr</i> Traditions: Windows of Meaning	This course surveys the rich diversity of Quranic interpretation across classical, spiritual, linguistic, and modern reformist traditions. Students engage with works by scholars such as al-Ṭabarī, al-Tustarī, and contemporary voices, including women’s exegesis. Emphasis is placed on understanding <i>tafsīr</i> methodologies, historical development, and the evolving role of interpretation in responding to social and theological contexts.
ISL 2203 <i>Fiqh</i> of Worship: Incorporating Rules and Ritual into Daily Life	This course offers a comprehensive introduction to Islamic worship ( <i>‘ibādāt</i> ) through the Shāfi‘ī school of law, covering purification, prayer, fasting, zakat, and pilgrimage. Students study legal rulings alongside spiritual purpose, gaining practical fluency in applying Shāfi‘ī <i>fiqh</i> . Emphasis is placed on integrating ritual into daily life with awareness, reverence, and confidence in the broader context of Islamic legal tradition.
ISL 2500 The Art and Science of <i>Tajwīd</i>	This course introduces the principles of <i>tajwīd</i> , the science and art of Quranic recitation, emphasizing linguistic precision and spiritual depth. Students study articulation points, phonetic rules, and recitational

	aesthetics while developing critical listening and analytical skills. Focus is placed on understanding <i>tajwīd</i> as both a technical discipline and a devotional practice, attainable for learners at all levels. Students will practice correct recitation.
ISL 2303 Hadith Literature: History, Methodology, and Reading	This course introduces students to the foundational principles of <i>uṣūl al-ḥadīth</i> , the science developed to preserve, verify, and interpret the sayings and actions of the Prophet ﷺ. Rooted in the Divine promise of preservation, this discipline reflects the Muslim community's devotion to safeguarding both the Quran and the Sunna as inseparable sources of guidance. Students will explore how early Muslim scholars memorized, recorded, and transmitted prophetic reports, and how later generations refined methods to distinguish authentic narrations from fabrications. Through study of key terminology, historical development, and critical methodologies, students will gain a deep appreciation for the precision, ethics, and intellectual rigor that define the hadith sciences.
ISL 3202 <i>Uṣūl al-Fiqh</i> : The Building of Islamic Knowledge and Understanding	This course introduces the principles of <i>uṣūl al-fiqh</i> , the methodology behind Islamic legal reasoning. Students explore the sources of Islamic law, interpretive tools, and the ethical framework guiding jurists in deriving rulings. Emphasis is placed on the structure, adaptability, and intellectual depth of the legal tradition, providing a foundation for understanding Islamic jurisprudence and ethical decision-making.
ISL 3201 <i>Fiqh</i> of Transactions	This course introduces <i>fiqh al-mu'āmalāt</i> , the Islamic jurisprudence of social transactions and human conduct. Students explore legal rulings related to family, finance, ethics, and public life, grounded in values of justice, trust, and stewardship. Through classical sources and contemporary case studies, the course equips students to apply Islamic legal principles to real-world ethical challenges.
HFS 3005 Women, Culture, and the Shaping of Civilization	This course examines the essential contributions of women to the development of civilizations across time, cultures, and systems. Through historical case studies and futures thinking, students explore women's roles in scholarship, activism, art, governance, and cultural preservation. Emphasis is placed on intersectionality, resilience, and visionary leadership, inviting students to reimagine history and the future through a gender-conscious, justice-centered lens.
HFS 3004 Transformational	This course explores <i>tajdīd</i> —the Islamic tradition of renewal—as a model for ethical, future-facing leadership. Students examine historical figures

Change: <i>Tajdīd</i> and Visionary Leadership	of reform and study the conditions that give rise to transformative change. Through systems thinking, futures studies, and Islamic scholarship, students learn to navigate crises with clarity, preserve core values, and design adaptive leadership strategies rooted in prophetic and reformist legacies.
ISL 4201 <i>Maqāṣid al-Sharī'a</i> : The Higher Objectives of Islamic Law	This course explores the theory of <i>maqāṣid al-sharī'a</i> , focusing on how Islamic law seeks to preserve essential human interests and promote justice and well-being. Students study classical formulations, key jurists, and contemporary applications in fields such as ethics, governance, and environmental justice. Emphasis is placed on integrating <i>maqāṣid</i> into legal reasoning and ethical decision-making in today's world.
ARL 3204 Sacred Texts: The Language and History of the Quran and Hadith	This course explores the linguistic and historical features of the Quran and hadith as foundations of Islamic tradition. Students examine the language, structure, and stylistic elements of Quranic and hadith texts, alongside methods of preservation, transmission, and interpretation within Islamic intellectual history. Emphasis is placed on reading original Arabic sources and understanding the grammatical, textual, and historical dimensions of these sacred texts.
ISL 4101 Comparative Muslim Theologies	This advanced course examines theological schools and debates beyond Sunni orthodoxy, including the Mu'tazila, Khawārij, and Shī'a traditions. Students analyze doctrinal disputes, historical contexts, and philosophical influences that shaped Islamic theology. Emphasis is placed on academic rigor, historical sensitivity, and understanding the diversity and development of theological thought in both classical and contemporary settings.
ISL 4601 Spiritual Formation: <i>Tazkiya</i> , <i>Tarbiya</i> and the Inner Path	This course explores the Islamic science of spiritual development through the traditions of <i>tazkiya</i> , <i>taṣawwuf</i> , and the Prophetic model of <i>iḥsān</i> . Students examine key concepts such as the states of the heart, intention, presence, and spiritual companionship, while tracing the historical evolution of Sufi thought and practice. Emphasis is placed on integrating classical texts, personal reflection, and critical engagement to foster a spiritually grounded, ethically conscious life.
ISL 4900 Capstone: Applied Islamic Studies	This capstone course is the final academic milestone for students majoring in Islamic Teachings and Traditions. Through a research project or applied initiative, students will synthesize their study of Islamic thought, historical traditions, and contemporary challenges to demonstrate their



	ability to apply Islamic knowledge toward personal growth, community leadership, and positive cultural change.
Graduation Requirements	
Credits for the major: 45	
33 credits in Core Competencies 9 credits (or equivalent) for language requirement 15 optional minor or elective credits 18 elective credits	
Total required credits: 120 (minimum)	

## Bachelor of Arts in Applied Pedagogy and Innovative Learning (APIL)

Program Description
<p>The Bachelor of Arts in Applied Pedagogy and Innovative Learning (APIL) prepares Muslim women to become purposeful educators, creative designers of learning, and ethical leaders in the evolving landscape of education. Rooted in Islamic pedagogical traditions and informed by contemporary educational theory, the program equips students to design, deliver, and assess meaningful learning across subjects, age groups, and modalities. Students examine how people learn—cognitively, emotionally, socially, and spiritually—and apply this understanding to create responsive, inclusive, and faith-centered learning environments.</p> <p>Graduates are prepared to pursue licensure and careers in education, curriculum development, and instructional design; to serve in community or international teaching contexts; or to continue their studies in graduate programs in education, psychology, or related fields.</p> <p><b>Important:</b> This degree does not qualify graduates for a specific professional licensure or teaching certification. The Office of Student Affairs will support students in identifying the necessary next steps to seek local licensure or certification.</p>
Program Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Pedagogy:</b> Design, deliver, and assess effective learning experiences across diverse subjects, age groups, and modalities by integrating classical and contemporary educational theories with innovative digital tools and methods.</li><li>2. <b>The Learner:</b> Analyze the cognitive, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions of human learning to evaluate how students grow and engage, and apply this understanding to design appropriate instructional materials and environments that promote learner development and academic flourishing.</li><li>3. <b>Teacher-Leaders:</b> Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of education as a transformative force for cultural and social renewal by analyzing, applying, and modeling educational practices that reflect ethical reasoning, principled leadership, and the interdependence between individual learning and the advancement of community and society.</li></ol> <p><b>Capstone Learning Outcome:</b> Demonstrate integrative mastery of pedagogical theory, instructional design, and educational leadership by applying ethical reasoning, authentic</p>

assessment, and innovative teaching practices in a real or simulated learning environment that contributes to individual and community development.	
Course Name	Description
EDU1001 Foundations of Education	This course explores the historical, philosophical, psychological, and sociological foundations of education through both Western and Islamic perspectives. Students examine major learning theories and educational movements while reflecting on the role of educators in shaping just, purposeful, and transformative learning environments. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking, reflective practice, and the societal impact of education.
EDU 2001 Classroom Management: Creating Space for Learning and Growth	This course prepares educators to build structured, respectful, and spiritually grounded learning environments. Students explore approaches such as social-emotional learning, restorative practices, and culturally responsive discipline, with special attention to Islamic educational values. Emphasis is placed on fostering routines, dignity, and belonging to support both academic and moral development.
EDU 2002 Leading the Educational Institution	This course equips aspiring educational leaders to build and sustain innovative, values-driven institutions. Students explore leadership theory, governance, strategic planning, and change management through both contemporary frameworks and Islamic principles. Emphasis is placed on integrity, vision, and practical skills for leading faith-based schools, community programs, and educational reform efforts.
EDU 2005 Theories of Language Acquisition and Instruction	This course explores how languages are learned, with a particular focus on Arabic as a second and heritage language. Students examine key theories of first and second language acquisition, as well as cognitive, emotional, and learner-specific factors that influence language development. The course also introduces a range of instructional methods and teaching strategies relevant to diverse learning contexts. Emphasis is placed on connecting research to practice, equipping students to deliver effective, learner-centered Arabic instruction that supports the needs of diverse learners.
EDU 2003 Teaching Skills and Methodology: The	This course introduces foundational teaching methods for children ages 5–10, emphasizing lesson planning, classroom management, and age-appropriate instruction. Rooted in both educational theory and

Classroom Teacher	Islamic pedagogical values, students explore child development, the Prophetic model, and the role of the educator in nurturing holistic growth. Emphasis is placed on practical skills, reflection, and compassionate, purposeful teaching.
EDU 2004 Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Subject Teacher	<p>This course focuses on effective teaching strategies for young adult and adult learners in secondary, higher education, and community contexts. Students explore lesson planning, engagement techniques, and adult learning theory, while integrating Islamic values and the Prophetic model. Emphasis is placed on culturally responsive pedagogy, critical thinking, and building respectful, transformative learning environments.</p> <p>Each semester, the course may center on a distinct subject area or theme—such as literature, social change, spirituality, or leadership—allowing students to practice teaching content through adaptable, topic-based design. This flexible approach cultivates pedagogical creativity and prepares educators to teach diverse subjects with confidence and depth.</p>
EDU 3001 Instructional Design: Creating Learning for Impact	This course prepares students to design effective, outcomes-based learning experiences for diverse educational contexts. Drawing from models such as Backward Design and UDL (Universal Design for Learning), students learn to align objectives, content, and assessment while integrating Islamic pedagogical values. Emphasis is placed on culturally responsive, spiritually grounded instruction across digital, classroom, and community settings.
EDU 3002 Inclusive Teaching: Supporting Students with Exceptionalities	This course prepares educators to support students with exceptionalities through inclusive, faith-informed practices. Students explore disability categories, legal frameworks, and strategies for differentiation, behavior support, and family engagement. Emphasis is placed on creating welcoming environments that promote dignity, access, and academic growth for all learners in both general and Islamic educational contexts.
PSY 3003 Educational Psychology: Understanding the Learner	This course introduces key psychological theories related to learning, motivation, and development, with applications for classroom practice. Students explore cognition, behavior, and emotional well-being, gaining insight into how learners grow and respond within educational environments. Emphasis is placed on culturally and spiritually responsive teaching in Islamic and diverse learning settings.

EDU 3003 Curriculum Program Design: Building Culture	This course explores curriculum as a reflection of educational philosophy, institutional identity, and social values. Students examine foundational and contemporary theories, with emphasis on Islamic and values-based approaches to curriculum development. Through critical analysis and design practice, students learn to create culturally relevant, pedagogically sound programs that shape meaningful learning experiences.
EDU 4001 Assessment in Practice: Theories, Feedback, and Evaluation	This course explores the relationship between instruction, assessment, and learner development, focusing on the needs of diverse and multilingual students. Students will examine effective teaching strategies, literacy development, and inclusive assessment design. Emphasis is placed on using data to support language growth and planning instruction that meets learners across skill levels.
EDU 4002 Principles of Pedagogy: Theories and Traditions of Transformative Teaching	This course examines foundational and justice-oriented approaches to teaching and learning across historical, cultural, and spiritual traditions. Students explore pedagogical theories from the Prophetic model and <i>tarbiya</i> to Freirean liberation pedagogy, reflecting on the teacher's role in holistic, transformative education. Emphasis is placed on inclusion, identity, and ethical practice in contemporary classrooms.
EDU 4003 Ethics in Education	This course explores the ethical, cultural, and spiritual dimensions of technology in modern life, with a focus on education, work, and community. Students examine issues such as data privacy, AI, digital citizenship, and wellness through both secular and Islamic ethical frameworks. Emphasis is placed on responsible, values-based technology use that fosters learning, well-being, and justice.
HFS 4003 The History and Development of Schooling	This course explores the historical evolution of formal education across cultures and time, with special emphasis on Islamic educational traditions. Students examine how schooling has served diverse social, political, and spiritual aims, from classical madrasas to modern community-led models. Emphasis is placed on critical inquiry into the past and reimagining education for a just, inclusive, and purposeful future.
EDU 4900 Capstone Teaching Practicum	This culminating course integrates theory, practice, and innovation through a hands-on practicum and original capstone project in online education. Students apply instructional design and pedagogy in real-world settings while developing a digital course, tool, or learning initiative. Emphasis is placed on leadership, creativity, and reflective

	practice in advancing meaningful, accessible education.
Graduation Requirements	
Credits for the major: 42	
33 credits in Core Competencies 9 credits (or equivalent) for language requirement 15 minor credits (in Islamic Core topics or in Arabic) 21 elective credits	
Total required credits: 120 (minimum)	

## Bachelor of Arts in Applied Psychology (AP)

### Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts in Applied Psychology (AP) is an interdisciplinary degree that equips students with a holistic understanding of human behavior, mental health, and well-being. The program integrates contemporary psychological theory and research with ethical, cultural, and spiritual perspectives drawn from the Islamic intellectual tradition.

Students explore key domains of psychology—cognitive, developmental, social, organizational, and community—while examining how identity, spirituality, and culture shape human experience. Islamic psychology is woven throughout the curriculum, enriching students' understanding of the self, motivation, and flourishing as understood across civilizations.

Graduates are prepared for further study or for entry-level roles in education, community development, social services, and organizational settings—ready to contribute with empathy, insight, and a commitment to holistic human growth.

**Important:** This degree does not qualify graduates to work as psychologists, provide clinical services, or obtain licensure as a therapist or counselor.

### Program Learning Outcomes

By the end of the program, students will be able to:

1. **Psychological Literacy:** Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of key psychological concepts, principles, and themes as well as psychology's content domains.
2. **Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking:** Demonstrate psychology information literacy, innovative problem-solving skills, and effective research methods.
3. **Psychological Knowledge and Real-World and Cross-Cultural Contexts:** Use psychological Islamic principles and to address educational, organizational, and community needs through ethical observation, analysis, and communication—applying theory to practice without engaging in clinical intervention.
4. **Ethical, Cultural, Social, and Spiritual Responsibility:** Apply ethical standards and recognize personal identity, values, and worldviews that shape community in local and global contexts. Embody empathy, equity, and *iḥsān* in applying psychological

<p>insight toward individual and societal flourishing.</p> <p><b>Capstone:</b> Synthesize advanced psychological knowledge and ethical reasoning by completing a culminating project—through applied research, community engagement, or professional internship—that demonstrates integration of psychological theory, empirical analysis, and Islamic moral perspectives in addressing human and social challenges.</p>	
Course Name	Description
PSY 1001 Foundations of Psychology: Theory, Practice, and Worldviews	This course introduces the major theories, concepts, and subfields of psychology, while exploring how culture, worldview, and ethics shape our understanding of the human mind and behavior. Islamic and secular psychological perspectives are examined in parallel and in dialogue.
PSY 1002 Theories of Personality and the Self	Students explore major theories of personality and identity development, comparing psychoanalytic, humanistic, trait-based, and Islamic models of the <i>nafs</i> (self), motivation, and character formation.
PSY 2001 Introduction to Islamic Psychology: History and Contemporary Practice	This course traces the development of psychology in the Islamic world, from classical scholars to modern practitioners. Students explore the integration of traditional Islamic concepts with contemporary therapeutic approaches. The course will also critically examine the impact of colonization on Islamic healing traditions, including the marginalization, medicalization, and suppression of Islamic healing practices.
PSY 2002 Lifespan Development	A comprehensive study of human development from birth to old age, with attention to biological, psychological, social, and spiritual dimensions. Students examine rites of passage, moral development, and resilience through multiple cultural lenses.
PSY 2003 Physiopsychology	An introduction to the neurological and physiological foundations of behavior, emotion, and cognition. Topics include brain structure, neurotransmission, and the psychobiology of stress and mental illness.
PSY 2004 Psychology and the Family: Systems and Support	Students explore family systems theory, attachment, parenting, and marital dynamics. The course also considers kinship structures, intergenerational trauma, and Islamic principles of family and relational ethics.



PSY 3001 Abnormal Psychology and the Ethics of Diagnosis	An overview of psychological disorders and diagnostic systems, including critiques of pathology frameworks. Students consider how mental health, suffering, and healing are understood in Islamic and cross-cultural contexts.
PSY 3002 Counseling and Helping Skills	This experiential course introduces foundational counseling techniques such as active listening, empathy, and reframing. Students explore the role of values, presence, and spirituality in effective helping relationships.
PSY 3004 Social Psychology and Group Dynamics	An exploration of how individuals think, feel, and behave in social contexts. Topics include conformity, authority, group identity, and moral reasoning. Case studies include historical and contemporary Muslim societies including the role of social media in changing values.
PSY 3005 Trauma, Healing, and the Restoration of Wholeness	Students examine the psychological and physiological impact of trauma, as well as evidence-based interventions. The course also introduces spiritual models of healing, forgiveness, resilience, and post-traumatic growth.
PSY 4001 Consciousness, Energy, and Healing	This course explores the intersection of applied psychology, quantum physics, and energy healing through an Islamic lens. Students will examine how consciousness, intention, and energy impact mental and physical well-being. Topics include energy psychology, metaphysical models of illness as well as spiritual afflictions such as the evil eye ('ayn), jinn possession, and black magic (sihr). The course equips students to engage these concepts critically and ethically within holistic psychological care.
PSY 4002 Ethics, Identity, and Careers in Applied Psychology	This integrative course prepares students for ethical and professional practice in the field of psychology. Students explore career pathways, role expectations, and settings where applied psychology is practiced—such as counseling, education, community health, and research. Special attention is given to ethical standards (i.e., APA, relevant regional codes), cultural and religious values, and the unique challenges of navigating identity, power, and responsibility in professional contexts. Students reflect on their own vocational goals, examine case studies, and develop practical tools for decision-making, supervision, boundary-setting, and service delivery. The course culminates in

	the creation of a personalized professional development plan.
PSY 4003 Psychological Research and Inquiry	A methods course that prepares students to conduct and evaluate psychological research. Emphasis is placed on research ethics, cultural humility, and the limitations of Western empirical norms.
PSY 4900 Capstone Seminar: Integration and Application in Applied Psychology	In this culminating course, students synthesize their learning through a major applied project. Emphasis is placed on integrative thinking, ethical responsibility, and practical engagement in a chosen area of interest.
Graduation Requirements	
Credits for the major: 42	
33 credits in Core Competencies 9 credits (or equivalent) for language requirement 15 minor credits 21 elective credits	
Total required credits: 120 (minimum)	

## Bachelor of Arts in Arabic Language, Literature and Linguistics (ALLL)

Program Description
<p>The Bachelor of Arts in Arabic Language, Literature and Linguistics (ALLL) is a transformative undergraduate program that equips Muslim women with advanced Arabic fluency, literary depth, and linguistic insight. Designed to honor Arabic as both a sacred language and a vibrant medium of cultural expression, this program blends rigorous academic study with spiritual intentionality and global awareness.</p> <p>Students will engage deeply with the Arabic language in all its richness—exploring classical and contemporary Arabic literature, and analyzing the linguistic structures that shape meaning and identity. In addition to formal Arabic, the program introduces students to major spoken dialects, enabling them to recognize and navigate the linguistic diversity of the Arabic speaking world.</p> <p>Coursework spans sacred texts and devotional language, Arabic media and film, modern and classical literature, sociolinguistics, and the evolution of Arabic as a living language. Students will also study the pedagogical foundations necessary for teaching Arabic and supporting language acquisition in diverse educational contexts.</p> <p>By the completion of the program, students will have attained at least Intermediate High proficiency on the ACTFL scale and developed the capacity to read, write, and speak Arabic with confidence and depth—grounded in a tradition that values both intellectual rigor and spiritual purpose.</p>
Program Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Communication:</b> Use accurate grammatical, morphological, and rhetorical structures to communicate clearly and persuasively in oral and written Arabic, achieving at least Intermediate-High proficiency (ACTFL) or equivalent, and adapting language use across formal and colloquial registers.</li><li>2. <b>Arabic Literature:</b> Interpret and evaluate classical and modern Arabic texts—literary, devotional, and scholarly—by applying linguistic, rhetorical, and cultural analysis; identify key themes, stylistic features, and historical contexts that reveal the richness of the Arabic intellectual and artistic tradition</li><li>3. <b>Linguistics and Sociolinguistics:</b> Integrate theoretical understanding of Arabic phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics with sociolinguistic awareness of variation, diglossia, and media language; analyze authentic Arabic data and discourse to</li></ol>

explore how meaning and identity are constructed.

4. **Cultural and Media Literacy:** Analyze and evaluate Arabic literature, media, and film, to understand evolving forms of communication, cultural identity, and social narrative; interpret and produce Arabic discourse and pedagogical approaches that reflect cultural insight, linguistic precision, and ethical responsibility in representation.

**Capstone:** Synthesize advanced Arabic proficiency, analytical insight, and cultural awareness by completing a culminating project—through research, teaching, or communication—that demonstrates scholarly depth, ethical engagement, and the ability to apply Arabic language and culture in meaningful, real-world contexts.

Course Name	Description
ARL 1101 Arabic Novice Beginner	This is the first course in the Ribāṭ Arabic Language Program. It is designed to equip learners with the skills to read (phonetically decode) and write the Arabic script with vowels and provide them with a range of high frequency vocabulary which they can use in their reading of Quranic texts and to offer greetings in Arabic.
ARL 1102 Arabic Novice Middle	This is the second module in the Novice level. This course involves an introduction to the basics of Arabic grammar of nouns, with an emphasis on building learners' reading skills and basic vocabulary knowledge to allow them to read the Quran and recognize key words and phrases, as well as introduce themselves.
ARL 1103 Arabic Novice High	This module introduces students to the basics of forming sentences in Arabic. This includes verbal and nominal sentences. Students will be introduced to the methods for conjugating simple verbal roots. By the end of the module, learners will be able to read and understand simple texts containing familiar vocabulary, as well as construct their own simple nominal sentences about themselves, their families, and their homes. Learners will expand their repertoire of high frequency vocabulary, both general and Quranic to equip them with the ability to pick out and translate words and phrases in a range of authentic texts.
ARL 2101 Arabic Intermediate Beginner 1	This is the first module of the Intermediate Beginner band. In this level, students will be introduced to constructing verbal sentences in the past, present, and future tenses. They will work on developing this skill to include positive and negative sentences, and learn how to ask questions. Students will also learn how to tell the time and will cover vocabulary

	relating to schedules and their daily routines.
ARL 2102 Arabic Intermediate Beginner 2	This is the second module of the Intermediate Beginner band. In this level, students will build on their knowledge of nominal sentences by learning how to negate them and situate them in the past tense. They will also learn how to express possession and how to identify and construct dual and plural nouns. They will expand their vocabulary by learning to talk about careers, food and drink, and the human body.
ARL 2103 Arabic Intermediate Beginner 3	This is the final module of the Intermediate Beginner band. In this level, students will build on their knowledge of verbs and verbal sentences by exploring different tenses and moods. This includes the imperative, the subjunctive, and future negation, as well as object pronouns. This will equip students with an ability to read and understand more complex texts. Students will learn how to express emotions as well as their hopes and aspirations using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 2104 Arabic Intermediate Middle 1	This is the first module of the Intermediate Middle band. In this level, students will expand their knowledge of verbs through an introduction to hollow roots and the ten verb forms. This will equip them with the skills to use a root dictionary. They will also learn how to construct and describe opposites, and building on their knowledge of vocabulary related to the human body, they will learn how to discuss issues around health and wellness using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 2105 Arabic Intermediate Middle 2	This is the second module of the Intermediate Middle band. In this level, students will focus in depth on the ten verb forms. They will learn how to recognize and construct each form, and infer the meaning of each. They will build on their knowledge of tenses and moods by applying them to each of the forms. This will ensure they are able to look up words in an Arabic root dictionary with ease, increasing the scope of their translation skills and vocabulary.
ARL 2106 Arabic Intermediate Middle 3	This is the final module of the Intermediate Middle band. In this level, students will expand their knowledge of nominal and verbal sentence construction and translation by covering particles, active and passive participles, adverbs, relative pronouns, and be introduced to passive verbs. They will explore the topic of geography, learning how to talk about different cultures and parts of the world using vocabulary found in

	classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 2107 Arabic Intermediate High 1	This is the first module of the Intermediate High band. In this level, learners will start to explore more complex features of the Arabic language. This includes the construction of noun-number phrases, diptotes, doubled roots and the jussive, as well as how to recognize and construct passive expressions. Students will apply their knowledge to reading about and discussing the topic of religion and religious practices and will explore how to justify their thoughts and opinions using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 2108 Arabic Intermediate High 2	This is the second module of the Intermediate High band. In this level, learners will expand the range of verbs they can conjugate by adding weak-end roots and examining the orthography of the letter hamza. They will also learn how to construct different types of conditional sentences and noun-number phrases for numbers 11–99. They will also explore exceptions to the usual rules for case endings by learning about a wider range of diptotes. Students will apply their knowledge of these constructions to the topics of art and literature in the Arab world and around the globe using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 2109 Arabic Intermediate High 3	This is the final module of the Intermediate High band. In this level, learners will consolidate the knowledge and skills accumulated throughout the previous modules and expand their repertoire by examining the construction of exceptive sentences and noun-number phrases for numbers above 100. They will also build on their knowledge of weak-end roots by learning how to conjugate them in the different forms and construct active and passive participles from them. They will also learn about the case endings for the Five Nouns. Learners will apply their knowledge and skills to understanding and discussing the topics of history, political systems, and peace and conflict in the Arab world and around the globe, using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 2110 Grammar Intensive I: Foundations of Arabic Structure	This foundational course strengthens students' grasp of essential Arabic grammar through focused study of sentence formation, verb conjugation, and noun-adjective agreement. Designed for returning learners and heritage speakers, the course emphasizes accuracy and fluency through drills, analysis, and practical application. Students will gain confidence reading and constructing early-intermediate Arabic

	texts.
ARL 2111 Grammar Intensive II: Precision, Syntax, and Readiness for Advanced Study	This advanced preparatory course deepens students' mastery of Arabic grammar, focusing on complex structures such as irregular verbs, case endings, particles, and embedded clauses. Through text analysis and writing practice, students refine their linguistic precision and fluency. Emphasis is placed on readiness for advanced study in Arabic language, literature, and scholarship.
LIT 2002 Introduction to Arabic Literature	This course surveys the evolution of Arabic literature, from pre-Islamic poetry and Quranic influence to philosophical texts, didactic genres, and the rise of the modern novel. Students explore key literary movements and works in translation, gaining insight into the cultural and historical forces that have shaped Arabic literary expression across time.
EDU 2005 Theories of Language Acquisition and Instruction	This course explores how languages are learned, with a particular focus on Arabic as a second and heritage language. Students examine key theories of first and second language acquisition, as well as cognitive, emotional, and learner-specific factors that influence language development. The course also introduces a range of instructional methods and teaching strategies relevant to diverse learning contexts. Emphasis is placed on connecting research to practice, equipping students to deliver effective, learner-centered Arabic instruction that supports the needs of diverse learners.
ARL 2201 Introduction to Arabic Linguistics	This course introduces students to key linguistic concepts through the lens of the Arabic language, covering phonetics, morphology, syntax, semantics, and sociolinguistics. Students will explore the historical development of Arabic, analyze its sound and sentence structures, and compare Arabic and English grammatical frameworks. Emphasis is placed on both structural analysis and sociolinguistic variation, providing a strong foundation for advanced linguistic study.
ARL 3201 Translation Theory and Practice	This course introduces students to the theory and practice of Arabic-English translation, blending conceptual frameworks with hands-on experience. Students explore translation strategies, ethical considerations, and historical movements, including the Abbasid translation era. Emphasis is placed on translating across genres with cultural sensitivity and developing tools for effective, responsible cross-linguistic communication.

ARL 3202 Oral Communication and Expression: Speak with Confidence	This live, online course develops students' fluency and expressive clarity in spoken Arabic through interactive discussions, role-plays, and presentations. Emphasis is placed on pronunciation, persuasive speaking, and adapting to different audiences. Real-time feedback and collaborative practice build confidence, preparing students to communicate effectively in academic and conversational settings.
ARL 3203 Write with Purpose: Arabic Communication Across Genres	This course strengthens students' written Arabic through practice across diverse genres, including essays, letters, narratives, and digital formats. Emphasis is placed on clarity, tone, grammar, and audience awareness. With peer review and instructor feedback, students will refine their writing style and build confidence in communicating effectively across real-world contexts.
ARL 3204 Sacred Texts: The Language and History of the Quran and Hadith	This course explores the linguistic and historical features of the Quran and hadith as foundations of Islamic tradition. Students examine the language, structure, and stylistic elements of Quranic and Hadith texts, alongside methods of preservation, transmission, and interpretation within Islamic intellectual history. Emphasis is placed on reading original Arabic sources and understanding the grammatical, textual, and historical dimensions of these sacred texts.
ARL 4201 Arabic Dialects: Language, Region, and Identity	This course explores the diversity of Arabic dialects across regions, blending sociolinguistic theory with practical language skills. Students will examine dialectal variation, diglossia, and code-switching while building foundational comprehension in Levantine, Egyptian, North African, and Gulf dialects. Emphasis is placed on cultural context, structural comparison with MSA (Modern Standard Arabic), and real-world language use.
ARL 4202 Advanced Arabic Literature: Reading Classical and Modern Texts	This course builds reading fluency and literary analysis skills through selected original texts from pre-Islamic to modern Arabic literature. Students will engage with poetry, prose, and philosophical writings, deepening their understanding of genre, style, and cultural context. Emphasis is placed on close reading, vocabulary development, and interpreting texts with insight and sensitivity.
ARL 4203 Media, Music and Cinema in the Arabic-Speaking	This course immerses students in Arabic-language media, music, and cinema to enhance language skills and cultural literacy. Through analysis of films, lyrics, journalism, and digital content, students explore artistic expression, identity, and societal trends across the Arabic-speaking



World	world. Emphasis is placed on listening comprehension, vocabulary development, and critical engagement with contemporary cultural forms.
ARL 4900 Capstone: Applied Arabic	This capstone course serves as the culminating academic experience for students majoring in Arabic Language, Literature, and Linguistics. Students will integrate and apply their knowledge through a project which demonstrates advanced proficiency in Arabic, critical engagement with literary texts, and an understanding of linguistic theory and analysis.
Graduation Requirements	
18 language credits or equivalent - plus Credits for the major: 39 = 57 credits	
33 credits in Core Competencies 15 optional minor or elective credits 15 elective credits	
Total required credits: 120 (minimum)	

## Bachelor of Arts in Business, Organizational Leadership, and Development (BOLD)

Program Description
<p>The Bachelor of Arts in Business, Organizational Leadership and Development (BOLD) is an interdisciplinary program designed to cultivate visionary, ethical, and spiritually grounded leaders for today's dynamic world. Created for Muslim women who aspire to lead, build, and transform businesses and institutions, this program offers a rigorous and practical foundation in leadership, management, and organizational development—rooted in Islamic epistemology and guided by a deep sense of purpose and service.</p> <p>Students will study leadership and management, organizational theory, human resources, strategic planning, communication, cost-management, and finance, including fundraising, while also exploring the principles of entrepreneurship—learning how to design, launch, and grow sustainable organizations that respond to community needs and global challenges. With an emphasis on both theory and applied learning, the program prepares students to strengthen existing organizations, launch new initiatives, and navigate complex environments with wisdom, resilience, and clarity.</p> <p>Students will develop the capacity to lead with integrity, inspire collective vision, and foster sustainable, impactful growth.</p>
Program Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Business Stewardship:</b> Analyze and apply knowledge of key business disciplines, such as management, operations, and marketing and communications to run ethical, sustainable, and socially impactful ventures aligned with Islamic values.</li><li>2. <b>Organizational Leadership:</b> Design and manage projects, systems, and financial models that flourish. Graduates learn to diagnose what is broken, rebuild with creativity and fiscal discipline, create talent development pathways, and establish sustainable, values-driven structures that serve both people and purpose.</li><li>3. <b>Development and Social Impact:</b> Design and implement fundraising, sustainability, and community-development initiatives that advance organizational growth and contribute to social good.</li><li>4. <b>Applied Cost Management:</b> Read and analyze financial statements, budgets and forecasts to make informed business decisions; demonstrate responsible financial</li></ol>

stewardship aligned with Islamic principles and ethics.

**Capstone:** Demonstrate advanced leadership and strategic competence by designing, implementing, and evaluating a comprehensive project—whether through organizational renewal, talent development, or social enterprise—that applies theoretical knowledge, ethical principles, and practical skills to real-world contexts in service of sustainable and values-driven impact.

Course Name	Description
BLD 1002 Introduction to Leadership Theory and Practice: The Discipline of Following and Leading	This course provides students with an overview of theories of leadership and followership, transformational leadership, and servant leadership. Exploring in detail followership as a vital, active dimension of leadership rooted in humility, integrity, and spiritual purpose. Students will examine Islamic as well as other models of consultation and mentorship alongside followership theory, developing the insight to support, challenge, and lead with intention. Emphasis is placed on ethical relationships, self-awareness, and the courage to lead from any position.
BLD 2001 Business Management and Social Entrepreneurship: Enterprise with Purpose	This course provides students with a foundation in business ethics, planning, marketing, operations, and impact measurement. It introduces students to entrepreneurship as a vehicle for social impact, emphasizing business practices rooted in justice, sustainability, and Islamic values, with a focus on women-led and mission-driven ventures. Emphasis is placed on ethical leadership, community-centered enterprise, and data-driven decision making.
BLD 2002 Introduction to Revenue: Finance and Fundraising for Sustainability	This course offers introduction to business finance with targeted focus on the not-for-profit organization (NPO) sector. The course covers business finance and provides a comprehensive overview of fundraising and financial sustainability in the NPO sector. Students will explore donor cultivation, grant writing, campaign planning, and ethical fundraising strategies, with an emphasis on aligning development work with mission and impact. Practical tools, finance and fundraising platforms, and case studies prepare students to build resilient, trust-based funding models for long-term growth.
BLD 2003 Human Resource Management and Talent Development:	This course introduces students to the principles of effective human resource management with a focus on both professional standards and Islamic ethics. Topics include hiring, training, performance evaluation, team dynamics, and volunteer engagement. Emphasis is placed on cultivating positive, mission-driven workplaces through practical tools, case studies,

Building Mission Driven Teams	and spiritually grounded leadership.
EDU 2002 Leading the Educational Institution	This course equips aspiring school leaders with the tools to build and sustain educational institutions that are innovative, effective, and grounded in Islamic values. Students explore leadership theory, governance, strategic planning, and policy development alongside spiritual and ethical frameworks. Emphasis is placed on leading with vision, integrity, and a commitment to meaningful, lasting change. <b>Note:</b> This course, offered in the education curriculum, uses educational institutions as the exemplar. The knowledge is transferable across business sectors and domains.
BLD 3001 Introduction to Accounting and Cost Management: Bookkeeping and Accounting for For-Profit and NPO Sectors	This course equips students with practical cost management skills including accounting and bookkeeping, emphasizing financial stewardship for both for-profit and NPO settings. Topics include financial statements, budgeting, audits, and ethical practices, with integration of Islamic finance principles such as zakat, <i>amāna</i> , and <i>ribā</i> -free management. Students gain hands-on experience in maintaining accurate, mission-aligned cost management reporting and systems.
BLD 3002 Strategic Management: Strategy, Entity, and Program Design and Evaluation	This course equips students to design, implement, and evaluate mission-driven entities and programs using strategic frameworks and tools. Students will learn to align vision with action through logic models, strategic planning, risk management, and outcome-based evaluation. Emphasis is placed on stakeholder engagement, adaptive management, and data-informed decision-making to drive meaningful, measurable impact.
BLD 3003 The Human Art of Service and Experience Design: Hospitality and the Open Door	This course redefines hospitality as both a strategic enterprise and a human practice of welcome, care, and connection. Students explore how customer experience (CX), emotional intelligence, and service culture design intersect to create meaningful, memorable interactions. Through theory, case studies, and applied projects, students learn to design open-door experiences that unite operational excellence with empathy, ethics, and innovation.
HFS 3005 Women, Culture, and the Shaping of Civilization	This course examines the essential contributions of women to the development of civilizations across time, cultures, and systems. Through historical case studies and futures thinking, students explore women's roles in scholarship, activism, art, governance, and cultural preservation.

	Emphasis is placed on intersectionality, resilience, and visionary leadership, inviting students to reimagine history and the future through a gender-conscious, justice-centered lens.
BLD 4001 Marketing: Brand Design, Identity, and Market Presence	This course examines branding as both a strategic discipline and a soulful practice, exploring how visual identity, narrative, and purpose intersect to build lasting brand impact. Students study brand equity, positioning, and design while crafting their own brand strategies grounded in ethics, emotional resonance, and organizational mission. Recognizing the role of the artist and the creative process, the course invites students to respect what they do not yet know about design as much as to expand what they do know. Drawing on frameworks that emphasize intention, craftsmanship, and meaning-driven creativity, students engage with brand design not simply as communication but as expression of purpose, value, and identity.
WRI 4001 Business Writing: Strategy, Clarity, and Impact	This course prepares students to produce clear writing for technical and digital platforms that is tailored for diverse audiences. Students will create professional documents—reports, manuals, proposals, guides, blogs, and websites—while developing skills in visual communication, SEO, and digital content strategy. Emphasis is placed on usability, formatting, precision, accessibility, and real-world application preparing students for impactful communication across fields.
BLD 4002 Organizational Design: Theory, Culture, and Change	This course examines how organizations function and adapt, exploring theories of structure, culture, and change. Students will analyze systems, power dynamics, and models of transformation within diverse institutions, including faith-based contexts. Emphasis is placed on diagnosing challenges, preserving mission, and aligning organizational design with strategic and ethical goals.
BLD 4003 Topics in Advanced Business and Organizational Leadership	This advanced seminar explores specialized topics in business and organizational leadership. Each iteration of the course examines emerging theories and applied practices in areas such as strategic management, ethical leadership, social entrepreneurship, innovation, or organizational culture. Students engage in critical analysis, case study evaluation, and applied projects that connect leadership theory to real-world challenges. Emphasis is placed on reflective decision-making, ethical reasoning, and the integration of Islamic values within contemporary organizational contexts.
BLD 4900	This course is a practical application of the skills and knowledge learned

Capstone: Applied Theory	and serves as the culminating experience of the Bachelor of Arts in Business, Organizational Leadership, and Development. The course invites students to synthesize their interdisciplinary learning to combine theoretical foundations in leadership, management, and organizational development with Islamic values and lived experience.
Graduation Requirements	
Credits for the major: 42	
33 credits in Core Competencies (one of the classes for the major is a class in the CC requirements) 9 credits (or equivalent) for language requirement 15 minor credits (in Islamic Core topics or in Arabic) 21 elective credits	
Total required credits: 120 (minimum)	

## Bachelor of Arts in History and Futures Studies (HiFS)

Program Description
<p>The Bachelor of Arts in History and Futures Studies (HiFS) is an interdisciplinary program that equips students with the tools, methods, and imagination to understand the patterns of the past, engage the challenges of the present, and help shape meaningful, just, and visionary futures.</p> <p>Grounded in the premise that understanding time is central to transformation, the program integrates historical study with the emerging field of futures thinking. Students learn to read history not as a static record, but as a dynamic source of patterns, disruptions, and signs that inform ethical and strategic decision making today. Likewise, the study of futures is not about prediction but about cultivating foresight, resilience, and purpose in the face of uncertainty.</p> <p>Drawing from history, foresight methods, philosophy, design, and cultural analysis, students learn to identify emerging trends, map systems of change, and construct thoughtful responses to complex global challenges.</p> <p>Through both analytical and project-based learning, students develop fluency in practical tools such as backcasting, horizon scanning, systems mapping, and oral history. They also engage deeply with questions of identity, legacy, and the moral dimensions of hope.</p> <p>History and Futures Studies prepares students to become researchers, educators, designers, community leaders, and cultural thinkers who understand that shaping the future requires courage, vision, and a firm grounding in the lessons of the past.</p>
Program Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of the program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Historical Patterns and transformation:</b> Critically examine major events, ideas, and movements across civilizations to identify recurring patterns of continuity, disruption, and renewal in human history.</li><li><b>2. Past, Present, and Future:</b> Evaluate how historical developments inform current realities and shape future possibilities.</li><li><b>3. Tools and methodologies:</b> Use historical methodologies and foresight practices—such as trend analysis, scenario planning, and backcasting— to explain history and to construct and assess plausible, preferred, and ethical futures for communities and</li></ol>

institutions.	
<b>Capstone:</b> Create informed, visionary analyses or initiatives that bridge historical knowledge with futures thinking—demonstrating the capacity to design strategies, narratives, or projects that contribute to cultural renewal and provide positive impact.	
Course Name	Description
HFS 1001 Histories of Change and Continuity	This course examines the forces that transform societies and the frameworks that endure across disruption. Through global case studies and strategic foresight, students explore transitions in ideology, technology, health, and governance. Emphasis is placed on historical patterns, spiritual interpretations of change, and the tension between preservation and progress—equipping students to understand and shape transformation with depth and integrity.
HFS 1002 Introduction to Futures Thinking: Mapping Possibilities in an Uncertain World	This course introduces the foundations of futures studies, equipping students with tools to explore possible, probable, and preferred futures. Students engage with foresight methods such as scenario building, trend analysis, and systems mapping, while critically examining assumptions and emerging patterns. Emphasis is placed on ethical responsibility, cultural context, and the power of imagination to shape transformational change.
ISL 2701 <i>Sīra</i> : Exploring the Life and Legacy of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	This course offers a chronological and thematic study of the Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ life, examining major events alongside the development of the <i>sīra</i> tradition. Students explore key sources, narrative methods, and the integration of <i>sīra</i> with hadith, law, and ethics. Emphasis is placed on understanding the Prophet's ﷺ enduring legacy and the role of <i>sīra</i> in shaping Muslim identity, spirituality, and community across time.
HFS 2001 The Early Islamic World (632–1258 CE): Rashidun, Umayyads, Abbasids, and Civilizational Flow	This course traces the rise and transformation of Islamic civilization from the Rashidun Caliphate through the Abbasid Golden Age. Students explore political leadership, legal and religious institutions, intercivilizational exchange, and cultural development across Medina, Damascus, and Baghdad. Emphasis is placed on systems thinking, intellectual networks, and the lasting influence of early Islamic empires on visions of governance, ethics, and civilizational renewal.
HFS 2002	This course explores the post-Abbasid Islamic world as a period of



The Later Islamic World (1258–1500s CE): Knowledge, Power, and Pluralism	regeneration and civilizational resilience. Students examine the political, intellectual, and spiritual life of societies such as the Mamluks, Timurids, and early Ottomans, focusing on the rise of Sufi networks, knowledge institutions, and legal-theological pluralism. Emphasis is placed on adaptability, localized power, and the creative potential of post-crisis renewal—offering insight into historical and contemporary models of pluralistic transformation.
HFS 2003 The Early Modern Islamic World (1300s–1924 CE): Ottomans and the Threshold of Modernity	This course explores the rise and legacy of the Ottoman Empire as the final expression of the Islamic caliphate. Students examine Ottoman legal, educational, and cultural institutions, their engagement with modernity, and the tensions between tradition and reform. Emphasis is placed on pluralism, civilizational inheritance, and the Ottoman legacy’s impact on contemporary Muslim identity, governance, and ethical renewal.
HFS 3001 Histories of Innovation and Disruption	This course investigates the historical forces of creativity and upheaval that have reshaped societies across civilizations. Students examine case studies of scientific breakthroughs, technological revolutions, religious and cultural reform movements, and economic shifts that disrupted established orders and generated new possibilities. Attention is given to both Islamic and global contexts, highlighting how innovation often emerges in response to crisis, constraint, or visionary leadership. Through historical analysis, foresight methods, and ethical reflection, students consider how patterns of disruption illuminate the relationship between continuity and change, and how past innovations inform present challenges and future opportunities.
HFS 3002 Political Linguistics: Shaping Culture and Belief	This course explores language as a powerful tool for shaping culture, belief, and social change. Students examine rhetorical strategy, discourse, and the metaphysical dimensions of speech across historical, political, and spiritual contexts. Emphasis is placed on Arabic as both sacred and strategic, with attention to how language impacts identity, worldview, and agency in the modern world.
HFS 3003 Mechanisms of Change: Rethinking Impact	This course explores how change occurs across personal, cultural, and systemic levels, challenging conventional models of activism and reform. Students engage with diverse approaches—from spiritual practice to social movements—and examine the interplay of intuition, trauma, tradition, and Divine will in shaping transformation. Emphasis is placed on critical reflection, interdisciplinary analysis, and the creation

	of a personalized “Impact Map” for intentional, values-driven action.
HFS 3004 Transformational Change: <i>Tajdīd</i> and Visionary Leadership	This course explores <i>tajdīd</i> —the Islamic tradition of renewal—as a model for ethical, future-facing leadership. Students examine historical figures of reform and study the conditions that give rise to transformative change. Through systems thinking, futures studies, and Islamic scholarship, students learn to navigate crises with clarity, preserve core values, and design adaptive leadership strategies rooted in prophetic and reformist legacies.
HFS 3005 Women, Culture, and the Shaping of Civilization	This course examines the essential contributions of women to the development of civilizations across time, cultures, and systems. Through historical case studies and futures thinking, students explore women’s roles in scholarship, activism, art, governance, and cultural preservation. Emphasis is placed on intersectionality, resilience, and visionary leadership, inviting students to reimagine history and the future through a gender-conscious, justice-centered lens.
HFS 4001 Forecasting, Backcasting, and Trend Analysis	This applied methods course trains students in core foresight tools for strategic engagement with long-term change. Students learn to map trends, develop scenarios, and construct backcasting roadmaps to connect visionary futures with actionable strategies. Emphasis is placed on project-based learning, ethical analysis, and designing culturally grounded responses to complex challenges.
HFS 4002 Storytelling, Oral History, and Intergenerational Learning	This course trains students in oral history and narrative inquiry as tools for cultural continuity, identity, and future imagination. Drawing on women’s studies, Indigenous methodologies, and decolonial theory, students learn to ethically document and analyze lived experience. Emphasis is placed on storytelling as historical record, spiritual inheritance, and a generative force for shaping communal futures.
HFS 4003 The History and Development of Schooling	This course explores the historical evolution of formal education across cultures and time, with special emphasis on Islamic educational traditions. Students examine how schooling has served diverse social, political, and spiritual aims, from classical madrasas to modern community-led models. Emphasis is placed on critical inquiry into the past and reimagining education for a just, inclusive, and purposeful future.
HFS 4900	This capstone course synthesizes historical inquiry and strategic

Capstone in History and Future Studies	foresight, guiding students to critically examine historical narratives and design future-oriented responses to complex challenges. Through historiography, trend analysis, and creative futures methodologies, students produce original projects—ranging from research to speculative design—that reflect ethical vision and long-term thinking. The course culminates in a public presentation showcasing students as historians of possibility and architects of transformation.
Graduation Requirements	
Credits for the major: 45	
33 credits in Core Competencies 9 credits (or equivalent) for language requirement 15 credits in Arabic minor or 12 minor credits in Islamic minor (there are 3 credits overlap) 18 elective credits	
Total required credits: 120 (minimum)	

## Bachelor of Arts in Literature, Writing, and Publishing (LWP)

### Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts in Literature, Writing, and Publishing (LWP) is an interdisciplinary program designed for those who recognize the written word as a force that shapes thought, culture, and society. Rooted in rich traditions of literary excellence, this major cultivates both the intellect and the creative spirit—introducing students to great writers across cultures and genres while helping them develop their own authentic voices.

Students become strong, discerning readers who engage deeply with fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and professional writing—learning to analyze, interpret, and appreciate texts with nuance and insight. They also learn to craft compelling narratives and persuasive arguments, developing excellence in both creative and practical forms of writing.

In addition to mastering the craft of writing, students gain a working knowledge of the publishing industry as both a cultural and commercial enterprise. Courses in editing, production, and design prepare graduates to navigate the full publishing process—from manuscript to marketplace—while exploring how new technologies are reshaping authorship, readership, and access to knowledge.

Integrating Islamic epistemology and spiritual consciousness, the program encourages reflection on the ethics, purpose, and impact of communication. Graduates emerge as thoughtful readers, skillful writers, and capable editors prepared to pursue careers in publishing, content creation, media, or further study in literature, writing, or communication.

### Program Learning Outcomes

By the end of the program, students will be able to:

1. **Literature:** Analyze and evaluate major genres and subgenres within global literary traditions, assessing their artistic merit and cultural impact.
2. **Writing:** Produce clear, purposeful, and compelling writing across genres while developing a distinctive and Islamically grounded authorial voice.
3. **Publishing:** Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of the publishing ecosystem by applying professional and technical skills in editing, production, and dissemination, and by evaluating publishing as an act of cultural stewardship.

**Capstone:** Synthesize advanced knowledge of literature, writing, and publishing by completing a culminating project—either through original literary research, creative authorship, or a professional internship—that demonstrates mastery of disciplinary skills, intellectual rigor and creativity, and ethical purpose and cultural impact.

Course Name	Description
LIT 1001 Introduction to Literature, Writing, and Publishing	This foundational course surveys major literary genres and subgenres while introducing key concepts in literary theory, effective writing, and the publishing process. Students explore how form, purpose, and audience shape literary expression and publication, engaging texts through both artistic and ethical lenses grounded in Islamic worldview.
WRI 2001 Fiction Writing across Genres: Fantasy, Sci-Fi, Romance, and More...	This course immerses students in the art of storytelling through the imaginative worlds of speculative and romantic fiction. Using an exposure-based approach, students learn the craft of writing by reading widely across genres—fantasy, science fiction, romance, and literary fiction—and then creating original works in response. Through guided analysis and fun experimentation, they uncover how skilled authors build characters, worlds, and emotional resonance. A workshop environment fosters imitation, feedback, and refinement, helping students develop technique and craft. By the end of the course, students will have developed both a critical understanding of genre and a practiced ability in imaginative writing.
WRI 2002 Creative Nonfiction: The Craft of Literary Truth-Telling	This course explores the craft of nonfiction storytelling through memoir, biography, travel writing, social commentary, essays, journalism, critiques, speeches, and more. Students will learn to blend factual accuracy with narrative technique, crafting engaging prose rooted in truth and ethical reflection. Emphasis is placed on voice, research, and structure, culminating in a major nonfiction project that illuminates real-world people, places, and experiences.
WRI 2003 Poetry: Sonnets to Slam	This course explores the power of poetic language across traditions—from classical sonnets to modern poetry, slam poetry, and song lyrics. Students will analyze how rhythm, form, and sound shape meaning, while crafting their own original pieces in both written and performance formats. Emphasis is placed on creative experimentation, emotional expression, and the impact of poetry as a lived, shared art.
WRI 2004	This course examines literature for young readers, from timeless fairy tales

Writing for Children and Young Adults: The Art and Impact of Narrative	to modern YA novels, graphic novels, and more, exploring how these works shape and reflect ideas about childhood, identity, and imagination. Through critical reading and creative writing, students will analyze themes, structure, and illustration, while also crafting original stories for young audiences. Emphasis is placed on both artistic expression and cultural insight.
LIT 2001 Islam in Western Literature: The Mirror and the Mirage	This course explores how Western literature has portrayed Muslims and Islam from the medieval era to today, examining texts that reflect both fascination and distortion. Through close reading and critical theory, students will analyze themes of Orientalism, identity, and power in works by Chaucer, Shakespeare, Rushdie, and others. Emphasis is placed on literary representation as a site of cultural construction and critique.
LIT 2002 Introduction to Arabic Literature	This course surveys the evolution of Arabic literature from its poetic roots to the rise of the modern novel, focusing on key texts and genres in translation. Students will explore pre-Islamic verse, Quranic influence, classical prose, and modern literary movements, with attention to cross-cultural translation and exchange. Emphasis is placed on literary development, historical context, and cultural impact.
WRI 3001 Advanced Editing and Revision for Writers	This course develops the essential skills of revision and editing across creative, academic, and professional contexts. Students learn to evaluate writing at multiple levels—from structural and developmental editing to sentence-level line and copy editing. Special emphasis is placed on accuracy in transliteration, correct citation and referencing systems (including footnotes and endnotes), and maintaining authorial voice while improving clarity and precision. Through hands-on editing practice, peer workshops, and applied projects, students gain the editorial judgment necessary to polish their own work and to prepare manuscripts for publication in both print and digital formats.
LIT 3001 Writing for Change: Revolution, Culture, and Society	This course explores fiction as a vehicle for cultural critique and transformation. Students will also engage with literary theory to develop a critical lens for interpreting fiction and understanding its power to shape thought and culture. Through reading and writing stories that center themes of identity, revolution, and social justice, students will examine how literature can challenge norms and inspire change. Emphasis is placed on crafting compelling narratives with rich characters, thoughtful structure, and purposeful voice. A supportive workshop environment nurtures creative risk-taking and technical mastery.

WRI 3002 Topics in Advanced Writing [Poetry, Fiction, Nonfiction]	This course deepens craft across poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Students will study genre conventions and cross-genre techniques through close reading and guided practice. They will draft, workshop, and revise original work; analyze mentor texts; and experiment with form, structure, voice, and point of view. Emphasis is placed on constructive critique, storytelling, and revision.
PUB 3001 The History and Artistry of the Book	This course explores the book as a visual and artistic medium, tracing manuscript traditions from illuminated copies of the Quran to medieval and Asian works. Students will study calligraphy, illustration, and page design across cultures, while engaging in hands-on creative projects. Emphasis is placed on the intersection of text, beauty, and meaning in the book as both artifact and art form.
PUB 4001 The Business of Publishing: From Manuscript to Market	Students apply what they have learned about genre, reading, and writing to the business and process of publishing. Students will explore editorial development, design, marketing, and distribution across traditional, independent, and digital models. Emphasis is placed on industry roles, publishing economics, author branding, and emerging trends, preparing students to navigate the publishing world with insight and strategy.
WRI 4001 Business Writing: Strategy, Clarity, and Impact	This course prepares students to produce clear writing for technical and digital platforms that is tailored for diverse audiences. Students will create professional documents—reports, manuals, proposals, guides, blogs, and websites—while developing skills in visual communication, SEO, and digital content strategy. Emphasis is placed on usability, formatting, precision, accessibility, and real-world application preparing students for impactful communication across fields.
WRI 4002 Rhetoric and Literary Devices: The Art and Architecture of Language	This course equips students with a rich array of rhetorical and literary tools to enhance clarity, persuasion, and impact. Through analysis of powerful language in speeches, essays, poetry, and media, students will master techniques like metaphor, repetition, and allusion. Emphasis is placed on strategic use of rhetoric in writing and speaking across academic, professional, and public contexts.
LWP 4900 Capstone: Write and Publish	This course is a practical application of the skills and knowledge learned. Students will complete a writing project in their chosen genre and publish in their chosen method.
Graduation Requirements	

Credits for the major: 42
Additional requirements : 33 credits in Core Competencies 9 credits (or equivalent) for language requirement 15 minor credits 21 elective credits
Total required credits: 120 (minimum)



## Core Competencies

Core competencies form the foundation of a well-rounded academic journey. These courses are required for all undergraduate students, regardless of major, and are carefully designed to equip them with the skills, knowledge, and perspectives necessary for personal growth, civic engagement, and meaningful contributions to the world. Through this curriculum, students build critical tools for success, including academic strategies, quantitative reasoning, and reflective thinking.

Core Competencies	
Course Name	Description
COM1001 Foundations for Success: Skills, Strategies, Pathways	This course equips students with the academic skills, spiritual grounding, and digital tools needed to thrive in college and beyond. Emphasizing an Islamic worldview, students build habits in time management, research, communication, and digital literacy while exploring personal identity, purpose, and the pursuit of knowledge as worship. Through reflective practice and practical learning, students develop a personalized mission statement and gain confidence navigating college life, diverse perspectives, and lifelong learning.
COM1002 Rhetoric and Public Speaking	This introductory course combines the study of rhetorical theory with practical training in public speaking. Students will explore the history and role of rhetoric in shaping societies, including perspectives from the Islamic intellectual tradition, while learning techniques to craft clear, impactful messages for diverse audiences. Through guided practice, peer feedback, and critical analysis of speeches, students will build confidence, refine delivery, and strengthen their ability to communicate effectively in academic, professional, and community settings.
WRI1001 Building Blocks of Writing: Crafting Compelling Prose	This course develops the core skills of effective, expressive writing through study and practice of structure, tone, and style. Students analyze exemplary prose and craft their own compelling essays, reflections, and narratives—writing with clarity, purpose, and ethical intention rooted in Islamic values.
BLD1003 Quantitative Literacy: Personal and Organizational Finance	This course builds financial literacy through an Islamic lens, equipping students with the skills to manage personal and organizational finances ethically and effectively. Students learn to analyze balance sheets, understand key financial concepts, and make informed decisions about budgeting, saving, investing, and spending in alignment with faith-based values.

SCI1001 From Molecules to Miracles: Everyday Science in Action	This online general education science course explores the structure, systems, and surprises of the physical world through a multidisciplinary lens—drawing from chemistry, physics, biology, quantum, and environmental science. From the molecules that make up matter to the invisible forces that govern movement and energy, students will discover how scientific principles explain the extraordinary intricacies of everyday life. Students will walk along a road map of the physical world.
SCI1002 Human Biology: Women's Health Across the Lifespan	This course explores women's health and biology from puberty to aging, integrating scientific study with Islamic perspectives and holistic wellness. Topics include reproductive systems, hormonal health, mental well-being, nutrition, and chronic conditions, alongside cultural and historical insights into women's healthcare. Students develop biological literacy and a deeper understanding of how science, faith, and culture shape women's health across the lifespan.
SOC1001 Books that Shaped the World	This course introduces students to influential literary works that have shaped cultures, ideologies, and historical eras around the globe. Through timeline mapping, research journaling, and collaborative inquiry, students explore key texts in their historical and cultural contexts while developing foundational skills in literary analysis, speed reading, summarizing, and AI-assisted research. Designed as an accessible entry point, the course fosters a lifelong appreciation for reading and the power of ideas in shaping society.
BLD1001 Anchored Leadership: Self, Service, and Sacred Trust	This foundational course introduces leadership as an inner and outer practice anchored in Islamic ethics, self-knowledge, and service. Students explore the concept of <i>amāna</i> (sacred trust), the Prophetic model of leadership, and the dynamics of the <i>nafs</i> through both Islamic and psychological lenses. By engaging key leadership theories, reflective exercises, and case studies, students begin to articulate their own leadership philosophy and identify habits that cultivate integrity, empathy, and purpose. The course emphasizes that effective leadership begins with transforming the self and extends toward uplifting others and serving the common good.
SOC2001 Ideologies and Worldviews: Isms and Prisms	This course explores major ideologies—such as capitalism, socialism, feminism, and colonialism—and the diverse perspectives through which they are interpreted. Students examine the historical development and contemporary relevance of these movements, analyzing their impact on global societies through the prism of Islamic

	ethics and values. The course encourages critical reflection on ideology, identity, and the Muslim engagement with competing worldviews.
ART 2101 Visual Arts: Beauty, Design, and Creative Expression	This course examines the history and spiritual foundations of Islamic art, exploring architecture, calligraphy, textiles, and other visual forms as expressions of beauty, meaning, and devotion. Students investigate how art in Muslim societies functions as a site of cultural identity, theological interpretation, and political tension—shaped by legal discourse, colonial disruption, and reformist ideologies. Through historical analysis, visual study, and critical reflection, students engage with the rich plurality of Islamic artistic traditions and consider their relevance in contemporary cultural renewal.
ART 2201 Music, Rhythm, and Meaning: The Sound of Culture	This course explores music as a universal form of expression and a reflection of cultural, ethical, and spiritual meaning. Students examine musical structures across global traditions alongside Islamic perspectives on sound and rhythm, including scholarly debates on the permissibility and impact of music. Through critical listening and cross-cultural analysis, the course invites reflection on music's power to shape identity, convey meaning, and stir the soul.
HFS 2005 Modern History of the Middle East	This course traces the transformation of the Arab world from Ottoman rule to modern nation-states, exploring the lasting impact of colonialism, Arab independence movements, and shifting political ideologies. Through case studies, primary sources, and critical analysis, students examine how historical legacies shape contemporary Middle Eastern identities, borders, and struggles for sovereignty and self-definition.
REL 1001 World Religions	This course offers a global survey of major religious traditions, exploring their historical contexts, core beliefs, practices, and sacred texts. Through comparative study and focused exploration of selected traditions, students examine how religions shape worldviews and cultures. The course emphasizes the role of Islam and Muslim engagement within the broader religious landscape, culminating in a research paper that demonstrates both understanding and thoughtful analysis.
REL 2001 Philosophy Foundations of Thought	This course introduces core themes in philosophy, ethics, and critical thinking through both Western and Islamic traditions. Students explore key questions of existence, knowledge, and morality, while developing logic and reasoning skills grounded in Islamic epistemology. The

	course fosters reflective inquiry, ethical discernment, and intellectual engagement with the challenges of modern life.
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## Language Requirements

The Ribāṭ University curriculum includes Arabic language study as part of each degree program. Rooted in the Islamic scholarly tradition, this requirement equips students with the linguistic knowledge needed to access the Quran, hadith, and classical texts, fostering both intellectual depth and spiritual growth. The required level of Arabic is mentioned in each program description.

Core Competencies	
Course Name	Description
ARL 1101 Arabic Novice Beginner	This is the first course in the Ribāṭ Arabic Language Program. It is designed to equip learners with the skills to read (phonetically decode) and write the Arabic script with vowels and provide them with a range of high frequency vocabulary which they can use in their reading of Quranic texts and to offer greetings in Arabic.
ARL 1102 Arabic Novice Middle	This is the second module in the Novice level. This course involves an introduction to the basics of Arabic grammar of nouns, with an emphasis on building learners' reading skills and basic vocabulary knowledge to allow them to read the Quran and recognize key words and phrases, as well as introduce themselves.
ARL 1103 Arabic Novice High	This module introduces students to the basics of forming sentences in Arabic. This includes verbal and nominal sentences. Students will be introduced to the methods for conjugating simple verbal roots. By the end of the module, learners will be able to read and understand simple texts containing familiar vocabulary, as well as construct their own simple nominal sentences about themselves, their families, and their homes. Learners will expand their repertoire of high frequency vocabulary, both general and Quranic to equip them with the ability to pick out and translate words and phrases in a range of authentic texts.
ARL 2101 Arabic Intermediate Beginner 1	This is the first module of the Intermediate Beginner band. In this level, students will be introduced to constructing verbal sentences in the past, present, and future tenses. They will work on developing this skill to include positive and negative sentences, and learn how to ask questions. Students will also learn how to tell the time and will cover vocabulary relating to schedules and their daily routines.
ARL 2102 Arabic Intermediate	This is the second module of the Intermediate Beginner band. In this level, students will build on their knowledge of nominal sentences by learning how to negate them and situate them in the past tense. They will

Beginner 2	also learn how to express possession and how to identify and construct dual and plural nouns. They will expand their vocabulary by learning to talk about careers, food and drink, and the human body.
ARL 2103 Arabic Intermediate Beginner 3	This is the final module of the Intermediate Beginner band. In this level, students will build on their knowledge of verbs and verbal sentences by exploring different tenses and moods. This includes the imperative, the subjunctive, and future negation, as well as object pronouns. This will equip students with an ability to read and understand more complex texts. Students will learn how to express emotions as well as their hopes and aspirations using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.

## Program Descriptions: Minors

### Minor in Islamic Studies

Program Description	
<p>The Minor in Islamic Studies provides students with a foundational understanding of Islamic belief, practice, and intellectual tradition. Through courses in <i>ʿaqīda</i> (theology), <i>fiqh</i> (jurisprudence), <i>tafsīr</i> (Quranic exegesis), and hadith (Prophetic tradition), students gain essential literacy in Islamic teachings while exploring their historical, ethical, and spiritual dimensions. The program encourages reflective engagement with the Islamic worldview and its relevance to personal, social, and global contexts.</p> <p>Designed to complement any major, this minor strengthens students' ability to think critically, communicate with insight, and integrate spiritual and ethical principles into their studies and professional lives.</p>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Foundational Knowledge:</b> Explain basic concepts in Islamic belief, law, and ethics.</li> <li>2. <b>Primary Texts (introductory):</b> Read and analyze selected Quranic verses and hadith with guidance, identifying themes and moral lessons.</li> <li>3. <b>Ethical and Spiritual Reflection:</b> Reflect on personal growth, moral reasoning, and spiritual development inspired by Islamic teachings.</li> </ol>	
Course Name	Description
ISL 1102 Foundations of Islamic Theology	This course introduces students to the core beliefs of Islam through the framework of Islam, <i>īmān</i> , and <i>ih̥sān</i> as outlined in the Hadith of Jibrīl. Grounded in classical Sunni theology, students explore the six pillars of faith and key concepts such as <i>tawhīd</i> , prophecy, and Divine decree. Emphasis is placed on understanding creed as a foundation for worldview, character, and spiritual growth.
ISL 2203 <i>Fiqh</i> of Worship: Incorporating Rules	This course offers a comprehensive introduction to Islamic worship ( <i>ʿibādāt</i> ) through the Shāfiʿī school of law, covering purification, prayer, fasting, zakat, and pilgrimage. Students study

and Ritual into Daily Life	legal rulings alongside spiritual purpose, gaining practical fluency in applying Shāfi'ī <i>fiqh</i> . Emphasis is placed on integrating ritual into daily life with awareness, reverence, and confidence in the broader context of Islamic legal tradition.
ISL 2701 <i>Sīra</i> : Exploring the Life and Legacy of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	This course offers a chronological and thematic study of the Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ life, examining major events alongside the development of the <i>sīra</i> tradition. Students explore key sources, narrative methods, and the integration of <i>sīra</i> with hadith, law, and ethics. Emphasis is placed on understanding the Prophet's enduring legacy and the role of <i>sīra</i> in shaping Muslim identity, spirituality, and community across time.
ISL 3202 <i>Usūl al-Fiqh</i> : The Building of Islamic Knowledge and Understanding	This foundational course introduces students to the methodologies that underlie Islamic scholarship, exploring how Islamic knowledge evolved from revelation to systematic science. Through a survey of <i>uṣūl</i> disciplines—including <i>uṣūl al-Quran</i> , <i>uṣūl al-ḥadīth</i> , and <i>uṣūl al-fiqh</i> —students examine how scholars derived meaning, built legal and theological frameworks, and preserved the integrity of sacred texts. The course emphasizes the interplay between Divine guidance and human reason in shaping the Islamic intellectual tradition, equipping students with essential tools for deeper study and critical engagement.
ISL 4601 Spiritual Formation: <i>Tazkiya</i> , <i>Tarbiya</i> and the Inner Path	This course explores the Islamic science of spiritual development through the traditions of <i>tazkiya</i> , <i>taṣawwuf</i> , and the Prophetic model of <i>iḥsān</i> . Students examine key concepts such as the states of the heart, intention, presence, and spiritual companionship, while tracing the historical evolution of Sufi thought and practice. Emphasis is placed on integrating classical texts, personal reflection, and critical engagement to foster a spiritually grounded, ethically conscious life.



## Minor in Arabic

Program Description	
<p>The Arabic Minor offers students a structured and immersive program in Arabic language proficiency, linguistic awareness, and cultural literacy. Through a carefully designed sequence of language, grammar, literature, and linguistics courses, students gain the tools to navigate classical and contemporary Arabic with confidence, insight, and cultural sensitivity.</p> <p>Students in the minor build intermediate-level proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking; develop deep grammatical precision and syntactic awareness through intensive study; engage with Arabic linguistics to see how structure, meaning, and social context shape the language; examine regional dialects and their connections to identity, culture, and communication; explore Arabic literature across historical periods, genres, and geographies; and analyze sacred texts (Quran and hadith) with attention to linguistic features and historical transmission.</p> <p>The minor combines rigorous language instruction with exposure to Arabic's rich literary, sacred, and regional diversity. Whether preparing for advanced study or enriching their understanding of the Arabic-speaking world, students will complete the minor with a solid linguistic foundation and the analytical skills to engage Arabic texts and contexts with nuance and depth.</p>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of the minor, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Language Proficiency:</b> Read, write, listen, and speak at the Intermediate Mid to High level (ACTFL scale), using accurate grammar and vocabulary.</li> <li>2. <b>Grammar and Linguistics:</b> Recognize and construct basic Arabic sentence structures, verb forms, and grammatical patterns with attention to meaning and accuracy.</li> <li>3. <b>Texts and Culture:</b> Engage with Arabic literature, media, and selected sacred texts to identify key themes, stylistic features, and cultural significance.</li> <li>4. <b>Tools for Continued Learning:</b> Use dictionaries, root dictionaries, and digital tools to support independent reading, translation, and ongoing language development.</li> </ol>	
Course Name	Description

ARL 2104 Arabic Intermediate Middle 1	This is the first module of the Intermediate Middle band. In this level, students will expand their knowledge of verbs through an introduction to hollow roots and the ten verb forms. This will equip them with the skills to use a root dictionary. They will also learn how to construct and describe opposites, and building on their knowledge of vocabulary related to the human body, they will learn how to discuss issues around health and wellness using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 2105 Arabic Intermediate Middle 2	This is the second module of the Intermediate Middle band. In this level, students will focus in depth on the ten verb forms. They will learn how to recognize and construct each form, as well as infer the meaning of each. They will build on their knowledge of tenses and moods by applying them to each of the forms. This will ensure they are able to look up words in an Arabic root dictionary with ease, increasing the scope of their translation skills as well as vocabulary.
ARL 2110 Grammar Intensive I: Foundations of Arabic Structure	This foundational course strengthens students' grasp of essential Arabic grammar through focused study of sentence formation, verb conjugation, and noun-adjective agreement. Designed for returning learners and heritage speakers, the course emphasizes accuracy and fluency through drills, analysis, and practical application. Students will gain confidence reading and constructing early-intermediate Arabic texts.
LIT 2002 Introduction to Arabic Literature	This course surveys the evolution of Arabic literature, from pre-Islamic poetry and Quranic influence to philosophical texts, didactic genres, and the rise of the modern novel. Students explore key literary movements and works in translation, gaining insight into the cultural and historical forces that have shaped Arabic literary expression across time.
ARL 2201 Introduction to Arabic Linguistics	This course introduces students to key linguistic concepts through the lens of the Arabic language, covering phonetics, morphology, syntax, semantics, and sociolinguistics. Students will explore the historical development of Arabic, analyze its sound and sentence structures, and compare Arabic and English grammatical frameworks. Emphasis is placed on both structural analysis and sociolinguistic variation, providing a strong

	foundation for advanced linguistic study.
ARL 3204 Sacred Texts: The Language and History of the Quran and Hadith	This course introduces students to the linguistic and historical dimensions of the Quran and hadith as foundations of Islamic tradition. Students explore textual structure, stylistic features, and systems of preservation and transmission, while developing skills to read and interpret these sacred texts in Arabic. Emphasis is placed on grammatical analysis, historical context, and reverent engagement with primary sources.
ARL 4201 Arabic Dialects: Language, Region, and Identity	This course explores the diversity of Arabic dialects across regions, blending sociolinguistic theory with practical language skills. Students will examine dialectal variation, diglossia, and code-switching while building foundational comprehension in Levantine, Egyptian, North African, and Gulf dialects. Emphasis is placed on cultural context, structural comparison with MSA, and real-world language use.

# Program Descriptions: Certificate Programs

## Certificate in Teaching Islam

Program Description	
<p>The Certificate in Teaching Islam is a post-baccalaureate degree designed to equip Muslim women with the essential knowledge and practical skills to teach Islamic subjects with clarity, confidence, and spiritual grounding. Through focused study in belief, worship, character, and pedagogy, students learn to communicate religious knowledge effectively in classrooms, community settings, or online spaces. The program emphasizes both sound understanding and compassionate teaching, preparing graduates to guide others with integrity and cultural awareness in a multiplicity of learning environments.</p>	
Prerequisites	
<p>To qualify for admission into the program, students must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.</p>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Foundational Knowledge:</b> Explain key concepts in Islamic belief, worship, and character development, and illustrate their relevance to personal and communal life</li> <li><b>2. Pedagogy:</b> Design and deliver lessons that communicate Islamic knowledge clearly and accurately, using appropriate methods for a variety of audiences and settings</li> <li><b>3. Leadership:</b> Draw upon Islamic history and tradition to analyze contemporary challenges, develop problem-solving approaches, and engage communities with wisdom, integrity, and service.</li> </ol>	
Course Name	Description
ISL 1102 Foundations of Islamic Theology	This course introduces students to the core beliefs of Islam through the framework of Islam, <i>Īmān</i> , and <i>Iḥsān</i> as outlined in the Hadith of Jibrīl. Grounded in classical Sunni theology, students explore the six pillars of faith and key concepts such as <i>tawḥīd</i> , prophecy, and Divine decree. Emphasis is placed on understanding creed as a foundation for worldview, character, and spiritual growth.
ISL 2203	This course offers a comprehensive introduction to Islamic worship

<i>Fiqh</i> of Worship: Incorporating Rules and Ritual into Daily Life	( <i>ʿibādāt</i> ) through the Shāfiʿī school of law, covering purification, prayer, fasting, zakat, and pilgrimage. Students study legal rulings alongside spiritual purpose, gaining practical fluency in applying Shāfiʿī <i>fiqh</i> . Emphasis is placed on integrating ritual into daily life with awareness, reverence, and confidence in the broader context of Islamic legal tradition.
ISL 1701 Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	<p>The first of a two-part course providing an in-depth study of the sixty companions discussed in the book <i>Stars in the Prophet's Orbit</i>. Students will learn the stories of these companions, draw conclusions about Islamic precepts from their lives, understand their relationship to the Prophet ﷺ, and derive personal lessons from their lives. Students will apply and extend what they have learned in class by writing an analysis paper about one of the companions studied.</p> <p>The first thirty companions of this text are covered in Part 1 of the course, and the second thirty are covered in Part 2. It is not required to complete Part 1 before Part 2.</p>
ISL 1702 Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	<p>An in-depth study of the sixty companions discussed in the book <i>Stars in the Prophet's Orbit</i>, this is a continuation of <i>Companions of the Prophet ﷺ</i>, Part 1. Students will learn the stories of these companions, draw conclusions about Islamic precepts, understand their relationship to the Prophet ﷺ, and derive personal lessons from their lives. Students will apply these skills to an additional companion upon whom research will be done.</p> <p>The first thirty companions of this text are covered in Part 1 of the course, and the second thirty are covered in Part 2. It is not required to complete Part 1 before Part 2.</p>
ISL 2701 <i>Sīra</i> : The Life and Legacy of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	This course offers a chronological and thematic study of the Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ life, examining major events alongside the development of the <i>sīra</i> tradition. Students explore key sources, narrative methods, and the integration of <i>sīra</i> with hadith, law, and ethics. Emphasis is placed on understanding the Prophet's ﷺ enduring legacy and the role of <i>sīra</i> in shaping Muslim identity, spirituality, and community across time.
ISL 2502 <i>Tafsīr</i> Traditions:	This course surveys the rich diversity of Quranic interpretation across classical, spiritual, linguistic, and modern reformist

Windows of Meaning	traditions. Students engage with works by scholars such as al-Ṭabarī, al-Tustarī, and contemporary voices, including women's exegesis. Emphasis is placed on understanding <i>tafsīr</i> methodologies, historical development, and the evolving role of interpretation in responding to social and theological contexts.
ISL 2504 Introduction to <i>Tafsīr</i> and Teaching the Quran	This course invites students into a journey with the Quran, exploring its meanings while developing the skills needed to teach <i>tafsīr</i> effectively. Through the study of selected suras, students will learn to explain verses using reliable classical and modern resources, reflect on thematic lessons, and design ways to communicate those lessons to diverse audiences. Emphasis is placed on understanding the linguistic, historical, and spiritual dimensions of revelation and translating that understanding into engaging, age-appropriate lessons. By combining study, reflection, and pedagogy, students will strengthen both their relationship with the Qur'an and their ability to share its light with others.
ISL 2500 The Art and Science of <i>Tajwīd</i>	This course introduces the principles of <i>tajwīd</i> , the science and art of Quranic recitation, emphasizing linguistic precision and spiritual depth. Students study articulation points, phonetic rules, and recitational aesthetics while developing critical listening and analytical skills. Focus is placed on understanding <i>tajwīd</i> as both a technical discipline and a devotional practice, attainable for learners at all levels. Students will practice correct recitation.
ISL 4601 Spiritual Formation: <i>Tazkiya</i> , <i>Tarbiya</i> and the Inner Path	An introduction to the concept of <i>tazkiya</i> (purification of the self/heart in Islam), this course will provide an introductory look at diseases of the heart and sins of the tongue, as well as the relationship between the two. Students will learn some general cures and understand some of the skills necessary to begin the path of <i>tazkiya</i> .
EDU 2003 Teaching Skills and Methodology: The Classroom Teacher	This course introduces foundational teaching methods for children ages 5–10, emphasizing lesson planning, classroom management, and age-appropriate instruction. Rooted in both educational theory and Islamic pedagogical values, students explore child development, the Prophetic model, and the role of the educator in nurturing holistic growth. Emphasis is placed on practical skills, reflection, and compassionate, purposeful teaching.
EDU 2004 Teaching Skills and	This course focuses on effective teaching strategies for young adult and adult learners in secondary, higher education, and

Methodology: The Subject Teacher	<p>community contexts. Students explore lesson planning, engagement techniques, and adult learning theory, while integrating Islamic values and the Prophetic model. Emphasis is placed on culturally responsive pedagogy, critical thinking, and building respectful, transformative learning environments.</p> <p>Each semester, the course may center on a distinct subject area or theme—such as literature, social change, spirituality, or leadership—allowing students to practice teaching content through adaptable, topic-based design. This flexible approach cultivates pedagogical creativity and prepares educators to teach diverse subjects with confidence and depth.</p>
HFS 1005 <i>Al-Khulafāʾ al-Rāshidūn</i> : The Rightly Guided Caliphs	<p>This course explores the lives and legacies of the four Rightly Guided Caliphs—Abu Bakr, ʿUmar, ʿUthmān, and ʿAlī (<i>raḍīya Allāhu ʿanhum</i>)—as models of leadership, faith, and resilience in the face of historical and moral challenges. Through a study of key events, decisions, and societal transformations during their eras, students examine how each khalifa embodied prophetic guidance while navigating times of political transition, social unrest, and emerging diversity within the Muslim community. Emphasis is placed on extracting lessons in governance, justice, and spiritual steadfastness that remain relevant to contemporary leadership and community life.</p>
HFS 1003 <i>Mujaddidīn</i> : Crises and Cures of Muslim History	<p>This course provides a survey of the crises and trials that have challenged Islamic civilization over the centuries, along with an account of the Muslim “renewers” of the faith (<i>mujaddidīn</i>). As the Prophet ﷺ said, “Allah ﷻ will raise for this community at the end of every hundred years one who will renew its religion for it.” Throughout this course, students will study the lives of those whom Allah ﷻ sent as a cure for the crises and trials faced by the <i>ummah</i>, and how they were able to overturn the current situation, renew the religion, and restore peace and faith to the Muslim <i>ummah</i>. Students will learn about the factors that contributed to each trial, how each <i>mujaddid</i> was able to overcome the trials of the time, and gain an understanding of the characteristics that enabled each to succeed.</p>
Graduation Requirements	
Required Credits: 26	

Arabic proficiency: Students are assessed for Arabic language proficiency to ensure they are at least at Novice High level. Placement or exemption is determined through testing, with additional coursework recommended as needed to support advanced theological study.



## Certificate in Arabic Language and Cultural Fluency

Program Description	
<p>This post-baccalaureate certificate is designed for Muslim women seeking to deepen their connection to the Arabic language for personal and professional purposes. Through a structured sequence of language courses—ranging from Advanced Beginner to Advanced High—students build a strong foundation in grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and expressive fluency. Specialized courses support real-world language use and cultural fluency, building confidence and deepening linguistic and semantic understanding.</p>	
Prerequisites	
<p>To qualify for admission into the program, students must either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pass Ribāṭ Arabic through Intermediate High 3</li> <li>• OR demonstrate proficiency through a placement test</li> <li>• OR submit transcripts from another institution that uses ACTFL (or a standardized measure) for their Arabic program demonstrating equivalency completing intermediate levels in Arabic</li> <li>• OR a bachelor's degree in Arabic</li> </ul>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Language Proficiency:</b> Apply grammatical knowledge and produce coherent spoken and written Arabic to demonstrate intermediate-to-advanced proficiency in Arabic.</li> <li>2. <b>Communicate Confidently and Culturally:</b> Engage in meaningful oral and written communication, adapt language use to everyday and professional contexts, and illustrate understanding of cultural norms and regional variation.</li> <li>3. <b>Arabic Expression:</b> Interpret and analyze selected Arabic texts, media, and sacred writings to explain the linguistic, cultural, and spiritual dimensions of the Arabic traditions.</li> </ol>	
Course Name	Description
ARL 3101 Arabic Advanced Beginner 1	This is the first module of the Advanced Beginner band. In this level, learners will review, consolidate, and expand their grammatical knowledge through the reading, translation, and analysis of classical and authentic texts. They will revise syntactical rules and apply them to texts; work with nominal sentences and <i>iḍāfa</i>

	constructs; practice plurals and duals; refine their use of pronouns; and study the superlative and comparative. Learners will apply these skills using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 3102 Arabic Advanced Beginner 2	This is the second module of the Advanced Beginner band. In this level, learners will continue to review, consolidate, and expand their grammatical knowledge through the reading, translation, and analysis of classical and authentic texts. They will revise morphology and apply it to texts; study tenses and moods and the verb forms; work with hollow and doubled verbs; and develop command of the <i>masdar</i> . Learners will apply these skills using vocabulary found in classical/ liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 3103 Arabic Advanced Beginner 3	This course builds students' Arabic reading proficiency by developing strategic reading skills and strengthening awareness of how meaning is constructed in authentic texts. Students focus on the function and translation of particles and verb-particle combinations, supported by guided use of corpus tools to explore real language usage. The course also expands grammatical range through adverbs of time and place, number expressions, and derived noun forms. Through scaffolded and independent reading practice, students apply these skills to unfamiliar texts and prepare for continued study at the advanced level.
ARL 3104 Arabic Advanced Middle 1	This course marks the first module of the Advanced Middle level, focusing on the consolidation and expansion of Arabic grammatical knowledge through close reading, translation, and analysis of classical and authentic texts. Students engage in linguistic analysis of selected Quranic passages and study key grammatical structures. The course also introduces the history of the Quran's compilation and the development of the Quranic script, strengthening students' ability to apply advanced grammatical and analytical skills to new texts and preparing them for further advanced study.
ARL 3105 Arabic Advanced Middle 2	This course strengthens advanced Arabic grammar and reading skills through a thematic study of the modern history of the Middle East. Students review key morphological structures while applying this knowledge to authentic modern Arabic prose. Readings trace major historical developments from the Ottoman period to the

	emergence of modern nation-states, emphasizing stylistic features and contextual interpretation. The course builds confidence in analyzing increasingly complex texts by integrating linguistic precision with historical understanding.
ARL 3106 Arabic Advanced Middle 3	This course introduces students to the development of Arabic fiction from early narrative traditions to modern prose. Through guided reading, translation, and discussion of classical texts, folk literature, and modern novels and short stories, students explore how narrative style, language, and cultural context shape Arabic literary expression. The course builds skills in literary analysis and translation while also guiding students in writing an original short story in Arabic using studied narrative techniques.
ARL 3107 Arabic Advanced High 1	This course introduces students to Arabic rhetoric ( <i>balāgha</i> ) through focused study of Quranic passages, classical <i>tafsīr</i> , and modern religious discourse. Students analyze rhetorical and stylistic features that shape meaning, persuasion, and interpretation, with particular attention to challenges of Quranic translation. Through close reading, translation, and applied writing and speaking tasks, the course builds advanced interpretive skills and culminates in applied writing and speaking tasks that integrate rhetorical analysis with contemporary religious expression.
ARL 3108 Arabic Advanced High 2	This advanced reading course develops students' Arabic proficiency through close study of <i>sīra</i> texts in the original language. Students engage with classical and modern sources on the life of the Prophet ﷺ through translation, lexical research, and historical analysis, strengthening fluency, accuracy, and interpretive skill. The course also examines how <i>sīra</i> narratives are constructed and transmitted, while introducing ethical uses of technology and AI to support—rather than replace—deep engagement with Arabic texts.
ARL 3109 Arabic Advanced High 3	This course develops students' ability to read and analyze Arabic historical and geographical texts through focused regional case studies. Using authentic classical, medieval, and modern sources, students examine how geography, history, and culture are represented in Arabic writing and how these portrayals change over time. Emphasis is placed on close reading, contextual interpretation, and understanding how migration, historical encounters, and cultural exchange have shaped social, religious,

	and cultural diversity in Muslim-majority societies.
ARL 3202 Oral Communication and Expression: Speak with Confidence	This live, online course develops students' fluency and expressive clarity in spoken Arabic through interactive discussions, role-plays, and presentations. Emphasis is placed on pronunciation, persuasive speaking, and adapting to different audiences. Real-time feedback and collaborative practice build confidence, preparing students to communicate effectively in academic and conversational settings.
ARL 3204 Sacred Texts: The Language and History of the Quran and Hadith	This course explores the linguistic and historical features of the Quran and hadith as foundations of Islamic tradition. Students examine the language, structure, and stylistic elements of Quranic and hadith texts, alongside methods of preservation, transmission, and interpretation within Islamic intellectual history. Emphasis is placed on reading original Arabic sources and understanding the grammatical, textual, and historical dimensions of these sacred texts.
ARL 4201 Arabic Dialects: Language, Region, and Identity	This course explores the diversity of Arabic dialects across regions, blending sociolinguistic theory with practical language skills. Students will examine dialectal variation, diglossia, and code-switching while building foundational comprehension in Levantine, Egyptian, North African, and Gulf dialects. Emphasis is placed on cultural context, structural comparison with MSA, and real-world language use.
ARL 4203 Media, Music and Cinema in the Arabic-Speaking World	This course immerses students in Arabic-language media, music, and cinema to enhance language skills and cultural literacy. Through analysis of films, lyrics, journalism, and digital content, students explore artistic expression, identity, and societal trends across the Arabic-speaking world. Emphasis is placed on listening comprehension, vocabulary development, and critical engagement with contemporary cultural forms.
Graduation Requirements	
Required Credits: 25	

# Program Descriptions: Graduate Programs

## Graduate Certificate in Islamic Belief and Practice

Program Description
<p>The Graduate Certificate in Islamic Belief and Practice is designed for students seeking to move beyond foundational study into the advanced disciplines of Islamic thought. This program deepens scholarly understanding and explores how belief is understood, practiced, and lived across time and tradition.</p> <p>Through rigorous study of Sunni theology, comparative <i>fiqh</i>, <i>tafsīr</i> methodology, <i>sīra</i> analysis, and <i>tazkiya</i>, students encounter the great thinkers, debates, and interpretive methods that have shaped the intellectual heritage of Islam. Attention is also given to contemporary applications and questions of religious leadership, connecting classical knowledge to the realities of modern Muslim life.</p> <p>Intended for students advancing in Islamic studies, this certificate cultivates academic excellence and spiritual maturity—preparing graduates to continue higher studies, contribute to scholarship, and serve their communities.</p> <p>Graduates are prepared to bring informed perspectives to their communities, pursue further advanced study, or contribute thoughtfully in faith-based, educational, and professional settings.</p>
Prerequisites
<p>To qualify for admission into the program, students must hold a bachelor's degree and basic Islamic knowledge.</p> <p>Requirements can be met with: a BA in Islamic Studies, an <i>ʿalīma</i> degree, or 12 years in an Islamic school with transcripts that demonstrate Islamic studies background in addition to a bachelor's in another field.</p>
Program Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Advanced Knowledge:</b> Attain advanced understanding of Islamic disciplines through both thematic and text-based study, engaging directly with classical sources and scholarly traditions.</li></ol>

<p>2. <b>Independent and Contextual Analysis:</b> Apply advanced interpretive and comparative methods to assess scholarly debates, analyze historical and modern contexts, and articulate nuanced positions grounded in tradition and reason.</p> <p>3. <b>Leadership:</b> Translate advanced study of belief into reflective practice, articulate principled approaches to contemporary issues, and model leadership rooted in intellectual rigor, ethical responsibility, and spiritual depth.</p>	
Course Name	Description
ISL 5501 Scholars and Methods of <i>Tafsīr</i>	This course introduces students to key exegetical methodologies and figures in the development of Quranic interpretation. Emphasis is placed on classical, thematic, and modern approaches, with attention to epistemological frameworks and hermeneutical tools.
ISL 5201 Comparative <i>Fiqh</i> : The Four Sunni Schools	This course examines the legal reasoning, methodological diversity, and shared principles among the major Islamic legal schools. Students explore points of convergence and divergence across <i>madhāhib</i> , developing a nuanced understanding of juristic plurality and interpretive tradition. The course will engage in comparison activities in order to highlight detailed differences and similarities between the schools. It is not intended as a thorough study on any single <i>madhab</i> , but rather a comparative exercise that prepares students for flexibility, understanding, and clarity regarding questions of <i>fiqh</i> .
ISL 5101 Sunni Theologies	This graduate-level course offers an in-depth examination of the principal Sunni theological traditions, including Ash‘arī, Māturīdī, and Ṭaḥāwī writings. Through critical engagement with primary texts, the course highlights the dynamism and depth of theological discourse with academic rigor and spiritual insight.
ISL 6701 The Study of <i>Sīra</i> : Muslims, Orientalists, and More	This course examines the life of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ through multiple lenses, including classical Muslim narratives, modern historiography, and Orientalist critiques. Students analyze methodological assumptions, source traditions, and the theological significance of the <i>sīra</i> across time.

ISL 6601 <i>Tazkiya and Akhlaq</i>	A study of the inner and outer dimensions of Islamic ethics, with focus on personal purification ( <i>tazkiya</i> ) and character ( <i>akhlaq</i> ). Students engage classical texts and contemporary reflections to develop spiritually grounded approaches to moral cultivation and community life.
ISL 5401 Major Figures	An in-depth study of the thought and legacy of major figures in Islamic intellectual history. Students explore the selected scholars' works, historical context, and lasting contributions to theology, law, ethics, or society. Thinkers may vary by term and field.
ISL 6201 Contemporary <i>Fiqh</i>	This course explores how classical principles of Islamic jurisprudence ( <i>fiqh</i> ) apply to the complex questions of modern life. Designed for advanced adult learners, it bridges traditional scholarship with contemporary realities—examining issues related to finance, technology, medicine, family, and public ethics through the lens of <i>uṣūl al-fiqh</i> and the higher objectives of the law ( <i>maqāṣid al-sharīʿa</i> ). Students will engage with scholarly debates, analyze real-world case studies, and reflect on how Islamic legal thought continues to guide ethical decision-making today. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking, spiritual insight, and the balance between timeless principles and modern contexts.
ISL 6801 Religious Leadership	This course explores the principles, challenges, and responsibilities of religious leadership in modern Muslim communities. Topics include authority and trust, spiritual care, ethical leadership, gender dynamics, and the role of public scholarship in digital and institutional spaces.
Graduation Requirements	
Required credits: 18	

## Master of Theological Studies (MTS) in Islamic Belief and Practice

Program Description
<p>The Master of Theological Studies advances students into the higher disciplines of Islamic thought, cultivating intellectual depth, and spiritual integrity. This program develops mastery across fields of Islamic scholarship, preparing students to navigate the continuum between classical tradition and contemporary inquiry. This program supports the development of religious leadership skills alongside academic writing and research training.</p> <p>Students learn to think critically and contextually, applying Islamic principles to modern questions in ethics, gender, finance, and global society. Guided by scholars and rooted in Islamic epistemology, the program fosters independent reasoning and analytical precision, integrating the pursuit of knowledge with personal and moral growth.</p> <p>The degree culminates in a scholarly personal narrative that reflects the ability to self-reflect and apply theoretical understanding to practical matters.</p> <p>Graduates are equipped for continued academic research, teaching, and informed leadership within faith-based, academic, and community contexts.</p>
Prerequisites
<p>To qualify for admission into the program, students must hold a bachelor's degree, a graduate certificate in Islamic Studies, or equivalent.</p> <p>Requirements can be met with: a BA in Islamic Studies, an <i>'alīma</i> degree, or 12 years in an Islamic school with transcripts that demonstrate Islamic studies background in addition to a bachelor's in another field.</p>
Program Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Islamic Disciplines:</b> Synthesize and critically evaluate major disciplines of Islamic thought by engaging primary sources and scholarly interpretations across time and schools.</li><li>2. <b>Contemporary Challenges:</b> Apply Islamic theological and legal principles to modern ethical, social, and intellectual challenges, formulating informed perspectives that bridge tradition and contemporary life.</li></ol>



3. **Leadership:** Exhibit the capacity for principled religious and academic leadership by communicating Islamic knowledge effectively, building capacity for self-awareness, and advancing thoughtful discourse within communities and institutions.
4. **Research:** Employ graduate-level research methods, academic writing, and critical inquiry to produce original scholarship, culminating in a Scholarly Personal Narrative that integrates classical knowledge, contemporary perspectives, and personal reflection.

Course Name	Description
ISL 5101 Sunni Theologies	This graduate-level course offers an in-depth examination of the principal Sunni theological traditions, including Ash‘arī, Māturīdī, and Ṭaḥāwī writings. Through critical engagement with primary texts, the course highlights the dynamism and depth of theological discourse with academic rigor and spiritual insight.
ISL 5201 Comparative <i>Fiqh</i> : The Four Sunni Schools	This course examines the legal reasoning, methodological diversity, and shared principles among the major Islamic legal schools. Students explore points of convergence and divergence across <i>madhāhib</i> , developing a nuanced understanding of juristic plurality and interpretive tradition. The course will engage in comparison activities in order to highlight detailed differences and similarities between the schools. It is not intended as a thorough study on any single <i>madhab</i> , but rather a comparative exercise that prepares students for flexibility, understanding, and clarity regarding questions of <i>fiqh</i> .
ISL 5401 Major Figures	An in-depth study of the thought and legacy of major figures in Islamic intellectual history. Students explore the selected scholars’ works, historical context, and lasting contributions to theology, law, ethics, or society. Thinkers may vary by term and field.
ISL 5501 Scholars and Methods of <i>Tafsīr</i>	This course introduces students to key exegetical methodologies and figures in the development of Quranic interpretation. Emphasis is placed on classical, thematic, and modern approaches, with attention to epistemological frameworks and hermeneutical tools.

ISL 5901 Introduction to Researching Religion	This course provides foundational training in academic research methods within the study of religion, including textual analysis, historical inquiry, and qualitative approaches. Students learn to formulate research questions, evaluate sources, and navigate ethical considerations in both confessional and academic contexts.
WRI 5001 Academic Writing: Research, Articles and Books	Designed to support graduate-level scholarship, this course develops advanced writing skills for theological research. Students practice critical reading, argumentation, citation methods, and genre-specific writing in preparation for thesis work and academic publication.
ISL 6201 Contemporary <i>Fiqh</i>	This course explores how classical principles of Islamic jurisprudence ( <i>fiqh</i> ) apply to the complex questions of modern life. Designed for advanced adult learners, it bridges traditional scholarship with contemporary realities—examining issues related to finance, technology, medicine, family, and public ethics through the lens of <i>uṣūl al-fiqh</i> and the higher objectives of the law ( <i>maqāṣid al-sharīʿa</i> ). Students will engage with scholarly debates, analyze real-world case studies, and reflect on how Islamic legal thought continues to guide ethical decision-making today. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking, spiritual insight, and the balance between timeless principles and modern contexts.
ISL 6601 <i>Tazkiya</i> and <i>Akhlaq</i>	A study of the inner and outer dimensions of Islamic ethics, with focus on personal purification ( <i>tazkiya</i> ) and character ( <i>akhlāq</i> ). Students engage classical texts and contemporary reflections to develop spiritually grounded approaches to moral cultivation and community life.
ISL 6701 The Study of <i>Sīra</i> : Muslims, Orientalists, and More	This course examines the life of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ through multiple lenses, including classical Muslim narratives, modern historiography, and Orientalist critiques. Students analyze methodological assumptions, source traditions, and the theological significance of the <i>sīra</i> across time.
ISL 6801	This course explores the principles, challenges, and responsibilities of religious leadership in modern Muslim

Religious Leadership	communities. Topics include authority and trust, spiritual care, ethical leadership, gender dynamics, and the role of public scholarship in digital and institutional spaces.
ISL 6901 Scholarly Personal Narrative (SPN)	The capstone of the MTS program, the Scholarly Personal Narrative (SPN) invites students to integrate academic research with personal experience and theological reflection. Through this distinctive writing project, students articulate a deeply informed perspective on a religious or spiritual question that intersects with their lived reality, drawing on classical sources, contemporary scholarship, and personal insight. The SPN demonstrates the student's ability to contribute meaningfully to theological discourse through a voice that is both scholarly and authentic.
Arabic Proficiency (Tested for level)	All MTS students are assessed for Arabic language proficiency to ensure their ability to engage directly with foundational Islamic texts. Placement or exemption is determined through testing, with additional coursework recommended as needed to support advanced theological study. To qualify for graduation, students should have be at or above Advanced Beginner 1.
Quran Recitation (Tested for level)	Students demonstrate proficiency in Quran recitation (fluency and <i>tajwīd</i> ) through a placement assessment administered by qualified instructors. Where needed, students are directed to supplementary study to strengthen their recitational skill as part of their academic and spiritual development.
Electives	
ISL 7101 Beyond the Sunni Canon: Variant Muslim Theologies	This course explores critical issues confronting Islamic theology and practice in the modern world, including secularism, scientism, pluralism, and the experience of doubt. Students examine classical responses alongside contemporary scholarship to assess how Muslim thinkers navigate enduring questions of belief, identity, and authenticity amid evolving cultural and intellectual landscapes.
ISL 7201 Methodology and People of Fiqh: Directed Studies in	This advanced seminar offers a focused exploration of the methodological frameworks that underpin the major Islamic legal schools ( <i>madhāhib</i> ). Through directed readings and guided research, students engage primary texts, examine the

<i>Madhāhib</i>	contributions of foundational jurists, and trace the epistemological assumptions that shaped legal reasoning. Special attention is given to intra- <i>madhab</i> diversity, and the role of context, authority, and tradition in shaping Islamic law.
ISL 7301 Topics in Hadith: <i>Ijāza</i> in <i>Shamā'il</i>	This course provides advanced engagement with al-Shamā'il al-Muḥammadiyya through a traditional <i>ijāza</i> -based reading methodology integrated with modern academic analysis. Students will read the text with <i>isnād</i> awareness, study transmitter biographies, examine commentarial traditions, and reflect on the spiritual formation embedded in the prophetic qualities described. The course concludes with an <i>ijāza</i> for qualified students upon completion of reading and assessment requirements. In future iterations, other hadith collections may be offered under the same course code.
ISL 7401 <i>Da'wa</i> Movements: Instigation, Impact, and Ideology	This course explores the intersection of Islamic theology ( <i>'aqīda</i> ) with religious movements and <i>da'wa</i> efforts across time. Students examine how theological commitments have shaped—and been shaped by—social reform, political resistance, and revivalist currents. Drawing on historical case studies and contemporary expressions, the course investigates the role of creed in constructing communal identity, motivating activism, and engaging competing truth claims in a pluralistic world.
ISL 7501 Topics in <i>Tafsīr</i>	This advanced elective explores rotating thematic, linguistic, and exegetical questions in Quranic studies. Each iteration centers on a different topic—such as concepts of time, gender, cosmology, nature, ethics, law, spiritual psychology, or narrative. This flexible format allows faculty to bring their research specialties while providing students with rigorous Arabic engagement and exposure to <i>tafsīr</i> traditions across centuries and regions.
ISL 7701 Readings in <i>Sīra</i>	A deep, text-rich exploration of classical and modern <i>sīra</i> literature. Students read widely from early Arabic sources (Ibn Ishāq, Ibn Hishām, al-Wāqidī, Ibn Sa'd) as well as modern English scholarship. The course emphasizes reading as historians, theologians, and teachers. Students analyze variant reports, reconstruct historical contexts, and compare and contrast available texts in English for veracity, point of view, accessibility, and other pedagogical and theological concerns.

	This is the broadest reading course in the program and prepares students for future teaching, research, and spiritual leadership.
EDU 7001 Pedagogy and Presence: Teaching as Transformative Practices	This course examines the philosophy and practice of teaching as a spiritual, intellectual, and communal act. Students explore the dynamics of impact, stagnation, and change in public teaching—across formats such as lectures, khuṭbas, homiletics, and digital presentations. Emphasis is placed on curriculum design for adult learners, the cultivation of presence and purpose in instructional settings, and the integration of practical skills for both online and in-person learning environments.
Graduation Requirements	
<p>Required credits: 36</p> <p>Elective credits: 12</p> <p>Arabic Proficiency: To qualify for graduation, students must be at the skill level of Advanced Beginner 1 or higher.</p> <p>Quran Proficiency: To qualify for graduation, students must be able to read the Quran with fluency and accuracy.</p> <p>Scholarly Personal Narrative: Completed a Scholarly Personal Narrative (SPN) that has been defended and accepted in front of the committee.</p>	
Total required credits: 48 (minimum)	

## Doctor of Theology (ThD) in Islamic Belief and Practice

Program Description
<p>The Doctor of Theology (ThD) in Islamic Belief and Practice is a terminal academic degree designed for women scholars engaged in the rigorous study of Islam as both a system of knowledge and a lived spiritual tradition. This program centers Islamic epistemology—the sources, methods, and categories by which knowledge is known, transmitted, and practiced—while foregrounding spirituality as an essential mode of inquiry and presence within the Islamic intellectual heritage.</p> <p>Rooted in Islamic scholarly tradition and critically informed by contemporary academic discourse, this doctoral program invites students to examine the formation, transmission, and transformation of religious knowledge across time and geography. Students engage deeply with questions of ontology, authority, pedagogy, and interpretation within a framework of faith-informed inquiry and ethical scholarship.</p> <p>Students undertake original research that critically examines the construction, transmission, and contestation of Islamic knowledge across historical and contemporary contexts. Research is textually rigorous and socially grounded, engaging real-world challenges—such as digital community formation, educational leadership, and public theology—through a lens of ethical and spiritually informed scholarship.</p> <p>Graduates of the ThD in Islamic Belief and Practice will be equipped to contribute meaningfully to academic scholarship, faith-based education, and public discourse.</p>
Program Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Islamic Disciplines:</b> Synthesize, critically evaluate, and advance scholarship within the major Islamic disciplines demonstrating command of both classical methodologies and contemporary theoretical frameworks.</li><li><b>2. Historical and contemporary contexts and challenges:</b> Evaluate and contextualize the impact of modernity, coloniality, and globalization on Islamic epistemologies, and construct frameworks that situate contemporary Muslim scholarship within the continuity of the tradition.</li><li><b>3. Leadership:</b> Cultivate scholarly and pedagogical practices that mentor future educators and thinkers, shape discourse within academic and faith-based institutions, and contribute to the renewal of leadership models grounded in Islamic</li></ol>

<p>epistemology and transformative presence.</p> <p><b>4. Research:</b> Design and execute independent research that contributes new insight to the study of Islamic thought and practice, engaging critically with texts, traditions, and lived contexts.</p>	
Prerequisites	
<p>MTS in Islamic Studies, MDiv, or MA.</p> <p>Other master's degrees: Some students may qualify for the ThD without a master's in Islamic Studies or equivalent, but will need to work with an academic counselor to fill any gaps in their training</p> <p>Traditional training may be accepted as a prerequisite if it has been extensive.</p>	
Course Name	Description
EDU 7001 Pedagogy and Presence: Teaching as Transformative Practices	This course examines the philosophy and practice of teaching as a spiritual, intellectual, and communal act. Students explore the dynamics of impact, stagnation, and change in public teaching—across formats such as lectures, <i>khutbas</i> , homiletics, and digital presentations. Emphasis is placed on curriculum design for adult learners, the cultivation of presence and purpose in instructional settings, and the integration of practical skills for both online and in-person learning environments.
ISL 7101 Beyond the Sunni Cannon: Variant Muslim Theologies	This course explores critical issues confronting Islamic theology and practice in the modern world, including secularism, scientism, pluralism, and the experience of doubt. Students examine classical responses alongside contemporary scholarship to assess how Muslim thinkers navigate enduring questions of belief, identity, and authenticity amid evolving cultural and intellectual landscapes.
ISL 7201 Methodology and People of <i>Fiqh</i> : Directed Studies in <i>Madhāhib</i>	This advanced seminar offers a focused exploration of the methodological frameworks that underpin the major Islamic legal schools ( <i>madhāhib</i> ). Through directed readings and guided research, students engage primary texts, examine the contributions of foundational jurists, and trace the epistemological assumptions that shaped legal reasoning.

	Special attention is given to intra- <i>madhab</i> diversity, and the role of context, authority, and tradition in shaping Islamic law.
ISL 7401 <i>Da‘wa</i> Movements: Instigation, Impact, and Ideology	This course explores the intersection of Islamic theology ( <i>‘aqīda</i> ) with religious movements and <i>da‘wa</i> efforts across time. Students examine how theological commitments have shaped—and been shaped by—social reform, political resistance, and revivalist currents. Drawing on historical case studies and contemporary expressions, the course investigates the role of creed in constructing communal identity, motivating activism, and engaging competing truth claims in a pluralistic world.
ISL 7601 Comparative Mysticisms: Paths of the Sacred Across Traditions	This course offers a comparative study of mystical traditions across religious and philosophical systems, with special attention to Islamic Sufism. Students examine themes such as Divine love, annihilation of the self, spiritual discipline, and the language of the ineffable. Through cross-cultural analysis, the course explores convergences and distinctions in mystical epistemologies, practices, and aims.
ISL 7602 Language of the Heart: Poetic Theology in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Malay, and Urdu Traditions	This course examines the theological and spiritual dimensions of classical Islamic poetry in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Malay, and Urdu. Through close reading of devotional texts, students explore how poetic language conveys metaphysical insight, spiritual longing, and Divine intimacy. Themes include love, loss, union, and the soul’s journey, with attention to the interplay of aesthetics, theology, and epistemology in Islamic mystical literature.
ISL 7801 Advanced World Religions, Philosophies, and Ways of Life	A comparative study of global religious and philosophical systems, focusing on their metaphysical claims, ethical frameworks, and epistemologies. Students critically engage with major traditions and worldviews, analyzing their points of convergence and divergence with Islamic theology and spirituality.
ISL 7802 Digital Religion: Leadership, Authority,	This course explores the intersection of religion and digital culture, focusing on how Islamic belief, practice, and authority are expressed, negotiated, and transformed in online environments.



and Community in Online Spaces	Topics include virtual religious communities, digital <i>da‘wa</i> , ethical dilemmas, and the reshaping of spiritual experience in the age of social media and algorithmic influence.
ISL 7803 Spiritual Leadership in Community Practice: Teaching, <i>Tarbiya</i> , and Transformation	This course examines the responsibilities, complexities, and ethical demands of spiritual leadership in contemporary Muslim communities. Topics include the cultivation of presence and trust, navigating authority in religious spaces, and preventing spiritual abuse. Students analyze how historical trauma, orientalism, authoritarianism, and Islamophobia shape communal dynamics and leadership expectations. Special attention is given to digital religious leadership, gendered dynamics, and the formation of healthy, spiritually rooted communities in both online and physical spaces.
ISL 7901 Quantitative Research	This course provides training in the design, implementation, and analysis of survey-based research relevant to Muslim communities. Topics include sampling, instrument development, data ethics, and interpreting findings with cultural and theological clarity.
ISL 8201 <i>Fiqh</i> of Minorities	This course examines the development and application of Islamic legal theory in minority contexts. Students explore foundational legal principles such as necessity ( <i>ḍarūra</i> ), custom ( <i>‘urf</i> ), public interest ( <i>maṣlaḥa</i> ), and difference of opinion ( <i>ikhtilāf</i> ), assessing how juristic tools have been employed to address the realities of Muslim communities living outside Muslim-majority societies. Case studies and contemporary debates provide insight into the ethical and epistemological dimensions of legal flexibility, integration, and identity preservation.
ISL 8801 Negotiating Modernity: Muslim Intellectual Responses	This course examines contemporary Muslim intellectual responses to secularism, coloniality, modernity, and postmodernity. Through critical engagement with key thinkers and movements, students explore efforts to negotiate tradition and transformation, authority and autonomy, within diverse cultural and political contexts.

ISL 8802 Women, Knowledge, and the Transmitting of Culture	This course explores the role of women in shaping, preserving, and transmitting Islamic knowledge across generations. Through the study of historiography, theology, and spiritual literature, students examine the lives and legacies of female scholars, mystics, and educators. The course addresses questions of epistemic justice, gendered modes of knowing, and the recovery of female-centered narratives within Islamic thought. Emphasis is placed on both historical recovery and contemporary relevance, offering a critical framework for understanding women's intellectual and spiritual authority in the tradition.
ISL 8901 Advanced Qualitative Research	A focused study of qualitative methods in religious and theological research, including interviews, ethnography, and textual analysis. Students engage with case studies and produce original research, emphasizing reflexivity, interpretive frameworks, and ethical inquiry.
ISL 8902 Literary Review and Scholarly Synthesis	Students develop advanced skills in synthesizing academic literature across disciplines related to Islamic studies. Emphasis is placed on identifying gaps, mapping scholarly debates, and situating one's research within ongoing conversations in theology, law, education, and spirituality.
ISL 8903 Research Design for Religious Studies	This course introduces students to research methodologies in the academic study of religion, with attention to epistemological foundations, ethical frameworks, and the integration of confessional and critical approaches. Students learn to design research projects using a range of methods, including historical analysis, textual study, and fieldwork. The course also addresses practical tools for researching across languages, including the use of dictionaries, translation software, and multilingual archives, equipping students to work with primary sources beyond their native tongue.
ISL 9901 Teaching Practicum	This course provides structured teaching experience in academic or community-based educational settings. Students design and deliver course content, receive feedback on pedagogy and presence, and reflect on teaching as a form of leadership, service, and intellectual contribution. Practicums may be completed in-person or online, with attention to the needs of diverse adult learners.

ISL 9902 Dissertation Proposal	In this preparatory course, students develop a formal dissertation proposal outlining their research questions, methodology, literature review, and proposed contribution to the field. Through guided feedback and peer review, students refine their focus, establish a feasible research plan, and secure approval to begin doctoral research.
ISL 9903 Dissertation	Under faculty supervision, students conduct original research and produce a doctoral dissertation that contributes meaningfully to the study of Islamic epistemology, spirituality, or a related field. The dissertation must demonstrate methodological rigor, engagement with primary and secondary sources, and the capacity to advance scholarly and community-based discourse.
Arabic Proficiency (Tested for level)	All ThD students are assessed for Arabic language proficiency to ensure their ability to engage directly with foundational Islamic texts. Placement or exemption is determined through testing, with additional coursework recommended as needed to support advanced theological study.
Quran Recitation (Tested for level)	Students demonstrate proficiency in Quran recitation (fluency and <i>tajwīd</i> ) through a placement assessment administered by qualified instructors. Where needed, students are directed to supplementary study to strengthen their recitational skill as part of their academic and spiritual development.
Electives	
ISL 5101 Sunni Theologies	An exploration of major Sunni theological schools, The course investigates foundational doctrines, historical developments, and ongoing theological debates within Sunni orthodoxy.
ISL 5201 Comparative Fiqh: The Four Sunni Schools	This course examines the legal reasoning, methodological diversity, and shared principles among the major Islamic legal schools. Students explore points of convergence and divergence across <i>madhāhib</i> , developing a nuanced understanding of juristic plurality and interpretive tradition. The course will engage in comparison activities in order to highlight detailed differences and similarities between the schools. It is not intended as a thorough study on any single <i>madhab</i> , but rather a

	comparative exercise that prepares students for flexibility, understanding, and clarity regarding questions of fiqh.
ISL 5401 Major Figures	An in-depth study of the thought and legacy of major figures in Islamic intellectual history. Students explore the selected scholars' works, historical context, and lasting contributions to theology, law, ethics, or society. Thinkers may vary by term and field.
ISL 5501 Scholars and Methods of <i>Tafsīr</i>	This course introduces students to key exegetical methodologies and figures in the development of Quranic interpretation. Emphasis is placed on classical, thematic, and modern approaches, with attention to epistemological frameworks and hermeneutical tools.
ISL 6201 Contemporary <i>Fiqh</i>	A study of current legal challenges facing Muslim communities, including bioethics, finance, gender, and globalized contexts. Students critically engage modern fatwas, reform movements, and the intersection of Islamic law with contemporary lived realities.
ISL 6601 <i>Tazkiya</i> and <i>Akhlāq</i>	A study of the inner and outer dimensions of Islamic ethics, with focus on personal purification ( <i>tazkiya</i> ) and character ( <i>akhlāq</i> ). Students engage classical texts and contemporary reflections to develop spiritually grounded approaches to moral cultivation and community life.
ISL 6701 The Study of <i>Sīra</i> : Muslims, Orientalists, and More	This course examines the life of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ through multiple lenses, including classical Muslim narratives, modern historiography, and Orientalist critiques. Students analyze methodological assumptions, source traditions, and the theological significance of the <i>sīra</i> across time.
ISL 6801 Religious Leadership	This course explores the principles, challenges, and responsibilities of religious leadership in modern Muslim communities. Topics include authority and trust, spiritual care, ethical leadership, gender dynamics, and the role of public scholarship in digital and institutional spaces.
ISL 7301 Topics in Hadith: <i>Ijāza</i> in	This course provides advanced engagement with al-Shamā'il al-Muḥammadiyya through a traditional <i>ijāza</i> -based reading

<i>Shamā'il</i>	methodology integrated with modern academic analysis. Students will read the text with <i>isnād</i> awareness, study transmitter biographies, examine commentarial traditions, and reflect on the spiritual formation embedded in the prophetic qualities described. The course concludes with an <i>ijāza</i> for qualified students upon completion of reading and assessment requirements. In future iterations, other hadith collections may be offered under the same course code.
ISL 7501 Topics in <i>Tafsīr</i>	This advanced elective explores rotating thematic, linguistic, and exegetical questions in Quranic studies. Each iteration centers on a different topic—such as concepts of time, gender, cosmology, nature, ethics, law, spiritual psychology, or narrative. This flexible format allows faculty to bring their research specialties while providing students with rigorous Arabic engagement and exposure to <i>tafsīr</i> traditions across centuries and regions.
ISL 7701 Readings in <i>Sīra</i>	<p>A deep, text-rich exploration of classical and modern <i>sīra</i> literature. Students read widely from early Arabic sources (Ibn Ishāq, Ibn Hishām, al-Wāqidī, Ibn Saʿd) as well as modern English scholarship. The course emphasizes reading as historians, theologians, and teachers. Students analyze variant reports, reconstruct historical contexts, and compare and contrast available texts in English for veracity, point of view, accessibility, and other pedagogical and theological concerns.</p> <p>This is the broadest reading course in the program and prepares students for future teaching, research, and spiritual leadership.</p>
Graduation Requirements	
<p>Required credits: 64</p> <p>Elective credits: 9</p> <p>Arabic Proficiency: To qualify for graduation, students must be at the skill level of Arabic Advanced High 3 or above.</p> <p>Quran Proficiency: To qualify for graduation, students must be able to read the Quran with fluency and accuracy.</p> <p>Dissertation: Completed dissertation that has been defended and accepted in front of the committee.</p>	
Total required credits: 73 (minimum)	

## Program Descriptions: *Ijāza* Certifications

### Ribāṭ *Tajwīd* 5 *Ajzā* ' Certification:

Program Description	
<p>This certification program offers students the opportunity to memorize and accurately recite the last five <i>ajzā</i> ' (sections) of the Quran from memory with precision and care. This program fosters both technical mastery and spiritual connection to the Quran.</p> <p>In this competency based program, students accelerate at the pace they choose, working one-on-one with a certified <i>tajwīd</i> teacher to complete the memorization of the last 5 <i>ajzā</i> ' of the Quran with full application and knowledge of the <i>tajwīd</i> rules. Students will complete a series of oral tests as they progress with their memorization and will be issued a memorization certificate upon passing the final 5 <i>ajzā</i> ' panel test by the Ribāṭ <i>Tajwīd</i> Committee. The program must be completed within five academic years. It is the first step toward the <i>tajwīd ijāza</i>.</p>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Memorize and Recite:</b> Accurately memorize and recite the last five <i>ajzā</i> ' (<i>Juz</i> ' 26–30) of the Quran from memory with correct pronunciation and <i>tajwīd</i>.</li> <li><b>2. Apply <i>Tajwīd</i> Rules:</b> Demonstrate consistent application of <i>tajwīd</i> rules in the <i>Ḥafṣ</i> 'an 'Āṣim recitation style in both memorization and recitation.</li> <li><b>3. Strengthen Retention:</b> Maintain and strengthen their memorization through regular review and correction with a qualified teacher.</li> </ol>	
<p>This is a competency based program that must be fulfilled within 5 years. While registered, students are eligible to attend the Annual <i>Tajwīd</i> Retreat.</p>	
Required Courses	
Course Name	Description
QUR 0405 <i>Tajwīd</i> 5 <i>Ajzā</i> ' Memorization	In this course, students will work one-on-one with a certified <i>tajwīd</i> teacher to complete the memorization of the last 5 <i>ajza</i> ' of the Holy Quran with full application and knowledge of the <i>tajwīd</i>

	<p>rules. Students will complete a series of oral tests as they progress with their memorization and will be issued a memorization certificate upon passing the final 5 <i>ajza</i> ' panel test by the Ribāṭ <i>Tajwīd</i> Committee. This is a self-paced course in which students will be registered every term while enrolled in the program until completion.</p>
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## Ribāṭ Tajwīd Ijāza Certification

Program Description
<p>The Ribāṭ Quran Ijāza Program offers advanced students the opportunity to earn an official <i>ijāza</i> (certification) in the recitation of the Holy Quran with full application of <i>tajwīd</i>. This esteemed certification is recognized globally and has an uninterrupted <i>sanad</i> (chain of transmission) linked directly to Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ, following the <i>Ḥafṣ ‘an ‘Āṣim</i> recitation. Additionally, the <i>ijāza</i> grants the student authorization to teach and transmit the Quran.</p> <p>In this competency based program, students accelerate at the pace they choose, working one-on-one with a certified <i>tajwīd</i> teacher to complete the memorization or recitation of the Quran with full application and knowledge of the <i>tajwīd</i> rules. Students will complete a series of oral tests as they progress with their memorization and will be issued the <i>ijaza</i> upon a final comprehensive exam and assessment by the Ribāṭ Tajwīd Committee.</p> <p>Students may choose between two <i>ijāza</i> tracks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Reading:</b> The student memorizes the last 5 <i>ajzā’</i> of the Holy Quran and reads (recites aloud) the entire Quran while looking from the <i>muṣḥaf</i>, applying all <i>tajwīd</i> rules accurately. The program must be completed within two academic years.</li><li>• <b>Memorizing:</b> The student embarks on a journey to memorize (<i>ḥifẓ</i>) the entire Quran, recites it from memory with complete application of <i>tajwīd</i> rules, and completes a series of oral assessments. The program must be completed within seven academic years.</li></ul>
Program Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Memorize and Recite:</b> Accurately memorize and recite the last five <i>ajzā’</i> (<i>Juz’ 26–30</i>) of the Quran from memory with correct pronunciation and <i>tajwīd</i>.</li><li>2. <b>Apply Tajwīd Rules:</b> Demonstrate mastery in reciting the entire Quran in the <i>Ḥafṣ ‘an ‘Āṣim</i> recitation style with full and correct application of <i>tajwīd</i> rules.</li><li>3. <b>Articulate Tajwīd Principles:</b> Articulate and explain principles of <i>tajwīd</i>.</li><li>4. <b>Demonstrate understanding</b> of the key concepts of <i>al-Jazariyyah</i>.</li></ol>
Required Courses



Course Name	Description
<p>QUR 0405</p> <p><i>Tajwīd 5 Ajzā</i>’</p> <p>Memorization</p>	<p>In this course, students will work one-on-one with a certified <i>tajwīd</i> teacher to complete the memorization of the last 5 <i>ajzā</i>’ of the Holy Quran with full application and knowledge of the <i>tajwīd</i> rules. Students will complete a series of oral tests as they progress with their memorization and will be issued a memorization certificate upon passing the final 5 <i>ajzā</i>’ panel test by the Ribāṭ Tajwīd Committee. This is a self-paced course in which students will be registered every term while enrolled in the program until completion.</p>
<p>QUR 0406</p> <p><i>Tajwīd Ijāza</i> Retreat</p>	<p>This in-person weekend retreat, held at the Rabata Cultural Center in Minnesota, offers students working toward their <i>tajwīd ijāza</i> a unique opportunity to fulfill the required face-to-face recitation component. Throughout the weekend, students will participate in group reading sessions where they will recite selected portions of the Quran directly to members of the Ribāṭ Tajwīd Committee. Each student will receive detailed written feedback on their recitation, which will also be shared with their individual <i>tajwīd</i> teacher for continued support.</p> <p>In addition to the recitation work, the retreat includes committee-led workshops on topics essential to Quranic studies and the <i>ijāza</i> process, such as the history of the <i>ijāza</i> and <i>sanad</i>, principles of <i>waqf</i> and <i>ibtidā</i>’, and an introduction to <i>al-mutashābihāt</i>. Students will earn credit for the course by demonstrating a level of recitation close to <i>ijāza</i> standards, as evaluated by the <i>Tajwīd</i> Committee during the retreat.</p>
<p>QUR 0500</p> <p><i>Tajwīd Ijāza</i> Track - Reading</p>	<p>In this course, students will work one-on-one with a certified <i>tajwīd</i> teacher to complete the reading of the entire Quran with full application and knowledge of the <i>tajwīd</i> rules. Students will complete a series of oral tests as they progress with their reading and will be issued an <i>ijāza</i> certificate upon passing the final panel test by the Ribāṭ <i>Tajwīd</i> Committee. This is a self-paced course in which students will be registered every term while enrolled in the program until completion.</p>
<p>Or</p> <p>QUR 0501</p> <p><i>Tajwīd Ijāza</i> Track -</p>	<p>In this course, students will work one-on-one with a certified <i>tajwīd</i> teacher to complete memorization of the entire Quran with full application and knowledge of the <i>tajwīd</i> rules. Students will</p>

Memorizing	complete a series of oral tests as they progress with their memorization and will be issued an <i>ijāza</i> certificate upon passing the final panel test by the Ribāṭ Tajwid Committee. This is a self-paced course in which students will be registered every term while enrolled in the program until completion.
<p>QUR 0502</p> <p><i>Al-Jazariyyah: A Poem in Study of the Rules of Tajwīd</i></p>	<p>This course will provide an in-depth study of the historic instructional poem <i>al-Muqaddimah al-Jazariyyah</i> by Ibn al-Jazari of Damascus (8–9th century AH). This foundational text will guide students through a comprehensive introduction to the study of <i>tajwīd</i>, including correct articulation (<i>makharij</i>) and characteristics (<i>ṣifāt</i>) of Arabic letters, rules of elongation (<i>madd</i>), stopping and starting (<i>waqf</i> and <i>ibtida'</i>), and other technical aspects of Quranic recitation. By the end of the course, students will be able to proficiently read, understand, and explain the entire text of the poem. Students working on the memorization <i>ijāza</i> in TAJ 501 will also memorize and recite the poem from memory to their assigned <i>tajwīd</i> teacher.</p>

## ***Ijāza* in the Forty Hadith of Imām Nawawī**

Program Description
<p>This <i>ijāza</i> course guides students through Imām al-Nawawī’s Arbaʿīn—the renowned collection of forty hadith that encapsulate the essence of Islam. Each hadith, brief yet profound, offers timeless lessons on faith, ethics, and spiritual growth.</p> <p>Students will read the Arabic text accurately, study vocabulary and variant readings, and explore the meaning and relevance of each hadith in personal and communal life. The course connects learners to the classical chain of transmission (<i>sanad</i>), linking them to a living tradition of scholarship and devotion.</p> <p>In this competency based program, students accelerate at the pace they choose, working one-on-one with a certified instructor. Students will be assessed in an oral exam that includes reading, vocabulary, explanation and discussion. Students have one year to complete this <i>ijāza</i>.</p>
Program Learning Outcomes
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Reading Accuracy and Fluency:</b> Read the Arabic text of Imām al-Nawawī’s Arbaʿīn fluently and precisely, recognizing key vocabulary, grammatical structures, and variant readings.</li><li>2. <b>Comprehension and Application:</b> Analyze the language and context of each hadith to derive ethical, theological, and spiritual lessons, and apply these teachings meaningfully within personal and communal life.</li><li>3. <b>Hadith Narrators and Transmission:</b> Identify the primary narrators of the hadith, their role within the classical chain of transmission (<i>sanad</i>), and the significance of scholarly continuity in preserving the prophetic tradition.</li></ol>

# Program Descriptions: Ribāṭ Riverstead

## Ribāṭ Riverstead: Islam

Program Description	
<p>Ribāṭ Riverstead offers an open pathway into the essentials of Islamic knowledge. These courses are designed for women who wish to develop or revisit foundational understanding of faith, worship, and practice. With a structured curriculum rooted in traditional scholarship and delivered with joy and positivity, students will explore topics such as <i>fiqh</i>, <i>‘aqīda</i>, <i>sīra</i>, and other fields. Whether beginning their journey in Islamic studies or returning with fresh eyes, Riverstead helps students grow in confidence, clarity, and connection with their Creator ﷻ.</p>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Islamic Disciplines:</b> Demonstrate essential literacy in the Islamic disciplines by explaining core beliefs, practices, and Prophetic examples relevant to Muslim practical and spiritual life.</li> <li><b>2. Sacred Texts:</b> Interpret and apply primary Islamic texts to contemporary life with integrity and insight, drawing ethical, spiritual, and practical guidance from the Quran and sunnah.</li> <li><b>3. Spiritual Growth and Ethical Formation:</b> Cultivate inner transformation through tazkiya and tarbiya, embodying Prophetic character and ethical reasoning as foundations for decision-making, leadership, and purposeful living.</li> <li><b>4. Historical and Global Contexts:</b> Assess major intellectual, educational, and civilizational developments in Islamic history and scholarship including women’s contributions and regional multiplicity.</li> </ol>	
Course Name	Description
COM 0101 Public Speaking and Community Outreach	<p>This course will provide students with the skills and knowledge to become confident, adept public speakers and active, positive members of their Muslim communities. Practical activities throughout the duration of the course will help students become comfortable speaking publicly in any situation, whether it be in public addresses, intimate gatherings, or chats in the street. Students will also have opportunities to become active members of their Muslim and mainstream communities via outreach activities that facilitate positive, joyful interactions.</p>

COM 0102 Writing Your Story: Creative Writing	This course features weekly readings and writing exercises that each focus on an individual aspect of writing, along with semester-long work on a creative project. Lessons on submitting your work, choosing a publication route and effective marketing ideas round out the syllabus. By the end of this course, students will have sharper writing skills and a firmer idea of what to do after the writing is done.
EDU 0101 Teaching Skills and Methodology	This introductory level course provides aspiring, novice, and veteran teachers opportunities to learn and practice effective teaching strategies for students enrolled in Islamic Studies programs. During this course, we will examine components of skillful teaching, including deep learning, lesson planning, classroom management, nurturing the Prophetic model of emotional and moral intelligence, assessment, professionalism, and upbringing within an Islamic framework.
HFS 1003 <i>Mujaddidīn</i> : Crises and Cures of Muslim History	This course provides a survey of the crises and trials that have challenged Islamic civilization over the centuries, along with an account of the Muslim “renewers” of the faith ( <i>mujaddidīn</i> ). As the Prophet ﷺ said, "Allah ﷻ will raise for this community at the end of every hundred years one who will renew its religion for it." Throughout this course, students will study the lives of those whom Allah ﷻ sent as a cure for the crises and trials faced by the <i>ummah</i> , and how they were able to overturn the current situation, renew the religion, and restore peace and faith to the Muslim <i>ummah</i> . Students will learn about the factors that contributed to each trial, how each <i>mujaddid</i> was able to overcome the trials of the time, and gain an understanding of the characteristics that enabled each to succeed.
HFS 1004 Shaykha Nana Asma'u: Her World, Writings, and Legacy	This course is an introduction to the world into which Shaykha Nana Asma'u was born followed by a study of her life. Over 60 works of Shaykha Nana have been preserved. We will examine the genres she wrote in and read excerpts to see how she used poetry in her mission. As we read these writings we will attempt to understand the story behind the pieces and how it was used in the educational system she developed. We will wrap up the course with a look at the legacy Shaykha Nana Asma'u has left the world.
HFS 1005 <i>Al-Khulafā'</i> <i>al-Rāshidūn</i> : The Rightly Guided Caliphs	This course explores the lives and legacies of the four Rightly Guided Caliphs—Abu Bakr, 'Umar, 'Uthmān, and 'Alī ( <i>raḍīya Allāhu 'anhum</i> )—as models of leadership, faith, and resilience in the face of historical and moral challenges. Through a study of key events, decisions, and societal transformations during their eras, students examine how each khalifa embodied prophetic guidance while navigating times of political transition,

	social unrest, and emerging diversity within the Muslim community. Emphasis is placed on extracting lessons in governance, justice, and spiritual steadfastness that remain relevant to contemporary leadership and community life.
HFS 1006 Trials and Triumphs: A Look at Black Religion and Spirituality	This course will take an in-depth look at Black American spirituality. Participants will examine Black spirituality, the Islamic spiritual tradition in Black Africa, the experiences of enslaved Black Americans, and the evolution of Black American Muslim movements. They will consider the contributions Black American Muslims have made to the greater Muslim community, while extrapolating lessons from the challenges and successes of Black Muslims.
HFS 2004 The Masjid: Past and Present	This course explores the important position of the mosque/masjid in the history of Islam. We will examine the mosque as a concept and an institution, learn the history of major mosques, and consider mosque architecture. We will also examine the function of the mosque historically and the contemporary challenges the mosque is facing with an emphasis on the mosque in the countries where Muslims are a minority.
ISL 0102 The Soul's Journey After Death	A focused study of the soul's path from life to the Hereafter, based on Ibn al-Qayyim's <i>The Soul's Journey After Death</i> and grounded in Quran and hadith. We will look at the souls of the living and the deceased, their possible relationship, and the moments surrounding death, the grave, and the Barzakh. The course addresses common questions and controversies with guidance from the early scholars. Students will leave with clear, practical insight into what the living should do for their own souls and how to honor the souls of others.
ISL 0301 Conversations with the Prophet ﷺ	This course will explore selected hadith and conversations of the Prophet ﷺ, as reported by his companions ( <i>raḍīya Allāhu ‘anhum</i> ). Through the study of these hadith, students will learn Prophetic etiquette in communicating with others and learn lessons to apply in daily life. They will also learn how the Prophet ﷺ used kind and gentle words to guide others, communicate effectively, and build positive relationships.
ISL 0302 Designed in Excellence: Hadith on the Character of	This course walks students through an introduction to the exemplary characteristics and noble conduct of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as meticulously documented in early hadith books, the course will focus on a thematic exploration of selected topics in <i>Shamī'il al-Tirmidhi</i> . Through the course, students will gain an appreciation for the Prophet's ﷺ physical attributes and standards of moral excellence, fostering a deeper

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	connection to his way of life. Emphasis will be placed on understanding key concepts through English explanations, while gradually introducing new and frequently repeated Arabic vocabulary words in each session to build foundational linguistic skills relevant to hadith studies. This course aims to instill a love for the Prophet ﷺ and an understanding of his exemplary life which serves as a timeless guide for humanity.
ISL 0303 <i>Ijāza</i> in the Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī	<p>This <i>ijāza</i> course guides students through Imām al-Nawawī's Arbaʿīn—the renowned collection of forty hadith that encapsulate the essence of Islam. Each hadith, brief yet profound, offers timeless lessons on faith, ethics, and spiritual growth.</p> <p>Students will read the Arabic text accurately, study vocabulary and variant readings, and explore the meaning and relevance of each hadith in personal and communal life. The course connects learners to the classical chain of transmission (sanad), linking them to a living tradition of scholarship and devotion.</p> <p>Students will have the opportunity to sit for an oral assessment and receive an <i>ijāza</i> in this hadith compilation in the oral tradition.</p>
ISL 0304 The Prophet ﷺ Speaks: Selected Hadith	This is an introductory course that takes the learner into the profundity of the Prophetic teachings, helping us position ourselves as humble listeners. The focus will be on how to learn from the hadith in a holistic manner and how to appreciate the great guidance they offer.
ISL 0305 <i>Shama'il</i> : The Qualities of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ	This course covers the 400+ hadith in the book <i>al-Shama'il al-Muhamadiya</i> as collected by the 9th century scholar al-Tirmidhi. Each hadith will be read, discussed, and explained. Students will receive an <i>ijāza</i> in the <i>Shama'il</i> at the successful completion of the course. All hadith will be read in Arabic by each student, and the explanation will be in English. Advanced Arabic is necessary.
ISL 0306 The Forty Hadith of Palestine	The Forty Hadith of Palestine is a collection of hadith about Palestine, Sham, the people, events in the past, and future events that will occur in the area. In this class, students will become familiar with the Arabic of the hadith and be able to read them correctly, and they will gain an appreciation and understanding of the Islamic worldview toward Palestine. We will cover topics like the Day of Judgment, the <i>Dajjal</i> , <i>Isra' wa-l-Mi'rāj</i> , story in hadith, place blessings, and more. Students will be able to deepen their <i>dua</i> and soothe their hearts regarding the people and land of Palestine. By the end of this short course, students will have an appreciation for the importance of

	<p>this land in the Islamic tradition. Qualifying students will also have the opportunity to receive an <i>ijāza</i> in this hadith compilation.</p>
<p>ISL 0311–0314 Riyāḍ al-Ṣaliḥīn   Part 1–4</p>	<p>This course studies the narrators, meanings, and practical applications of the hadith found in the famous collection of hadith by Imām al-Nawawī. Throughout this four-part course, we will study the four-volume commentary (one book per course) of Riyāḍ al-Ṣaliḥīn entitled; “Fawh al-Rayahīn” by one of the foremost hadith scholars of the twenty-first century, Shaykha Samar al-'Asha. This four-volume work includes commentary and lessons derived from each hadith. Students will read the book in Arabic and discuss the content in class in English.</p>
<p>ISL 0401 Superwomen: Powers, Kryptonite, and <i>Karamāt</i></p>	<p>This course will explore what it means to be a superwoman. Students will be led through a study of women in the Quran, women companions, women around the prophets, and women in history. Students will learn what made them unique and powerful each in her own way, and how to apply the same in their own lives. Through this study students will be able to identify their own superpowers and kryptonite and learn how to discover their own <i>karamāt</i>.</p>
<p>ISL 0402 Superwomen One and All: Finding My Powers, Avoiding My Kryptonite, Reaching for <i>Karamāt</i></p>	<p>Based on the historical information learned in “Superwomen: Powers, Kryptonite, and <i>Karamāt</i>” (ISL 0401) about superwomen in history, this course explores how each one of us can discover and nurture our own superpowers and identify and avoid our kryptonite. Learners will be exposed in this course to superwomen of the past and present. We will also discuss <i>karamāt</i> and the path to becoming of the people of <i>karamāt</i>.</p>
<p>ISL 0501 <i>Tadabbur</i>: Building a Personal Relationship with the Quran</p>	<p>This course takes students on an epistemological journey with the Quran. Its focus is on awakening the heart in an effort to understand the Quran on a deeper, more personal level. The course will train students on the most effective methods of engaging with the Quran in order to attain the transformation that our Mother ‘Aisha, <i>raḍiya Allāhu ‘anha</i>, stated firmly: “Verily, the character of the Prophet of Allah ﷺ was the Quran.” Upon the completion of the course, the students will be able to apply the skills they learned in contemplating the Quran to reevaluate their perceptions and perspectives of Allah’s ﷻ creations (family, friends, co-workers, and members of the community and society at large) and the role they play in maintaining the sanctity of each relationship.</p>



ISL 0601 <i>Falah</i> : Seven Fundamentals of Personal and Spiritual Excellence	This course helps to transition your Islamic learning into practical terms. Discover the barriers to a fulfilling spiritual (and material!) life. The concept of <i>Falah</i> as a course was created and developed by Anse Sawsan Imady. This course includes new material and has been expanded and developed by Anse Tamara Gray. It is a life changing course. Snap in your seatbelt and get ready to speed along the straight path in company with others seeking <i>Falah</i> !
ISL 0602 The Return of <i>Falah</i> : Cancel Chaos, Break away from Burnout, and Let the Force of <i>Falah</i> be with you!	This Star Wars themed 14-week course invites women to step into their everyday force—that inner blend of skill, spirit, service, and sacred beauty that holds families, communities, and selves together. Drawing on the concepts of <i>Falah</i> and the Superwomen series, this class will help students walk in balance, reflect on prophetic wisdom in modern times, and build courage and strength for the daily trials of life.
ISL 0604 The Spiritual Journey with Ibn Ata'	This course is a continuation of the journey of <i>tazkiya</i> , which is the purification of the heart/self. The course consists of a series of the wisdoms of Ibn 'Aṭā' Allāh, that will be explained, discussed, and reflected upon. Students will have insights to the wisdom of this scholar, which will advance their understanding and practice of a state that results in Allah's ﷻ satisfaction.
ISL 0605 The Spiritual Journey with Al-Ghazālī	<p>Building upon the foundational concepts introduced in Training the Tongue, Purifying the Heart and expanded through The Spiritual Journey with Ibn 'Aṭā' Allāh, this course deepens the student's engagement with the path of <i>tazkiya</i> (purification of the self) through the timeless wisdom of Imām al-Ghazālī. Students will examine selected writings that illuminate the inner dimensions of worship, sincerity, and moral refinement.</p> <p>Through guided readings, reflection, and discussion, participants will explore al-Ghazālī's approach to balancing outward practice with inward transformation. Emphasis will be placed on developing spiritual awareness, diagnosing subtle ailments of the heart, and cultivating virtues that draw one nearer to Allah ﷻ. The course aims to prepare students to integrate al-Ghazālī's insights into personal spiritual growth and informed guidance of others on the inner path.</p>
ISL 0606 <i>Tazkiya</i> : Islamic Principles of the	Spiritual development and upbringing are the core purposes of religious practice and the bequeathed duties of prophets. Students will be preparing

Betterment of the Self	<p>themselves to be community leaders and upbringers; applicable to work in chaplaincy, teaching, motherhood, and the traditional work of a shaykha. In this first of a two-part course, we will explore the meaning of the Arabic word “<i>tarbiya</i>,” working to understand it both as applied to the self and the other. We will examine stages of development as well as methods and tools of growth and upbringing. Islam as a stage of development will be thoroughly studied. The heart, its states, diseases, health, and its role in spiritual and personal development will begin the study of <i>imān</i>.</p>
ISL 1101 Foundations, Flounderings, and Faith	<p>This course provides an accessible introduction to the Islamic worldview and core beliefs, exploring how faith shapes one’s understanding of truth, morality, and human purpose. Students study foundational theological principles alongside key social and legal questions facing Muslims today. Through guided discussion and reflection, the course addresses controversial and contemporary issues—such as gender, authority, ethics, and pluralism—within the framework of Islamic thought. Emphasizing intellectual honesty and spiritual grounding, students learn how to navigate doubts, reconcile faith with modern challenges, and engage confidently in conversations about Islam in diverse social settings. The course nurtures clarity, resilience, and conviction in belief while fostering compassion and integrity in dialogue.</p>
ISL 1103 The Prophets: Lives and Lessons   Part 1	<p>This course is designed to create an experience like no other by enhancing students' relationships with each of the prophets of Islam. From Adam (alayhi al-salām) to Muhammad ﷺ, the message of <i>tawhīd</i> was brought to generations of believers by specially blessed individuals. In this course, students will become familiar with each of them and their unique challenges. In-depth lessons and thought-provoking exercises will bring the legacy and history of Islam to life.</p> <p>Part 1 of this two-part course covers from Prophet Adam to Prophet Ayyub, and Part 2 covers from Prophet Shu’aib to Prophet ‘Isa.</p>
ISL 1104 The Prophets: Lives and Lessons   Part 2	<p>This course is designed to create an experience like no other by enhancing students' relationships with each of the prophets of Islam. From Adam, alayhi al-salām, to Muhammad ﷺ, the message of <i>tawhīd</i> was brought to generations of believers by specially blessed individuals. In this course, students will become familiar with each of them and their unique challenges. In-depth lessons and thought-provoking exercises will bring the legacy and history of Islam to life.</p>

	Part 1 of this two-part course covers from Prophet Adam to Prophet Ayyub, and Part 2 covers from Prophet Shu'aib to Prophet 'Isa.
ISL 1105 Introduction to Islamic 'Aqīda   Part 1	This course provides a foundational study of Islamic 'aqīda (creed), guiding students toward a deeper understanding of faith at both the intellectual and spiritual levels. Over the semester, students will examine core tenets of belief, including the oneness of God (tawhīd) and divine decree (qaḍā' and qadar). By integrating academic study with reflection and dialogue, students develop the ability to articulate their beliefs with clarity, confidence, and sincerity—strengthening their own connection to faith and their capacity to convey its beauty to others.
ISL 1106 Introduction to Islamic 'Aqīda   Part 2	This course provides a foundational study of Islamic 'aqīda (creed), guiding students toward a deeper understanding of faith at both the intellectual and spiritual levels. Over the semester, students will examine core tenets of belief, including prophethood, revelation, the unseen world, death, resurrection, and the Day of Judgment. By integrating academic study with reflection and dialogue, students develop the ability to articulate their beliefs with clarity, confidence, and sincerity—strengthening their own connection to faith and their capacity to convey its beauty to others.
ISL 1201 Fast and Friendly Fiqh: An Introduction to Worship Essentials	This course introduces students to the core acts of worship in Islam—ṭahāra (purification), salah (prayer), and ṣawm (fasting)—with a focus on both understanding and application. Students explore the rulings, wisdoms, and spiritual dimensions of these pillars through straightforward readings and class discussion. Emphasis is placed on practical guidance for everyday life, including how to maintain purification, perform prayer in public or workplace settings, and navigate common challenges in modern contexts. The course also develops students' ability to teach and coach others in these essential practices with clarity, confidence, and compassion—fostering both personal discipline and community leadership grounded in the Prophetic example.
ISL 1501 Quran Inspirations	This course will take students on a journey with the Quran to gain deeper understandings of its words and derive lessons from Allah's ﷻ words. Students will be guided through an in-depth study of verses from the Holy Quran and reflect upon the lessons that can be learned as they sit with one of our modern scholars of the Holy Quran.

ISL 1502 Reflections from the Quran	This course guides students through an in-depth <i>tafsir</i> experience, exploring a selected sura or group of suras from the Holy Quran each term. Under the guidance of an instructor deeply rooted in traditional scholarship, students will discover the layered meanings of the verses while connecting them to modern-day realities. The course bridges the legacy of women's Quranic scholarship with contemporary reflection, allowing participants to extract profound life lessons and strengthen their relationship with Allah ﷻ and His words.
ISL 1601 Training the Tongue, Purifying the Heart	An introduction to the concept of <i>tazkiya</i> (purification of the self/heart in Islam), this course will provide an introductory look at diseases of the heart and sins of the tongue, as well as the relationship between the two. Students will learn some general cures and understand some of the skills necessary to begin the path of <i>tazkiya</i> .
ISL 1701 Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	<p>The first of a two-part course providing an in-depth study of the sixty companions discussed in the book <i>Stars in the Prophet's Orbit</i>. Students will learn the stories of these companions, draw conclusions about Islamic precepts from their lives, understand their relationship to the Prophet ﷺ, and derive personal lessons from their lives. Students will apply and extend what they have learned in class by writing an analysis paper about one of the companions studied.</p> <p>The first thirty companions of this text are covered in Part 1 of the course, and the second thirty are covered in Part 2. It is not required to complete Part 1 before Part 2.</p>
ISL 1702 Companions of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	<p>An in-depth study of the sixty companions discussed in the book <i>Stars in the Prophet's Orbit</i>, this is a continuation of <i>Companions of the Prophet ﷺ</i> Part 1. Students will learn the stories of these companions, draw conclusions about Islamic precepts, understand their relationship to the Prophet ﷺ, and derive personal lessons from their lives. Students will apply these skills to an additional companion upon whom research will be done.</p> <p>The first thirty companions of this text are covered in Part 1 of the course, and the second thirty are covered in Part 2. It is not required to complete Part 1 before Part 2.</p>
ISL 1703 Lessons from the Life of the	A survey of the life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, beginning with an understanding of the political and social layout of the Arabian Peninsula at the time of his birth and concluding with a deeper understanding of why he

Prophet ﷺ   Part 1	was indeed "the chosen one". Throughout Part 1, students examine the major events and incidents that took place up until the hijra of the Prophet ﷺ to Medina, extrapolating the wisdom and lessons one can gain from them. Weekly assignments focus on the lessons learned, enabling students to draw parallels to modern day struggles in their own lives and make lasting changes, following in the footsteps of the Prophet ﷺ.
ISL 1704 Lessons from the Life of the Prophet ﷺ   Part 2	This course covers lessons we can gather for our lives from the beautiful life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. The focus is to examine events and circumstances and consider deeply how the Prophet ﷺ responded. In Part 2, students will examine the major events and incidents that took place after the hijra to Medina, extrapolating the wisdom and lessons one can gain from them. Assignments focus on the lessons learned, enabling students to draw parallels to modern-day struggles in their own lives and make lasting changes, following in the footsteps of the Prophet ﷺ.
ISL 2103 The 99 Names of Allah ﷻ	The most important relationship we have is with God, and one of our main purposes in life is to know Allah ﷻ and worship Him. And in order to cultivate that relationship, Allah ﷻ tells us who He is. He reveals at least 99 names in order for us to know Him, love Him and to love worshiping Him. The aim of this course is to introduce the student to an in-depth study of some of the names of Allah ﷻ. This particular course will focus on the names that Allah ﷻ reveals in the Quran in Sūrat al-Fātiḥa, Sūrat al-Ḥashr, and Sūrat al-Ikhlāṣ. We will examine their meaning, the context in which they appear, and their manifestations through stories of the Quran and the <i>sīra</i> of the Prophet ﷺ, as well as in our own lives.
ISL 2201 <i>Fiqh al- 'Ibādāt - al-Madh-hab al-Shāfi'ī</i>   Part 1	An introduction to the foundation of Islamic law as the basis for a life of devotion and servitude to God. Students will learn about the reasons Islamic schools of law evolved and the nature and rationale of the legal schools. Students will learn the detailed rulings relating to purification ( <i>ṭahāra</i> ) and prayer ( <i>ṣalāh</i> ), including its pillars, conditions of correctness, nullifiers, how to perform congregational prayers, and other prayers.
ISL 2202 <i>Fiqh al- 'Ibādāt: al-Madh-hab al-Shāfi'ī</i>   Part 2	An introduction to the foundation of Islamic law as the basis for a life of devotion and servitude to God, students will learn the detailed rulings related to fasting ( <i>ṣawm</i> ), charity ( <i>zakaṭ</i> ), major pilgrimage ( <i>Hajj</i> ), and minor pilgrimage ( <i>ʿumra</i> ). Students will delve into the intricate details of each pillar, gaining a deep understanding of their significance, conditions, and practical applications. The course will cover topics such as the spiritual benefits of

	fasting, the categories of wealth subject to zakat, and the rituals and etiquettes of Hajj and 'umra.
ISL 2301 The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 1	<p>An in-depth study of the forty-hadith compilation of Imām al-Nawawī, this course is designed to provide students with a foundation in the hadith of the Prophet ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ was given <i>jawāmi' al-kalim</i> (جوامع الكلم), or the ability to say much in very few words. The hadith of the Prophet ﷺ combine eloquence with deep, encompassing meanings in a uniquely simple way. This particular compilation was chosen because it includes <i>ṣaḥīḥ</i> hadith and covers a variety of subjects.</p> <p>By the end of this course, students will be able to translate, understand, and draw practical life lessons from the text of the forty hadith in this compilation. The first twenty hadith are covered in Part 1 and the second twenty hadith are covered in Part 2.</p>
ISL 2302 The Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī   Part 2	<p>An in-depth study of the forty-hadith compilation of Imām al-Nawawī, this course is meant to provide students with a foundation in the hadith of the Prophet ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ was given <i>jawāmi' al-kalim</i> (جوامع الكلم), or the ability to say much in very few words. The hadith of the Prophet ﷺ combine eloquence with deep, encompassing meanings in a uniquely simple way. This particular compilation was chosen because it includes <i>ṣaḥīḥ</i> hadith and covers a variety of subjects.</p> <p>By the end of this course, students will be able to translate, understand, and draw practical life lessons from the text of the forty hadith in this compilation. The first 20 hadith are covered in Part 1 and the second 20 hadith are covered in Part 2.</p>
ISL 2303 Hadith Literature: History, Methodology, and Reading	<p>This course introduces students to the foundational principles of <i>uṣūl al-ḥadīth</i>—the science developed to preserve, verify, and interpret the sayings and actions of the Prophet ﷺ. Rooted in the Divine promise of preservation, this discipline reflects the Muslim community's devotion to safeguarding both the Quran and the Sunna as inseparable sources of guidance. Students will explore how early Muslim scholars memorized, recorded, and transmitted prophetic reports, and how later generations refined methods to distinguish authentic narrations from fabrications. Through study of key terminology, historical development, and critical methodologies, students will gain a deep appreciation for the precision, ethics, and intellectual rigor that define the hadith sciences.</p>

<p>ISL 2401 Lessons from the <i>Tabi'īn</i>: Those who Carried the Legacy of the Prophet ﷺ</p>	<p>An introduction to some of the historical figures who carried the legacy after the Prophet ﷺ and his companions. These men and women came in the generation after the companions, knew them personally, and were raised by them. This course will introduce some of these inspiring personalities and glean the lessons learned from their lives.</p>
<p>ISL 2402 Major Muslim Scholars: Women</p>	<p>This course examines Muslim women scholars in both historic and modern times. It explores the lives, accomplishments, studies, worship practices, and cultural impact of Muslim women scholars, leaders, and <i>shaykhāt</i> from different eras and continents. Students will be guided through a study of what it meant and what it means to be a Muslim scholar and leader and how these women shaped lives, minds, and society. It employs the use of biography, content analysis, and prosopography to further knowledge of the topic and encourage knowledge production.</p>
<p>ISL 2403 Muslim Men Scholars</p>	<p>The history of Islam is rich with the impactful lives of scholars who played a prominent role in preserving the religion, documenting it, and excelling in its categorization, so that it has reached us, the later generations, in this magnificent form. The companions (<i>raḍīya Allāhu ‘anhum</i>) were the first teachers after the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, conveying what they heard and witnessed from the Prophet ﷺ and establishing what they transmitted as the foundational proofs of Islamic teachings alongside the Quran (the primary source of Islam). Through their efforts, they became role models for the generations that followed, including the <i>tabi'īn</i> (followers) and those who came after them, continuing through to later eras.</p> <p>This course is a comprehensive study of more than forty prominent male scholars of Islam who played a significant role in preserving the faith and establishing various Islamic studies, including hadith, jurisprudence, principles of jurisprudence, language, <i>tajwīd</i>, <i>tafsīr</i>, and <i>sīra</i>, spanning a period from the time of the companions to the eleventh century AH.</p> <p>Students will learn about their biographies, their fields of expertise, and their most famous scholarly contributions.</p> <p>They will apply what they have learned by conducting a study on a specific scholar they choose.</p>

ISL 2501 <i>Tafsīr</i> Juz' 'Amma	This course offers an accessible exploration of Juz' 'Amma, guiding students through its short yet profound suras that illuminate the themes of faith, morality, and the afterlife. Students study selected verses with attention to language, context, and spiritual insight, developing a foundational understanding of Quranic meaning and method. Alongside textual study, the course introduces practical training for those who teach or share Quranic knowledge—emphasizing audience awareness, developmental appropriateness, and compassionate pedagogy. Students learn how to convey the Quran's messages of mercy, justice, and accountability with wisdom and sensitivity, ensuring that lessons uplift and nurture rather than overwhelm. By the end of the course, students will be able to explain key themes of Juz' 'Amma, connect them to daily life, and model a Prophetic approach to teaching that balances truth with gentleness.
ISL 2503 <i>ʿUlūm al-Quran</i> : The Sciences of the Quran	An introduction to the sciences related to the Quran and its understanding. Students will learn about different definitions of the Quran and modes of revelation, the history of the written and oral text and its transmission, variant readings of the Quran ( <i>qira'at</i> ) and its miraculous nature ( <i>'i'jāz</i> ). The second half of the course will introduce the students to different aspects of knowledge that is related to the understanding of the Quranic text: the concept of abrogation ( <i>naskh</i> ), distinct and ambiguous verses ( <i>muḥkam</i> and <i>mutashābihāt</i> ), occasion of revelation ( <i>asbāb al-nuzūl</i> ), chronology of revelation, beginnings of suras. Excerpts and discussions stemming from contemporary scholarship on the Quran will be addressed as these are important to understand and deal with most of the controversies revolving around the Quran.
ISL 2504 Introduction to <i>Tafsīr</i> and Teaching the Quran	This course invites students into a journey with the Quran, exploring its meanings while developing the skills needed to teach <i>tafsīr</i> effectively. Through the study of selected suras, students will learn to explain verses using reliable classical and modern resources, reflect on thematic lessons, and design ways to communicate those lessons to diverse audiences. Emphasis is placed on understanding the linguistic, historical, and spiritual dimensions of revelation and translating that understanding into engaging, age-appropriate lessons. By combining study, reflection, and pedagogy, students will strengthen both their relationship with the Qur'an and their ability to share its light with others.
SOC 0101	This course engages students in a study of the systemic roots of many social ills in the United States. It will pose questions we should ask ourselves as



A Look at Poverty, Justice, and Race in America	women who love this faith. Do we understand the issues that impact many Black Americans and do we seek to take these issues to our Lord in prayer? What role do we personally play in society, and what can we do to make a change in our spheres of influence as well as our spheres of concern?
SOC 0102 Leadership and Cultural Change	<p>How would your life have changed had you experienced mentorship that was rooted in the bedrock of Prophetic virtues, values, and vigor? What would our communities look like if our imam was ‘Umar (<i>raḍīya Allāhu ‘anhu</i>) and our resident scholar was Aisha (<i>raḍīya Allāhu ‘anha</i>)? What would work look like if the boss was soaked in prophetic guidance? What would the world look like if we knew how to embrace the legacy of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as the foundation of our leadership?</p> <p>This seminar will open this door of mentorship and change us all into the leaders we wish we had. Here, you will find theoretical, ethical, and practical foundations of leadership based soundly on the prophetic example. Students will be able to immediately apply the learned behavioral models, tools, and benchmarks to their personal, professional, and community lives. Here you will find essential skills found in the life of the Beloved ﷺ and seen in more modern case studies. Students will be able to immediately apply the learned behavioral models, tools, and benchmarks to their personal, professional, and public lives and create more wholesome families, communities, and a larger Muslim society. Let's bring back the sunna of leadership, one leader at a time.</p>
SOC 0103 Exploring the Global Muslim World	This course is designed to examine the natural resources, physical and cultural characteristics, and historical development of Islam in a broad range of global regions. The major course themes will include population, percentages of Muslims, impact of Christian missionaries and colonialism, gender issues, food, natural resources, and borders. A major goal of this course is to familiarize students with global issues that affect Muslim peoples. This course will not cover political movements, political parties, or political figures. It will cover concepts of human geography and physical geography as well as the cultural makeup of the various regions where Muslims reside.

## Ribāṭ Riverstead: Quran

Program Description	
<p>Ribāṭ Riverstead: Quran Fluency and <i>Tajwīd</i></p> <p>For women seeking to read the Quran with fluency, beauty, and understanding, Ribāṭ Riverstead offers step-by-step support through every stage of the journey—from recognizing Arabic letters to reciting with <i>tajwīd</i>. These courses focus on correct pronunciation, rhythm, and flow, while nurturing spiritual presence and love for the Quran. Taught by qualified female instructors, classes are paced with compassion and designed for real life—inviting students to approach the Book of Allah ﷻ with peace, reverence, and joy.</p>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Quran Recitation:</b> Demonstrate reading fluency and consistent application of <i>tajwīd</i> rules.</li> <li><b>2. Quran Memorization:</b> Accurately memorize and recite selected portions of the Quran from memory with correct pronunciation and <i>tajwīd</i>.</li> <li><b>3. Spiritual Connection:</b> Develop a deeper personal and spiritual connection with the Quran through reflection, disciplined practice, and engagement with the teacher-student transmission model.</li> </ol>	
Course Name	Description
<p>QUR 0101</p> <p>Quran Fluency  </p> <p>Part 1</p>	<p>This is a practical course providing students the opportunity to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Practice reading the Holy Quran</li> <li>2. Master the skill of decoding Quranic text</li> <li>3. Learn the types of Arabic sounds and how to pronounce them correctly</li> <li>4. Be introduced to the science of <i>tajwīd</i></li> </ol> <p>These skills will be put into practice in class with the instructor, and students will gain strategies to practice at home. By the end of this course, students should be able to recognize all of the Arabic letters and vowel sounds, to connect words, and to stop on them, all while improving their general reading speed and fluency. Students will meet 3 times a week, 75% of which will be reading practice from the primer or from short suras (chapters) of the</p>

	Quran. The other 25% will be learning new concepts.
QUR 0102 Quran Fluency   Part 2	This is a practical course for students to continue working on fluency. Students will be matched with a teacher one-on-one, meeting 3 times a week to continue reading from Juz' 30 to achieve fluency in recitation. Students will also have daily reading assignments that will support them in increasing reading speed and achieving fluency and accuracy in recitation.
QUR 2201 <i>Tajwīd</i> Part 1: Letters and Phonetics	This is a study of the science of <i>tajwīd</i> accompanied by an instructor-led recitation of Juz' 'Ammā. This is a two-part course: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will gain an understanding of introductory <i>tajwīd</i> concepts [including points of articulation (<i>makhārij</i>) and letter attributes (<i>ṣifāt</i>)] during weekly online sessions with the instructor.</li> <li>2. Students will work with a recitation teacher in small groups during two additional weekly sessions in which they will practice the theory learned in class. By the end of the course, students will read through Juz' 'Ammā, applying the rules of <i>tajwīd</i> they have learned and pronouncing each letter correctly.</li> </ol>
QUR 2202 <i>Tajwīd</i> Part 2: Rules and Rhythm of Recitation	Building upon concepts taken in <i>Tajwīd</i> Part 1, students will complete the study of the rules of <i>tajwīd</i> , accompanied by an instructor-led recitation of Juz' Tabārak. This is a two-part course: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will gain an understanding of the rules of <i>tajwīd</i> (proper pronunciation of the Holy Quran) during weekly online sessions with the instructor.</li> <li>2. Students will work with a recitation teacher in small groups during two additional weekly sessions in which they will practice the theory learned in class. By the end of the course, students will read through Juz' Tabārak, applying the rules of <i>tajwīd</i> and pronouncing each letter correctly.</li> </ol>
QUR 0203 Accelerated <i>Tajwīd</i> Rules	An accelerated study of the science of <i>tajwīd</i> . In this course, students will gain an understanding of all <i>tajwīd</i> concepts [proper pronunciation of the Holy Quran, including points of articulation ( <i>makhārij</i> ) and letter attributes ( <i>ṣifāt</i> )] during weekly online sessions with the instructor. This course is a fast-paced review of <i>tajwīd</i> rules for those who have mastered the practice of recitation and need to learn or relearn the theory. <p>Students will also join a bi-weekly <i>ḥalaqa</i> in which they will work with a recitation teacher. Students will recite madrasa style in small groups, preparing about a juz' per week starting from the beginning of the Quran.</p>

<p>QUR 0301 Quran <i>Khitma</i> Project</p>	<p>In the Quran <i>Khitma</i> Project, students will recite the Holy Quran from Sūrat al-Fātiḥa to Sūrat al-Nās to their assigned <i>tajwīd</i> instructors, as a preparation and foundation for beginning with memorization. This is a two-part course:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will attend a weekly online session with the instructor to follow up on their progress, work together to achieve consistent Quran reading habits, and receive inspiration about the Holy Quran.</li> <li>2. Each student will be paired with a certified <i>tajwīd</i> teacher, either online or locally, with whom she will work one-on-one. This part of the course will be complete when the student has read through the Holy Quran from start to finish with her assigned <i>tajwīd</i> teacher, having demonstrated the ability to apply the rules of <i>tajwīd</i> to the standardized and acceptable level.</li> </ol>
<p>QUR 0302 Guided Group Quran Reading</p>	<p>Under the loving and uplifting guidance of a certified <i>tajwīd</i> teacher, students will work together toward a complete reading of the Quran with correct <i>tajwīd</i> in this <i>ḥalaqa</i>-style course. Reciting half to one page at a time, students will build up fluency, receive real-time feedback, and feel confident in their ability to recite the Quran. With an emphasis on the practical application and refinement of <i>tajwīd</i> rules, this course is ideal for those seeking consistent practice, continued progress, and a supportive, blessed sisterhood dedicated to learning.</p>
<p>QUR 0401 The Crowning Venture: Quran Memorization</p>	<p>This is a self-paced memorization course; students will set a personal memorization target each term and recite to a <i>tajwīd</i> teacher. This is a two-part course:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will attend a weekly online session with the instructor to follow up on their progress and receive inspiration and tips on memorizing the Holy Quran, achieving effective memorization, and overcoming hurdles.</li> <li>2. Each student will be paired with a certified <i>tajwīd</i> teacher online, with whom she will work one-on-one. This part of the course will be complete when the student has recited the amount agreed upon at the start of the term, having demonstrated the ability to apply the rules of <i>tajwīd</i> to the standardized and acceptable level.</li> <li>3. Optional biweekly meeting times will be available for students for extra memorization practice and encouragement.</li> </ol>
<p>QUR 0402 Quran Memorization</p>	<p>Over the span of two terms, students will work with the instructor to memorize the last <i>juz'</i> of the Holy Quran in a small-group setting. Class time will provide active support from the instructor in the memorization process,</p>

30: Juz' 'Amma	including group and individual activities, <i>tajwīd</i> practice, memorization review, and memorization quizzes. Students will gain memorization strategies and tools, and daily homework assignments will help them to solidify and retain what they have memorized. Students will memorize at the pace of about one page each week, with the goal of completing all of Juz' 'Amma by the end of the second term. Live attendance is required to ensure full benefit.
QUR 0403 Quran Memorization 29: Juz' Tabarak	Over the span of two terms, students will work with the instructor to memorize the 29th juz' of the Holy Quran in a small-group setting. Class time will provide active support from the instructor in the memorization process, including group and individual activities, <i>tajwīd</i> practice, memorization review, and memorization quizzes. Students will gain memorization strategies and tools, and daily homework assignments will help them to solidify and retain what they have memorized. Students will memorize at the pace of about one page each week, with the goal of completing all of Juz' 29 by the end of the second term. Live attendance is required to ensure full benefit.
QUR 0404 Quran Memorization 28: Juz' Qad Sami'	Over the span of two terms, students will work with the instructor to memorize the 28th juz' of the Holy Quran in a small-group setting. Class time will provide active support from the instructor in the memorization process, including group and individual activities, <i>tajwīd</i> practice, memorization review, and memorization quizzes. Students will gain memorization strategies and tools, and daily homework assignments will help them to solidify and retain what they have memorized. Students will memorize at the pace of about one page each week, with the goal of completing all of Juz' 28 by the end of the second term. Live attendance is required to ensure full benefit.

## Ribāt Riverstead: Arabic

Program Description	
<p>Ribāt Riverstead: Arabic Language, At Your Pace</p> <p>Whether you're learning the letters or parsing grammar, Ribāt Riverstead offers a spiritually enriching path into the Arabic language. These courses are designed for women who want to understand the Quran, engage with Islamic texts, and grow in language fluency in a flexible, welcoming environment. Grounded in classical learning and supported by modern tools, the Riverstead Arabic track encourages steady progress with gentle accountability—enabling students to unlock meaning, deepen reflection, and connect more intimately with sacred knowledge.</p>	
Program Learning Outcomes	
<p>By the end of this program, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Arabic Language and Grammar:</b> Read, write, listen, and speak Arabic, using accurate grammar to construct Arabic sentence structures, verb forms, and grammatical patterns with attention to meaning and accuracy.</li> <li><b>2. Sacred Texts:</b> Utilize knowledge of Arabic language, grammar, linguistics and vocabulary to access Quranic and hadith texts.</li> <li><b>3. Arabic Language Tools and Resources:</b> Use dictionaries, root dictionaries, and digital tools to support independent reading, translation, and ongoing language development.</li> </ol>	
Course Name	Description
ARL 11101 Arabic Novice Beginner	This is the first course in the Ribāt Arabic Language Program. It is designed to equip learners with the skills to read (phonetically decode) and write the Arabic script with vowels and provide them with a range of high frequency vocabulary which they can use in their reading of Quranic texts and to offer greetings in Arabic.
ARL 1102 Arabic Novice Middle	This is the second module in the Novice level. This course involves an introduction to the basics of Arabic grammar of nouns, with an emphasis on building learners' reading skills and basic vocabulary knowledge to allow them to read the Quran and recognize key words and phrases, as well as introduce themselves.

ARL 1103 Arabic Novice High	This module introduces students to the basics of forming sentences in Arabic. This includes verbal and nominal sentences. Students will be introduced to the methods for conjugating simple verbal roots. By the end of the module, learners will be able to read and understand simple texts containing familiar vocabulary, as well as construct their own simple nominal sentences about themselves, their families, and their homes. Learners will expand their repertoire of high frequency vocabulary, both general and Quranic to equip them with the ability to pick out and translate words and phrases in a range of authentic texts.
ARL 2102 Arabic Intermediate Beginner 1	This is the first module of the Intermediate Beginner band. In this level, students will be introduced to constructing verbal sentences in the past, present, and future tenses. They will work on developing this skill to include positive and negative sentences, and learn how to ask questions. Students will also learn how to tell the time and will cover vocabulary relating to schedules and their daily routines.
ARL 2102 Arabic Intermediate Beginner 2	This is the second module of the Intermediate Beginner band. In this level, students will build on their knowledge of nominal sentences by learning how to negate them and situate them in the past tense. They will also learn how to express possession and how to identify and construct dual and plural nouns. They will expand their vocabulary by learning to talk about careers, food and drink, and the human body.
ARL 2103 Arabic Intermediate Beginner 3	This is the final module of the Intermediate Beginner band. In this level, students will build on their knowledge of verbs and verbal sentences by exploring different tenses and moods. This includes the imperative, the subjunctive, and future negation, as well as object pronouns. This will equip students with an ability to read and understand more complex texts. Students will learn how to express emotions as well as their hopes and aspirations using vocabulary found in classical/ liturgical as well as more modern texts.
ARL 2104 Arabic Intermediate Middle 1	This is the first module of the Intermediate Middle band. In this level, students will expand their knowledge of verbs through an introduction to hollow roots and the ten verb forms. This will equip them with the skills to use a root dictionary. They will also learn how to construct and describe opposites, and building on their knowledge of vocabulary related to the human body, they will learn how to discuss issues around health and wellness using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.

ARL 2105 Arabic Intermediate Middle 2	This is the second module of the Intermediate Middle band. In this level, students will focus in depth on the ten verb forms. They will learn how to recognize and construct each form, as well as infer the meaning of each. They will build on their knowledge of tenses and moods by applying them to each of the forms. This will ensure they are able to look up words in an Arabic root dictionary with ease, increasing the scope of their translation skills as well as vocabulary.
ARL 2106 Arabic Intermediate Middle 3	This is the final module of the Intermediate Middle band. In this level, students will expand their knowledge of nominal and verbal sentence construction and translation by covering particles, active and passive participles, adverbs, relative pronouns, and be introduced to passive verbs. They will explore the topic of geography, learning how to talk about different cultures and parts of the world using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 2107 Arabic Intermediate High 1	This is the first module of the Intermediate High band. In this level, learners will start to explore more complex features of the Arabic language. This includes the construction of noun-number phrases, diptotes, doubled roots and the jussive, as well as how to recognize and construct passive expressions. Students will apply their knowledge to reading about and discussing the topic of religion and religious practices and will explore how to justify their thoughts and opinions using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 2108 Arabic Intermediate High 2	This is the second module of the Intermediate High band. In this level, learners will expand the range of verbs they can conjugate by adding weak-end roots and examining the orthography of the letter hamza. They will also learn how to construct different types of conditional sentences, and noun-number phrases for numbers 11–99. They will also explore exceptions to the usual rules for case endings by learning about a wider range of diptotes. Students will apply their knowledge of these constructions to the topics of art and literature in the Arab world and around the globe using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.
ARL 2109 Arabic Intermediate High 3	This is the final module of the Intermediate High band. In this level, learners will consolidate the knowledge and skills accumulated throughout the previous modules and expand their repertoire by examining the construction of exceptive sentences and noun-number phrases for numbers above 100. They will also build on their knowledge of weak-end roots by learning how to conjugate them in the different forms and construct active and passive



	<p>participles from them. They will also learn about the case endings for the Five Nouns. Learners will apply their knowledge and skills to understanding and discussing the topics of history, political systems, and peace and conflict in the Arab world and around the globe, using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.</p>
<p>ARL 3101 Arabic Advanced Beginner 1</p>	<p>This is the first module of the Advanced Beginner band. In this level, learners will review, consolidate, and expand their grammatical knowledge through the reading, translation, and analysis of classical and authentic texts. They will revise syntactical rules and apply them to texts; work with nominal sentences and <i>iḍāfa</i> constructs; practice plurals and duals; refine their use of pronouns; and study the superlative and comparative. Learners will apply these skills using vocabulary found in classical/liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.</p>
<p>ARL 3102 Arabic Advanced Beginner 2</p>	<p>This is the second module of the Advanced Beginner band. In this level, learners will continue to review, consolidate, and expand their grammatical knowledge through the reading, translation, and analysis of classical and authentic texts. They will revise morphology and apply it to texts; study tenses and moods and the verb forms; work with hollow and doubled verbs; and develop command of the <i>masdar</i>. Learners will apply these skills using vocabulary found in classical/ liturgical, as well as more modern, texts.</p>
<p>ARL 3103 Arabic Advanced Beginner 3</p>	<p>This course builds students' Arabic reading proficiency by developing strategic reading skills and strengthening awareness of how meaning is constructed in authentic texts. Students focus on the function and translation of particles and verb-particle combinations, supported by guided use of corpus tools to explore real language usage. The course also expands grammatical range through adverbs of time and place, number expressions, and derived noun forms. Through scaffolded and independent reading practice, students apply these skills to unfamiliar texts and prepare for continued study at the advanced level.</p>
<p>ARL 3104 Arabic Advanced Middle 1</p>	<p>This is the first module of the Advanced Middle level, focusing on the consolidation and expansion of Arabic grammatical knowledge through close reading, translation, and analysis of classical and authentic texts. Students engage in linguistic analysis of selected Quranic passages and study key grammatical structures. The course also introduces the history of the Quran's compilation and the development of the Quranic script, strengthening students' ability to apply advanced grammatical and analytical skills to new texts and preparing them for further advanced study.</p>
<p>ARL 3105</p>	<p>This course strengthens advanced Arabic grammar and reading skills through</p>

Arabic Advanced Middle 2	a thematic study of the modern history of the Middle East. Students review key morphological structures while applying this knowledge to authentic modern Arabic prose. Readings trace major historical developments from the Ottoman period to the emergence of modern nation-states, emphasizing stylistic features and contextual interpretation. The course builds confidence in analyzing increasingly complex texts by integrating linguistic precision with historical understanding.
ARL 3106 Arabic Advanced Middle 3	This course introduces students to the development of Arabic fiction from early narrative traditions to modern prose. Through guided reading, translation, and discussion of classical texts, folk literature, and modern novels and short stories, students explore how narrative style, language, and cultural context shape Arabic literary expression. The course builds skills in literary analysis and translation while also guiding students in writing an original short story in Arabic using studied narrative techniques.
ARL 3107 Arabic Advanced High 1	This course introduces students to Arabic rhetoric ( <i>balāgha</i> ) through focused study of Quranic passages, classical <i>tafsīr</i> , and modern religious discourse. Students analyze rhetorical and stylistic features that shape meaning, persuasion, and interpretation, with particular attention to challenges of Quranic translation. Through close reading, translation, and applied writing and speaking tasks, the course builds advanced interpretive skills and culminates in the in applied writing and speaking tasks that integrate rhetorical analysis with contemporary religious expression.
ARL 3108 Arabic Advanced High 2	This advanced reading course develops students' Arabic proficiency through close study of Sīrah texts in the original language. Students engage with classical and modern sources on the life of the Prophet ﷺ through translation, lexical research, and historical analysis, strengthening fluency, accuracy, and interpretive skill. The course also examines how Sīrah narratives are constructed and transmitted, while introducing ethical uses of technology and AI to support deep engagement with Arabic texts.
ARL 3109 Arabic Advanced High 3	This course develops students' ability to read and analyze Arabic historical and geographical texts through focused regional case studies. Using authentic classical, medieval, and modern sources, students examine how geography, history, and culture are represented in Arabic writing and how these portrayals change over time. Emphasis is placed on close reading, contextual interpretation, and understanding how migration, historical encounters, and cultural exchange have shaped social, religious, and cultural diversity in Muslim-majority societies.

## Assessment and Grading Policies

Assessment is a key component of the learning process at Ribāṭ University and is designed to evaluate students' understanding, progress, and mastery of course material.

### Assessment Methods

Student work at Ribāṭ University is assessed through a variety of methods, including weekly assignments, discussion posts, reflective papers, research projects, quizzes, and exams. Practical projects, fieldwork, and oral presentations may also be used to measure applied knowledge and skills. Instructors will outline the specific types and weights of assessments in each course syllabus. In order to receive credit for a course, students must complete assessments with academic integrity and in accordance with the guidelines provided and receive a passing grade in the course.

### Letter Grade/Grade Point Value

Course grades at Ribāṭ University are assigned according to the following scale. Each letter grade corresponds to a grade point value, which is used in calculating a student's Grade Point Average (GPA).

Letter Grade	Points	Grade Point Value	Description
A	93–100	4.00	Excellent mastery of course content; outstanding performance.
A–	90–92	3.70	Strong mastery of course content; very high performance.
B+	87–89	3.30	Above average understanding; solid performance with minor gaps.
B	83–86	3.00	Good understanding of material; consistent and competent work.
B–	80–82	2.70	Satisfactory performance with some deficiencies.
C+	77–79	2.30	Acceptable performance; meets minimum expectations.

<b>C</b>	73–76	2.00	Adequate performance; demonstrates basic understanding.
<b>C–</b>	70–72	1.70	Marginal performance; limited mastery of material.
<b>D+</b>	67–69	1.30	Weak performance; below standard but receives minimal credit. Undergraduate only, a D+ or D grade is considered failing for graduate students.
<b>D</b>	60–66	1.00	Poor performance; meets the lowest passing threshold. Undergraduate only, a D+ or D grade is considered failing for graduate students.
<b>F</b>	59 and below	0.00	Does not meet course requirements.

### Grade Point Average (GPA) Calculation

The GPA is computed by multiplying the grade point value of each course by the number of credit hours, summing these values, and dividing by the total credit hours attempted. Transfer credits, audited courses, withdrawals, and pass/fail courses (P/F) are not included in GPA calculations.

### Pass/Fail Completion Status

Pass/Fail courses are not assigned a letter grade and do not factor into the GPA. At the conclusion of the course, students receive one of the following completion statuses, which indicate their level of participation and achievement:

- **Pass (P):** The student has successfully met all course requirements and demonstrated satisfactory performance based on the established grading criteria. To receive a passing grade, students must:
  - Submit all major course components, which differ for each course and are determined by the instructor. These may include but are not restricted to: mid-term, final, and major projects and papers.
  - Receive an overall passing grade, as is listed in the course syllabus for each course.
- **Fail (F):** The student did not meet the minimum course requirements and did not achieve a passing grade. To receive credit for the course, the student must register in the course again and meet all course requirements to receive a passing grade.

## Completion Status

In addition to standard letter grades, certain designations may also be used to reflect enrollment status or special circumstances. These notations do not carry grade point values and do not impact GPA, but provide clarification regarding course completion.

- **Incomplete (I):** The student was unable to complete the course requirements due to extenuating circumstances and has obtained written approval to delay submission of some course requirements. Incompletes must be resolved within the designated timeframe set by the institution; otherwise, the grade will convert to a Fail (F). Incomplete requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- **Withdraw (W):** The student officially withdrew from the course after the add/drop period and before the withdrawal deadline. A grade of "W" does not impact GPA but is recorded on the transcript.
- **Audit (AU):** The student participated in the course without receiving credit or a grade. Auditing students cannot submit coursework or exams. Audited courses do not appear on the official transcript and do not count toward degree requirements.

## Incomplete Grade Policy

An Incomplete ("I") may be granted when a student is unable to complete course requirements due to documented extenuating circumstances. To receive an Incomplete, the student must obtain written approval from both the course instructor and the administration prior to the end of the course.

A written agreement outlining the remaining coursework and a completion timeline must be submitted and approved. The maximum allowable period to complete the requirements is one year from the end of the course. If the coursework is not completed within the agreed-upon timeframe, the Incomplete will be converted to a Fail ("F") on the student's transcript.

## Submission Guidelines

Students are expected to submit all assignments, quizzes, projects, and other assessments by the deadlines set by their instructors. Submission instructions will be provided in each course syllabus and must be uploaded through the university Canvas portal in order to receive credit. Assignments should be typed unless otherwise specified by the instructors. All submissions must follow the specified formatting, file type, or naming conventions as outlined in the syllabus or assignment instructions. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that submissions are complete, accurate, and timely. Late work may be subject to penalties even if prior approval for an extension has been granted.

**Late Work and Extensions:**

Ribāt University recognizes that students may encounter extraordinary circumstances that make it difficult to complete coursework within the time frame allotted. Extension requests for overdue work are considered on a case-by-case basis and should be submitted in writing explaining in detail the circumstances for why an extension is needed. Students requesting an extension must adhere to the policy mentioned in their course syllabus.

Extension approvals and their duration are at the discretion of the instructor.

# Registration Fees and Policies

## Degree Program Tuition Fees

### Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Arts:

**Application Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$35.

**Matriculation Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$50 fee is due upon the student's acceptance of the enrollment agreement after having been accepted to the program.

**Leave of Absence Fee:** \$125

#### Tuition:

- **Full-time** \$5,000 per year. This includes tuition and annual fees for full-time students. Full-time in undergraduate programs is defined as 12–18 credits per regular term, with a minimum of 24 credits per year and a maximum total of 36 credits per year. Students need advisor approval to take 18 credits in one term. The year includes fall, spring, and summer terms, with summer being optional.
- **Part-time:** \$2,750 per year. This includes tuition and annual fees. Part-time in undergraduate programs is defined as 6–9 credits per term for a total of 12–18 credits per year. The year includes fall, spring, and summer terms, with summer being optional.

### Certificate Programs:

**Application Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$35.

**Matriculation Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$50 fee is due upon the student's acceptance of the enrollment agreement after having been accepted to the program.

**Annual Fees:** \$500

**Certificate Processing:** One-time non-refundable \$40. This is due upon completion of the program.

#### Tuition:

- **\$150/credit hour**
  - Certificate in Teaching Islam (26 credits): \$3,900
  - Certificate in Arabic Language (26 credits) \$3900
  - Graduate Certificate in Islamic Belief and Practice (18 credits): \$2700

\* If a student must complete additional Arabic language classes to achieve the Certification Requirements, then there will be an additional cost that is not included in the listed costs. Prerequisites are not included in the tuition fee structure.

### ***Tajwīd Ijāza* Programs:**

**Application Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$35.

**Matriculation Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$50 fee is due upon the student's acceptance of the enrollment agreement after having been accepted to the program.

**Placement Test Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$35.

**Technology Fee:** \$50/year

**Certificate Processing:** One-time non-refundable \$40. This is due upon completion of the program.

**Leave of Absence Fee:** \$125

#### **Tuition:**

- **\$450 per year\***
- Tuition does not include library services. To receive this service, there is a \$500 annual fee.

\* Prerequisites are not included in this annual tuition fee.

#### **Please note:**

- Students who complete the program in under one year are still responsible for the full yearly tuition amount.
- The following classes are not included in this annual tuition fee structure. Students will pay the registration fee for additional courses required including, but not limited to:
  - QUR 0406: *Tajwīd Ijāza* Retreat
  - QUR 0502: *Al-Jazariyyah*: A Poem in Study of the Rules of *Tajwīd*

### **Master of Arts:**

**Application Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$35.



**Matriculation Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$50 fee is due upon the student's acceptance of the enrollment agreement after having been accepted to the program.

**Leave of Absence Fee:** \$125

**Tuition:**

- **Full-time:** \$5,500 per year. This includes tuition and annual fees. Full-time in the master's and graduate certificate programs is defined as 9–12 credits per term with a maximum of 24 credits per year. The year includes fall, spring, and summer terms, with summer being optional.
- **Part-time:** \$3,250 per year. This includes tuition and annual fees. Part time in the master's and graduate certificate programs is defined as 3–6 credits per term, with a minimum of 6 credits, and a maximum of 12 credits per year. With advisor's approval, students may enroll in more courses, and payment will be \$210 for each credit beyond 12 credits. The year includes fall, spring, and summer terms, with summer being optional.

**Doctorate:**

**Application Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$35.

**Matriculation Fee:** One-time non-refundable \$50 fee is due upon the student's acceptance of the enrollment agreement after being accepted to the program.

**Annual Fee:** \$500

**Leave of Absence Fee:** \$125

**Tuition:**

- For courses with course codes 700 or above: \$1,000 for each 3-credit course.
- When enrolled in a master's level course, doctoral students will be assigned doctoral-level coursework that is connected to that course. In this case, the course will be assigned a cross-referenced course code and will be payable at doctorate-level tuition fees.
- The doctorate degree is self-paced. It is the responsibility of students to meet with their academic advisors and set a plan for study.
- The proposed course of study takes 4 years to complete the doctoral degree. The doctorate may be completed in a minimum of 3 years, and extended as needed, not to exceed 7 years.

- Doctoral students may enroll in a minimum of 6 credits per year. The year includes fall, spring, and summer terms, with summer being optional.

**Publication Fee:** \$100 for online publication of the dissertation is due after dissertation defense is approved.

## Breakdown of Annual Fees

Category	Approx. %	Amount (USD)	Description / What it Covers
1. Technology and Learning Systems Fee	30%	\$150	Supports maintenance and licensing of Ribāt's online learning systems (Canvas, Classter SIS, Zoom, etc.), digital course delivery, and captioning/transcription services for accessibility.
2. Library and Academic Resources Fee	20%	\$100	Provides access to Ribāt's digital library (e-books, journals, databases, reference collections), research tools, and librarian support.
3. Advising and Student Support Fee	20%	\$100	Covers academic advising, degree planning, accessibility accommodations, and access to the Student Affairs team (advising, wellness, career, and alumni engagement).
4. Institutional Services Fee	15%	\$75	Contributes to administrative systems (student records, transcript processing, FERPA compliance, enrollment management, and help desk support).
5. Student Engagement and Community Fee (or co-curricular)	10%	\$50	Funds co-curricular programming (student pods, <i>ḥalaqāt</i> , alumni mentoring, leadership development, and spiritual enrichment events).
6. Assessment and Quality Assurance Fee	5%	\$25	Supports ongoing assessment, surveys, and accreditation compliance (DEAC, ADA, FERPA, UDL improvements).

## Additional General Fees

**Transcript Fee:** \$15 to request an official transcript. Unofficial transcripts are available at no cost through the university portal.

**Graduation Fee:** \$40, due in the term before graduation for students who will be attending graduation in person.

## **Riverstead Tuition Fees**

### **Tuition Fee:**

- \$150 per credit
- or \$150 per course for non-credit courses

### **Transfer Fees:**

- Riverstead students who decide at a later date to obtain a degree will have their Riverstead transcript evaluated and pay a transfer fee of \$40 to begin their degree program.
- Transfer fees are non-refundable.

**Late Fee:** After the start of a term and during the add/drop period, a \$20 late fee will apply to each Riverstead course. Late fees are non-refundable.

**Technology Fee:** Riverstead students are required to pay an annual reduced technology fee of \$50. The technology fee is non-refundable.

## **Payment Methods**

When enrollment for a term is open, registration fees can be paid via credit card or bank transfer through the registration portal. Some courses have the option to pay in installments. The enrollment options for a course will be listed on each course registration page when registration is open. All fees will be processed in US dollars, and it is not possible to accept other currencies.

Registration fees are not transferable to other students or academic terms.

## **Refund Policy**

Refunds are processed per course, whether or not the student is enrolled in a degree or certificate program.

Students may request a full refund of tuition fees before the start of the term.

Application, matriculation, annual, technology, late, and any other fees other than tuition are not eligible for a refund.

After the start of the term, tuition refunds are processed according to the following schedule:

<b>Length of Term</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Percentage of Tuition Returned (Minus Fees)</b>
1–6 weeks  Arabic 6–week modules and Summer intensives	1st week	70%
	2nd week	40%
	3rd week	20%
	4th week	0%
7–10 weeks	1st week	80%
	2nd week	60%
	3rd week	40%
	4th week	20%
	5th week	0%
11–16 weeks  Regular Fall, Spring and Summer Terms	1st week	80%
	2nd week	70%
	3rd week	60%
	4th week	50%
	5th week	40%
	6th week	30%
	7th week	20%
	8th week	10%
	9th week	0%

Any money due a student will be refunded within 30 days of a cancellation request. Cancellation, withdrawal, and/or refund requests must be communicated to the registration department by email. Any other communication with Ribāṭ faculty, staff, or other team members will not be considered official notice of withdrawal.

## **Auditing a Course**

Enrolling in a course for credit is highly advised with Ribāṭ courses because much of the learning happens while completing the reading and assignments. However, an auditing option is available for some courses.

Auditing students have access to the course forum, resources, recordings, and live classes, but cannot submit any assignments or exams, and do not receive credit for the course as part of any degrees or certifications. Auditing students register for the course at the regular registration fee and all applicable fees. Financial aid is not available for auditing students.

Auditing is not available for Arabic or *tajwīd* courses.

## **Credit Hours**

Each course carries a designation of one or more credit hours. For each credit hour, students can expect to spend 45 hours of engagement in class or on preparation, reading, assignments, and other coursework. Students should plan accordingly to ensure they are able to manage their time effectively, meet academic expectations, and maintain a balanced schedule throughout the term.

Students will have access to course forums, recordings, and files before the start of the following term, but will not be able to submit coursework after the deadlines mentioned in the course syllabus.

## **Non-Degree Seeking Students**

Students who are not seeking a degree are able to take some courses individually. Some of these courses will require prerequisites or previous experience to be eligible. Students will need to refer to the admissions department to determine eligibility.

## **Textbooks**

Registration fees do not include textbooks or other course materials. These will be listed on the course registration page and the syllabus. Most textbooks can be purchased from Rabata Bookshop, and a student textbook discount is available to students enrolled in a current Ribāṭ course. After enrolling in a course, students will have access to the textbook discount code through the course syllabus.

## Technology Requirements

To ensure a successful online learning experience, all students must have regular access to a personal computer and reliable high-speed internet. Courses at Ribāṭ University are delivered through Canvas and may include video lectures, interactive discussions, digital readings, and multimedia assignments. Students are responsible for maintaining the technology needed to participate fully.

### Minimum Technical Requirements

- **Computer:** A desktop or laptop computer or similar device manufactured within the last five years, capable of running current software and updates. It is not recommended to rely solely on a phone as coursework will require a full computer interface with full functionality.
- **Operating System:** Computer operating system should be kept up to date with the latest recommended security updates and upgrades.
- **Internet:** High-speed broadband connection (minimum 5 Mbps download / 2 Mbps upload).
- **Web Browser:** Current version of Chrome, Firefox, Safari, or Edge.
- **Software:**
  - Microsoft Office, or Google Workspace, or Apple iOS products (for word processing, presentations, and spreadsheets).
  - PDF reader (e.g., Adobe Acrobat).
  - Updated antivirus and security software.
- **Multimedia:** Functional webcam, microphone, and speakers (or headset) for participation in live sessions and assessments.

### Additional Notes

- Students are expected to check course announcements and email regularly.
- Technical support is available to assist with login issues, accessing course materials, and troubleshooting basic technical problems. For support, click “Help” on your Canvas course page or email [techsupport@rabata.org](mailto:techsupport@rabata.org).

### Technology Skills

Students should be comfortable with basic computer operations, including using email, browsing the internet, uploading and downloading files, and navigating an online learning

platform. Training resources and orientation will be provided to support students who need additional guidance.

## **Financial Aid**

Ribāṭ University offers financial aid options for students in the form of scholarships or discounts. All financial aid applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and are subject to availability. Scholarship applications are available starting February 1 and close May 1. Accepted applicants may apply for financial aid through the university website.

## **Scholarships**

Scholarships are either merit-based and needs-based and are available to accepted applicants who are unable to cover the cost of their courses. Accepted applicants may choose to apply for full or partial scholarships through the options listed below.

### **Riverstead Scholarships**

Riverstead scholarships are awarded based on financial need, academic performance, and commitment to learning. To qualify, students must be in good academic standing and must have successfully completed any previous courses for which they received a scholarship with a passing grade. To apply for a Riverstead scholarship, students will need to complete a scholarship application form, which becomes available through the website when registration opens for the term. Scholarship applications must be submitted before the start of the term.

Each student may apply for up to two course scholarships per term. Students who pass an Arabic module may apply for a scholarship for an additional Arabic module in the same term, bringing the total possible to three scholarships in one term in this case only.

Students who do not complete their courses in which they registered on scholarship or do not receive a passing grade may lose eligibility for future scholarships until they successfully complete and pass at least one course.

Scholarships cover tuition only and do not include textbooks or additional fees. Students receiving a scholarship will still need to pay the \$50 annual fee. Scholarship availability is limited.

## **Need-based Scholarships**

Ribāṭ University is committed to supporting students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds by offering need-based scholarships determined primarily on financial need. Need-based scholarships are available for U.S. citizens accepted into a full-time bachelor program. Eligible applicants will be able to apply for need-based scholarships during the application process and be required to answer questions regarding personal financial situation.

Students receiving need-based scholarships are expected to maintain a good academic standing of 70% or higher and notify Ribāṭ University of any change to financial status that may make them ineligible to receive need-based scholarships.

## **Degree Program Scholarships**

Scholarships for degree programs are limited and subject to an application process.

## **Andrea's Legacy Scholarship**

The Andrea Scholarship Fund awards one convert Muslim woman, enrolled full-time, each academic year a complete scholarship to complete an Associate of Arts degree in Teaching Islam or a Graduate Certificate in Teaching Islam. The Andrea's Legacy Scholarship does not include textbooks or fees, which will be the responsibility of the recipients.

Applications for the Andrea Scholarship are open February 1st to May 1st each year.

## **Textbook Scholarships**

Financial aid is not available for textbooks.

## **Discounts**

### **Market Value Discount:**

Special discounts are available for students in countries with a significant difference in currency. Applications will be available February 1 to May 1 each year. It is the admitted



applicant's responsibility to complete the application request and submit it for review and approval.

### **Registration Office Contact**

All inquiries about registration fees and policies, payments, withdrawals, and financial aid should be directed to [registration@rabata.org](mailto:registration@rabata.org).

## **Program Changes and Updates**

Ribāṭ University reserves the right to make changes to its academic programs, policies, schedules, course offerings, instructors, and tuition fees at any time in order to improve the quality and effectiveness of its educational services. All updates will be communicated in a timely and transparent manner and advisors will work with students to ensure successful academic progress and achievement of program objectives. It is the responsibility of students to stay informed by regularly checking official Ribāṭ communications, including emails, in-class announcements, and updates on the student portal. Changes will apply to all students enrolled in the program unless otherwise specified.

## Student Affairs

The Office of Student Affairs at Ribāṭ University is a cornerstone of the student experience, supporting learners in their academic, spiritual, and personal development. Rooted in Islamic values and Ribāṭ's vision of practical, purposeful, spiritually grounded, and attainable education, Student Affairs ensures that every student is equipped to thrive in both study and life. Aligned with recognized professional frameworks in higher education—including CAS Standards, NACADA Core Competencies, NASPA Professional Competencies, FERPA regulations, and ADA accessibility guidelines—the office cultivates holistic, inclusive, and faith-centered support.

Student Affairs provides structured services that foster academic persistence, spiritual well-being, community belonging, and leadership development. As a central hub of student engagement, the department integrates academic advising, accessibility resources, co-curricular programs, career development, and student records into a seamless system of support. The department also upholds student rights and responsibilities by addressing concerns fairly, protecting student data, and maintaining a learning environment built on equity, *iḥsān*, and excellence.

The core student services offered by the Office of Student Affairs include:

### Academic Advising

Ribāṭ University is committed to providing practical and purposeful academic advising that guides students throughout their educational journey. Advisors assist with course planning, degree pathways, and graduation readiness, while also supporting decision-making, time management, and navigation of university policies. Advising is relational, inclusive, and personalized, ensuring that students connect their academic study with spiritual and personal goals. Study groups and peer support networks are encouraged as part of the broader academic support model. Our advising philosophy is guided by the NACADA Core Competencies and adapted to Ribāṭ's unique mission and values. For more information or to contact an advisor, please email [advising@rabata.org](mailto:advising@rabata.org).

### Accessibility Services

Ribāṭ University is committed to creating an attainable and inclusive learning environment. The Office of Student Affairs coordinates accommodations such as ASL interpretation, extended time on assessments, and alternative formats for course materials. Support is available for a range of disabilities, including physical,

sensory, learning, and mental health conditions. All services are confidential, student-centered, and guided by ADA standards and universal design principles. Students are encouraged to request accommodations early in the term by contacting [accessibility@rabata.org](mailto:accessibility@rabata.org)

### **Student Engagement and Spiritual Life**

Ribāṭ University is committed to fostering a vibrant student life rooted in spiritually grounded pedagogy and community care. Through *ḥalaqāt*, Masjid Rabata programs, Daybreak Press writing circles, volunteer opportunities, and Rabata chapters, students are able to deepen spiritual practice, build community, and develop leadership skills. Extra-curricular activities are designed to complement academic study, promote personal growth, and prepare students for lifelong engagement in faith, service, and cultural transformation.

### **Career Development**

Ribāṭ University is committed to preparing students for practical, purposeful career pathways in education, nonprofit, and community leadership. Services include resume and CV preparation, career readiness workshops, and mentorship connections with alumni and professionals. Future plans include launching an Online Career Center that will provide students with career mapping tools, licensure guidance, and networking opportunities within faith-based and academic fields.

### **Student Well-Being**

Recognizing the importance of balance and wellness, Ribāṭ is developing services that will provide resources, workshops, and referrals to support students' emotional and mental health.

### **Student Concerns and Complaints**

Ribāṭ University is committed to ensuring that all students have a positive, enriching, and attainable educational experience. We recognize that, at times, concerns or complaints may arise regarding courses, services, or interactions within the university community. Ribāṭ takes such matters seriously and strives to respond promptly and fairly. Students are encouraged to first seek resolution by addressing the issue directly with the individual, department, or office involved.

If the matter remains unresolved, students may submit a formal grievance through the Student Grievance Form, available in the student portal. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted; all grievances must include the student's name and contact information. Once submitted, the grievance will be reviewed by the Student Affairs Committee. Students can expect an initial response within 5 business days, with a final resolution typically provided within 15 business days of submission. Ribāṭ handles concerns respectfully and confidentially, with the goal of fostering a learning environment built on trust, accountability, and *iḥsān*.

## **Records and Compliance**

Ribāṭ University is committed to maintaining transparent, secure, and affordable student records. The Records and Compliance Office oversees academic records, graduation audits, and FERPA-aligned privacy protections, ensuring that all documentation meets accreditation standards.

## **Student Affairs Office Contact**

All inquiries about student affairs should be directed to [studentaffairs@rabata.org](mailto:studentaffairs@rabata.org)

## **Rabata Bookshop**

The Rabata Bookshop serves as the official source for course materials, required readings, and a curated selection of books that support the academic and spiritual growth of Ribāṭ University students. In addition to textbooks, the bookshop offers titles in Islamic studies, Arabic, personal development, and women's scholarship. Students can conveniently purchase materials online. The Rabata Bookshop also features publications by Ribāṭ instructors and scholars, making it a valuable resource for students and the wider community.

The Rabata Bookshop can be found at [bookshop.rabata.org](http://bookshop.rabata.org). All inquiries about textbook orders should be addressed to [bookshop@rabata.org](mailto:bookshop@rabata.org).

# Academic Calendar

## Academic Terms

The academic year is divided into three terms: Fall, Spring, and Summer.

- Fall term: The fall term runs for 14 weeks starting the second Monday of September.
- Spring term: The spring term runs for 14 weeks starting the second Monday of January.
- Summer term: The summer term runs for 12 weeks starting the first Monday of June. Summer term may include shorter, intensive terms or courses.

## Add/Drop Period

The add/drop period is 2 weeks from the first day of class. Students may request to add, drop, or switch a course within this time period. When dropping a course within the add/drop period, the course will not appear on the student's transcript.

The add/drop period does not apply to Quran or Arabic language courses. Registration for these courses closes the first day of the module.

## Late Registration

The late registration period begins 3 days before the start of term.

After the start of a term and during the add/drop period, a \$20 late fee will apply to Riverstead courses that are still open for registration.

The late registration period does not apply to Quran or Arabic language courses. Registration for these courses closes the first day of the term.

## Withdrawal Period

Students requesting to withdraw from a course may do so within the first 8 weeks of the term. When withdrawing after the add/drop period, registration fees will not be refunded. The student will be removed from the class list, will no longer receive notifications of class activities, or have access to the course forum or content. The course will appear on the student's transcript with a grade of W (withdrawal).

## Instructional Holidays

On Ribāṭ instructional holidays, no live classes are held, and no assignments or coursework are due. These days are reserved for spiritual observance and personal rest. The academic year includes the following holidays:

- **Ramadan Break:** The last ten days of Ramadan
- **Eid al-Fitr:** The first three days of Shawwāl
- **‘Arafa Day:** The 9th day of Dhūl-Ḥijja (the day of ‘Arafa)
- **Eid al-Adḥā:** Days 10, 11, and 12 of Dhūl-Ḥijja

## Administrative Office Closures

On the following days, Ribāṭ University's administrative offices are closed. No student services or staff communication will be available during these closures:

- **Thanksgiving Day (USA):** The fourth Thursday of November
- **Winter Break:** December 25 and January 1
- **Eid al-Fitr:** The first three days of Shawwāl
- **Eid al-Adḥā:** Days 10, 11, and 12 of Dhūl-Ḥijja

## Notes

- Schedule is subject to change
- Registration closing dates are subject to space availability

# **Admissions**

## **General Admission Policy**

Ribāṭ University complies with all federal and state statutes pertaining to the admission of undergraduate, graduates, and professional students, including Registration Statute 136A.61 – 136A.71 regarding admissions policies for undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs.

## **Program Cost**

Refer to the Registration Fees and Policies for program cost in this catalog.

## **Age Restrictions**

Ribāṭ University requires that applicants be 17 years of age or older. If an applicant is 17 years of age and has graduated from high school, the applicant must have a parent or guardian as a primary signature on the application and legal documents. If an applicant is 17 years of age and still in high school, the applicant must provide permission from responsible parties to apply and attend if accepted to Ribāṭ University. Responsible parties can include: parents, guardians, and high school guidance counselors. A parental or guardian signature is required for all documents submitted to and received from Ribāṭ University during the application, admissions, and enrollment process.

## **Data Privacy and International Compliance**

Student data is handled in compliance with United States FERPA regulations.

## **Time Zone Expectations**

All Ribāṭ University classes are scheduled in Central Standard Time (CST/UTC-6). Students are responsible for adjusting to their local time zones.

## **Communication Expectations**

Official communication will be conducted through university email accounts, the student portal, and approved course platforms. Students are responsible for obtaining access to and checking these communication channels regularly.

## Accessibility/Disability Accommodations

Ribāṭ University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities, within the limits of an online learning environment. Applicants may choose to declare a disability or accommodation request with the admissions application. Applicants have the right to not declare accessibility/disability accommodations. See Student Affairs in the catalog for more information.

## Accreditation and Recognition

Ribāṭ University is not currently accredited in the United States. It is the responsibility of the student to verify recognition of Ribāṭ University's programs for employment, further studies, or visa purposes.

## Nondiscrimination Policy

Ribāṭ University is committed to providing a respectful learning environment for all students, faculty, and staff. Discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital status, or any other protected characteristic is strictly prohibited. The university promotes equitable access to educational opportunities and expects all members of the community to uphold this standard of equity and respect.

## Admissions Process

### Application Deadlines

- **Early Admission:** Applicants who submit their complete applications by the January 3rd early admission deadline will receive an admission decision by January 30.
- **Regular Admissions Deadline:** Applicants who submit their complete applications by the February 22 regular admissions deadline will receive an admission decision by March 31st.

Decisions regarding admission to undergraduate, graduate, certificate, and *ijāza* programs at Ribāṭ University are made by the specific program, department, or college to which the applicant has applied and are reviewed by the Ribāṭ University Admissions Committee.

All applicants to Ribāṭ University undergraduate, graduate, certificate, and *ijāza* programs are required to submit materials including, but not limited to, the following:



1. Completed application for admissions, including the nonrefundable \$35 application fee.
2. Official transcripts from high school, college or university attended previously, including the degree(s) earned and date(s) awarded.
3. Officially reported standardized test scores (e.g., SAT, ACT, MAPPING, GRE, MAT, LSAT) as required by desired program. *Applicants should consult with the program or university to determine specific testing requirements.*
4. Some programs may make admissions decisions based on unofficial transcripts and unofficial test scores submitted during the application. However, **all admitted** students are required to submit the official transcripts and official test scores prior to enrollment.
5. Three to four letters of recommendation (one professional, one academic, one personal, and/or one community/religious leader)
6. Personal CV or resume
7. Personal mission statement as specified by the desired program
8. Short responses to writing prompts within the application
9. Graduate programs are required to submit a prior research writing sample
10. International applicants must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.
11. All applicants must provide a valid form of photo identification. (Driver's license, state ID, passport, etc)

If admitted, **international applicants** must also provide additional documentation that may include, but is not limited to:

1. Letter of financial backing to pay for the program
2. International address
3. Converted transcripts that are verified by a credential evaluation service

Note: Transfer and international students must meet the regular admissions process requirements. For further detailed information regarding international students, please refer to the international student policy found in this handbook.

## **Transfer of Credit Policy**

When applying to Ribāṭ University, Ribāṭ University Admissions Department will perform a free credit evaluation to determine which credits will transfer into each program. The Ribāṭ University admissions team and academic advisors will work with applicants during the transfer process to assist with onboarding as a new student. Acceptance of transfer credits is not guaranteed. Contact the admissions office prior to submitting your application if needed.

Transfer credit evaluations are based on:

- Equivalency of course content
- Grade of “C” or higher (unless otherwise specified by program requirements)
- Age of credit (certain programs may have recency requirements)
- Contact the admissions office prior to submitting your application if needed.

## **Acceptance of Transfer Credit Disclosure**

Acceptance of transfer credit earned at Ribāṭ University is at the discretion of the receiving institution. Each college or university determines independently which credits will be accepted in transfer toward its own programs or degrees.

## **Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)**

A prior learning assessment is an option for applicants to submit academic and professional experience for consideration of knowledge and skills gained outside a traditional classroom or a non-accredited university.

Prior Learning Assessment will be available starting August 2027.

## **Admissions Reviews and Decisions**

All applications will be reviewed by the Ribāṭ University Admissions Committee. All program and college admissions policies and procedures include consideration of the holistic application– that is, there will not be a single criterion that will determine admission to any undergraduate, graduate, or certificate program at Ribāṭ University unless prerequisites are not met for enrollment. Most programs may request additional requirements, such as scheduling an assessment for *tajwīd* or Arabic fluency. For further information regarding specific program requirements for admission, procedures, regulations, and deadlines, please contact the admissions office at: [admissions@rabata.org](mailto:admissions@rabata.org)

Contingent on approval of the undergraduate, graduate programs, and/or certificate programs, the admission offer remains valid for one year from the term of acceptance. A request to defer admission should be made as soon as possible. An extension to the one-year time limit may be granted if requested by the applicant.

Appeals of admission decisions should be directed to the undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, or certificate program director or to the admissions committee chair. The program's decision is final. Communication will be provided to the applicant explaining why the applicant was not chosen or why they have been admitted with conditions, and possible next steps to reapply in the following academic year.

If an applicant is found to have presented fraudulent or misleading information during the admissions process, the offer of admission may be rescinded.

# Admission Decision Timeline and Definitions

## Admission Decisions

Admission decisions are based on a holistic review of each student's application materials. Each student who submits a complete application by either the early action or regular deadline will receive one of the following decisions.

**Admit:** Based on Ribāṭ University's holistic review, the applicant has been admitted to Ribāṭ University. An admitted applicant has 30 days to accept or decline the offer.

**Admit with Conditions:** Based on Ribāṭ University's holistic review, the applicant has been admitted with conditions to Ribāṭ University. Admitted with conditions is an opportunity for applicants that applied to a specific program to complete other areas of competency **before** beginning the program. Applicants admitted with conditions must agree to the terms of being admitted in the enrollment agreement. An admitted with conditions applicant has 30 days to accept or decline the offer.

**Defer:** The admissions committee has completed a holistic review of the application but has not yet made a final decision. Deferred applications will be reviewed a second time, taking into consideration the number of spaces available in the freshman class and competitiveness of the entire pool of applicants who met the January 1 regular application deadline. By March 31, deferred applicants will receive either an admit, waitlist, or deny decision.

**Deny:** Ribāṭ University is not able to offer admission. Applicants who are denied admission may be referred to the Bridge Program if needed. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply at a later date as a transfer student after enrolling in courses that demonstrate academic readiness to begin a degree program at Ribāṭ University.

**Waitlist:** Although Ribāṭ University Admissions has determined that the applicant is academically prepared to succeed at Ribāṭ University, the decision has been made to place the student's application on a waitlist. Waitlisted applicants will receive an update on the status of their applications by mid-June. If Ribāṭ University Admissions determines that spaces remain available, the overall strongest applicants will be admitted from the waitlist.

## Right to Appeal

Applicants denied admissions to Ribāṭ University may appeal the decision in writing within 10 business days. Appeals will be reviewed by the Admissions Committee, and a final

decision will be made within 15 business days. Please email [admissions@rabata.org](mailto:admissions@rabata.org) with a subject line: Appeal Decision.

## Admissions Requirements

Each degree program has its own unique application, requirements, and recommended preparations. Please see the specifics for your desired degree below.

More information about departments, degree programs, and courses can be found in the ***Degree Programs*** section of this catalog.

### Admissions Application—the Holistic Approach

1. **Admissions Application Match:** Ensuring the applicant has the prerequisites needed for the program
2. **Personal Mission Statement:** Who are you? What is a motto you live by and why?
3. **Academic Achievements:** Qualifier exams are taken/scheduled (*Tajwīd* and Arabic), existing academic transcripts uploaded, prior *ijāza* certifications, provide MBTI results, volunteer efforts
4. **Essays:** Answering writing prompts thoroughly and thoughtfully to demonstrate writing skills
5. **Letter of Recommendations:** Community efforts, academic responsibility, and connections
6. **Experiences & “Star” Stories:** Sharing challenges and extenuating circumstances that shaped your mindset and how you strived for success.

# **Associate of Arts Degree Admissions**

## **Associate of Arts Degree in Islamic Studies and Liberal Arts**

Applicants must have successfully completed high school, homeschool, and/or GED or equivalent. Applicants should have strong communication skills, exhibit an interest in teaching, and have a basic foundational understanding of Islam. The application for the Associate's Degree Program of Islamic Studies and Liberal Arts consists of:

- A non-refundable fee of \$35 submitted with the application
- High school diploma, homeschool transcripts, and/or GED or equivalent
- Transcripts
- Three to four letters of recommendation (one professional, one academic, one personal, and/or one community/religious leader)
- Completed application
- Personal essay
- Short essay responses
- If English is a second language, applicants, including International applicants, must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.

## **Associate of Arts Degree in Teaching Arabic**

Applicants must have successfully completed high school, homeschool, and/or obtained a GED or equivalent. Applicants should have strong communication skills. Applicants must be placed in Advanced Beginner 1 or higher to apply. Applicants will submit a skills-based exam in addition to completing an application. The application for the Associate's Degree in Teaching Arabic consists of:

- A non-refundable fee of \$35 submitted with the application
- High school diploma or GED
- Transcripts
- Three to four letters of recommendation (one professional, one academic, one personal, and/or one community/religious leader)
- Completed application
- Personal essay

- Short essay responses
- Completed Arabic assessment
- If English is a second language, applicants, including International applicants, must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.

### **Associate of Arts Degree in Teaching Islam**

Applicants must have successfully completed high school, homeschool, and/or GED or equivalent. Applicants should have strong communication skills, exhibit an interest in teaching, and have a basic foundational understanding of Islam. The application for the Associate's Degree in Teaching Islam consists of:

- A non-refundable fee of \$35 submitted with the application
- High school diploma or GED
- Transcripts
- Three to four letters of recommendation (one professional, one academic, one personal, and/or one community/religious leader)
- Completed application
- Personal narrative essay
- Short essay responses
- If English is a second language, applicants, including International applicants, must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.

### **Bachelor of Arts Degrees Admissions**

Applicants must have successfully completed high school, homeschool, and/or obtained a GED or equivalent. Applicants should have strong communication skills, If an applicant is accepted into Ribāṭ University, they will be admitted into one of the seven following programs per declaration of major:

- Islamic Teachings and Traditions (ITT)
- Applied Pedagogy and Innovative Learning (APIL)



- Applied Psychology
- Arabic Language, Literature, and Linguistics (ALLL)
- Business, Organizational Leadership, and Development (BOLD)
- History and Futures Studies
- Literature, Writing, and Publishing

Admission decisions are based on careful consideration of the holistic review of each applicant. A holistic review refers to an applicant's academic record, volunteer/community service, optional exams submitted, awards and recognition, and perspectives that can contribute to the academic and spiritual goals of being a student at Ribāṭ University.

The bachelor's degree programs application process include, but are not limited to:

- A non-refundable fee of \$35 submitted with the application
- High school diploma, homeschool records and/or GED or equivalent
- Grades in coursework
- Academic curriculum rigor in high school (such as enrollment in honors, AP, IB, A-level, or college-level courses if applicable)
- ACT/SAT scores are preferred but not required (please note without submitting these test scores, placement exams may be required when enrolling)
- If English is a second language, applicants, including International applicants, must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.
- Completed application
- Personal narrative essay
- Evidence of exceptional achievement, aptitude, or personal accomplishment not reflected in the academic record
- Participation in extracurricular activities related to intended major
- Strong commitment to community service, leadership, and educational involvement
- Short essay responses
- Three to four letters of recommendation (one professional, one academic, one personal, and/or one community/religious leader)

# Graduate Certificate Admissions

## Graduate Certificate in Islamic Belief and Practice

Applicants must have successfully completed a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Admission decisions are based on careful consideration of the holistic review of each applicant. A holistic review refers to an applicant's academic record, volunteer/community service, optional exams submitted, awards and recognition, and perspectives that can contribute to the academic and spiritual goals of being a student at Ribāṭ University. Applicants must demonstrate well-developed written and oral communication skills, provide strong references, exhibit critical thinking skills, and research capabilities. MAT and/or GRE scores are preferred but not required.

The Graduate Certificate application process includes, but is not limited to:

- A non-refundable fee of \$35 submitted with the application
- Official transcripts from all prior academic institutions attended
- MAT and/or GRE score, preferred but not required
- Three to four letters of recommendation (one professional, one academic, one personal, and/or one community/religious leader)
- A completed application
- Short essay responses
- Written materials, that include a submission of prior essays
- An interview may be requested
- If English is a second language, applicants, including International applicants, must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.

# Master's Degree Admissions

## Master of Theological Studies (MTS) in Islamic Belief and Practice

To qualify for admission into the program, students must hold a bachelor's degree, a graduate certificate in Islamic Studies, or equivalent.

Requirements can be met with:

1. A bachelor's degree in Islamic Studies
2. Or an *'alīma* degree
3. Or 12 years in an Islamic school with transcripts that demonstrate Islamic studies background in addition to a bachelor's degree in another field.

Admission decisions are based on careful consideration of the holistic review of each applicant. A holistic review refers to an applicant's academic record, volunteer/community service, optional exams submitted, awards and recognition, and perspectives that can contribute to the academic and spiritual goals of being a student at Ribāṭ University. Applicants must demonstrate well-developed written and oral communication skills, provide strong academic references, exhibit critical thinking skills, and research capabilities. MAT and/or GRE scores are preferred but not required.

The MTS application process includes, but is not limited to:

- A non-refundable fee of \$35 submitted with the application
- Official transcripts from all prior academic institutions attended
- MAT and/or GRE score, preferred but not required
- Three to four letters of recommendation (one professional, one academic, one personal, and/or one community/religious leader)
- A completed application
- Short essay responses
- Written materials, that include a submission of prior essays
- An interview may be requested
- If English is a second language, applicants, including International applicants, must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.

# Doctoral Degree Admissions

## Doctor Of Theology (ThD) in Islamic Belief and Practice

Applicants must have successfully completed a master's degree from an accredited college or university with an MTS in Islamic Studies, MDiv, or MA.

Other master's degrees: Some students may qualify for the ThD without a master's in Islamic Studies or equivalent, but will need to work with an academic counselor to fill any gaps in their training

Traditional training may be accepted as a prerequisite if it has been extensive. Admission decisions are based on careful consideration of the holistic review of each applicant. A holistic review refers to an applicant's academic record, volunteer/community service, optional exams submitted, awards and recognition, and perspectives that can contribute to the academic and spiritual goals of being a student at Ribāṭ University. Applicants must demonstrate well-developed written and oral communication skills, provide strong academic references, exhibit critical thinking skills, and research capabilities. MAT and/or GRE scores are preferred but not required.

The ThD application process includes, but is not limited to:

- A non-refundable fee of \$35 submitted with the application
- MAT and/or GRE score, preferred but not required
- A master's degree, or equivalent, in religious studies, Islamic studies, theology, or related field, from an accredited college, university, seminary, or professional school. Applicants may meet this requirement with a master's degree in education, especially with experience in faith-based institutions such as, but not limited to, Islamic schools, nonprofit leadership, community leadership and teaching and/or employment experience in faith-based institutions and organizations. The program directors assess the progress of Doctor of Theology applicants.
- Minimum of two years of professional experience in community leadership, research, or its equivalent
- Short essay responses
- An autobiographical essay. Describe your spiritual and professional journey and tell us what has inspired you to pursue your ThD with Ribāṭ University. Include where you envision yourself after you have completed your degree program.
- Three to four letters of recommendation (one religious/community leader, one academic reference, one professional reference, one personal reference)
- If English is a second language, applicants, including international applicants, must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language

Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.

# **Certificate Programs Admissions**

## **Certificate Programs**

Applicants to the certificate programs must have completed a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Additional Islamic foundational courses may be required prior to applying to a certificate program, based on each applicant's prior learning. Ribāt University considers a holistic review for applicants that combine academic and life experience to provide adequate preparation to pursue a certificate in Teaching Islam or Arabic Language and Cultural Fluency.

## **Certificate In Teaching Islam**

It is to the advantage of the applicant to have a background in Islamic Studies with a foundational understanding of Islam. In addition, applicants should exhibit strong written and oral communication skills, time management skills, and the ability to research and produce academic papers pertaining to a variety of topics. The application process is as follows, but not limited to:

- A non-refundable fee of \$35 submitted with the application
- Official transcripts from all prior academic institutions attended
- Three to four letters of recommendation (one professional, one academic, one personal, and/or one community/religious leader)
- A completed application
- Written materials that include a submission of prior essays
- Personal narrative essay
- An interview may be requested
- Applicants, including International applicants, where English is a second language, must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.

## **Certificate In Arabic Language and Cultural Fluency**

Applicants must have an undergraduate degree. It is to the advantage of the applicant to possess a background in formal Arabic studies; however, it is not a requirement to have a strong background in the Arabic language to apply. The application process includes, but is not limited to:

- A non-refundable fee of \$35 submitted with the application
- Official transcripts from all prior academic institutions attended
- Three to four letters of recommendation (one professional, one academic, one personal, and/or one community/religious leader)
- GRE test scores preferred but not required
- A completed application
- An Arabic language exam for a placement test
- An interview may be requested
- Applicants, including international applicants, where English is a second language, must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.

## ***Ijāza* Certification Programs**

An *ijāza* (Arabic: إجازة) is a traditional Islamic certification granted by a qualified scholar (*anṣe*, *shaykh*, or *ustādh*) to a student, authorizing them to teach, transmit, or recite a specific Islamic text—most notably the Quran, hadith, or classical works in *fiqh*, *tafsīr*, or Arabic grammar. The *ijāza* signifies academic and spiritual authorization and is usually given in a chain (*sanad*) tracing back to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

An *ijāza* is not just a certificate—it is a trust (*amāna*) passed through centuries. It is both a spiritual and academic bond between student and teacher, connecting one to the Prophetic tradition.

Ribāṭ University offers rigorous *ijāza* certification programs for the following:

- Ribāṭ *Tajwīd* 5 *Ajzā* ' Certification
- Ribāṭ *Tajwīd* *Ijāza* Certification
- *Ijāza* in the Forty Hadith of Imām al-Nawawī

Applicants should review the requirements of each specific *ijāza* program of interest. Prerequisites required for applying to the Ribāṭ *Tajwīd* 5 *Ajzā* ' Certification and the Ribāṭ *Tajwīd* *Ijāza* Certification, are to have completed with Ribaāt Academic Institute, Ribāṭ University, or tested out of:

- Quran Fluency Part 1
- Quran Fluency Part 2

- *Tajwīd* Part 1: Letters and Phonics
- *Tajwīd* Part 2: Rules and Rhythm of Recitation
- *Quran Khitma* Project
- Quran Memorization 30: Juz' Amma

The general application process includes, but is not limited to:

- A non-refundable fee of \$35 submitted with the application
- Official transcripts from all prior academic institutions attended
- A completed application
- A personal essay
- Declaration of *ijāza* of interest on the application
- A *tajwīd* placement test
- An interview
- International applicants, where English is a second language, must submit all of the above, plus submit proof of compliance with English Language Proficiency Requirement. The English Language Proficiency Requirement can be official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test results.
- Please contact [admissions@rabata.org](mailto:admissions@rabata.org) for any questions regarding eligibility before applying to the *Ijāza* Certification Programs.

## **Ribāṭ Riverstead | Non-Degree Seeking Students**

Ribāṭ Riverstead status allows an individual to enroll in a course or courses without submitting applications. Prior degrees are not required to enroll in these courses.

Prior foundational learning in Islam is not required to participate in these courses. Individuals registering for Ribāṭ Riverstead courses are expected to be prepared and demonstrate college-level coursework as well as strong written and oral communication skills.

While formal application is not required, registering for courses is mandatory. The cost for each course is per credit and is non-refundable after the Add/Drop or Withdrawal date. For more information on registration, refer to the Program Cost of this handbook.



# International Admissions Policy

## Compliance with Law

Ribāṭ University complies with all federal and state statutes pertaining to the admission of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, including Registration Statute, 136A.61 – 136A.71 regarding admissions policies for undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs.

## Program Cost

The program fee is calculated in USD; Ribāṭ University is not responsible for additional fees resulting from conversion rates. Refer to the Registration and Fees found in the **Registration and Fee Policies** section of this catalog.

## Visa Policy

Ribāṭ University is not able to provide justification for obtaining a visa to the United States. The university is online with no physical campus. Therefore, if students wish to move to the United States for personal and/or academic reasons, they are responsible for obtaining their own visa through due process.

## English Language Requirements

International applicants must submit proof of compliance with the English Language Proficiency Requirement. The requirement may be satisfied with official results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or the Duolingo English Test.

## Additional Requirements

If admitted, international applicants must also provide additional documentation that may include, but is not limited to:

- Letter of financial backing to pay for the program
- International address
- Converted transcripts verified by a credential evaluation service

## **Document Translation Requirements**

All transcripts or academic records submitted in a language other than English must be accompanied by a certified English translation and may require notarization in addition to credential evaluation. This is at the cost of the applicant.

## **Identity Verification**

Applicants must submit a copy of a valid government-issued photo ID (such as a passport) to verify identity.

## **Accessibility / Disability Accommodations**

Ribāṭ University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities, within the limits of an online learning environment. International students requesting accommodations are able to notify the admissions office about these if they wish at any time.

## **Accreditation and Recognition**

Ribāṭ University is not currently accredited. It is the responsibility of the student to verify recognition of Ribāṭ University's programs in their home country for employment, further studies, or visa purposes.

## **Technology and Access Requirements**

Students are required to have access to a computer or laptop with a camera and microphone, as well as a reliable internet connection (preferably high speed). Students must be able to access Zoom, Canvas, and a writing platform in order to participate. If a VPN is required to access these platforms in their country, students are responsible for obtaining and paying for it.

## **Payment Policies for International Students**

Students are responsible for completing payments on time through credit card or wire transfer. Ribāṭ University is not responsible for bank transfer fees, conversion fees, or delays in payments. Refunds, where applicable, will be issued only in USD in accordance with the university's refund policy.

## **Data Privacy and International Compliance**

Student data is handled in compliance with United States FERPA regulations.

## **Time Zone Expectations**

All Ribāṭ University classes are scheduled in Central Standard Time (CST/UTC-6). Students are responsible for adjusting to their local time zones.

## **Communication Expectations**

Official communication will be conducted through university email accounts, the student portal, and approved course platforms. Students are responsible for obtaining access to and checking these communication channels regularly.

## **Non-Discrimination / Equal Opportunity Statement**

Ribāṭ University is committed to providing a respectful learning environment for all students, faculty, and staff. Discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital status, or any other protected characteristic is strictly prohibited. The university promotes equitable access to educational opportunities and expects all members of the community to uphold this standard of equity and respect.

## **Religious/Islamic Orientation Disclaimer**

Ribāṭ University is a faith-based institution grounded in Islamic values. Students enrolling in programs should be aware that all courses, policies, and student conduct expectations reflect this religious foundation.

## **Academic Integrity**

All international students are held to the same academic integrity and student conduct standards as domestic students, as outlined in the Ribāṭ University Student Handbook.

## **Legal Jurisdiction**

Ribāṭ University operates under United States law, and any disputes will be handled accordingly under the jurisdiction of the State of Minnesota.

## **Lost or Destroyed Records**

*Lost or Destroyed Records Policy will be available starting in 2027–2028 academic school year.*

In situations where official academic records are unavailable due to circumstances such as school closures, fire, war, natural disaster, or political unrest, Ribāṭ University provides an alternative pathway. Students may demonstrate their academic readiness by taking and passing a placement exam at the level directly below the program they wish to pursue.

- Applicants to a BA or AA program must pass an exam from the Bridge Program.
- Applicants to the MTS program must pass an exam from the BA in Islamic Teachings and Traditions program.
- Applicants to the ThD program must pass an exam from the MTS program.

This process ensures fairness while maintaining academic integrity for all students.

## **Forgery or Falsified Documents**

Ribāṭ University takes document authenticity very seriously. All transcripts must be official, signed, and notarized by school officials. Unofficial transcripts are not accepted except in extraordinary circumstances. In such cases, students must also take a placement exam (as outlined above) to verify academic preparedness.

## **Difficulty Contacting Schools for Verification**

We recognize that contacting schools for verification may be challenging due to time zone differences, unreliable communication systems, or closed institutions. However, it remains the responsibility of the student to obtain pre-verified documents. Ribāṭ University does not directly verify academic records with schools on behalf of applicants.

## **Incomplete Records**

If an applicant's transcript is incomplete (for example, only covering certain academic years), the application will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Depending on the extent of missing information, the applicant may be required to take a placement exam to demonstrate academic readiness. In some cases, schools or countries may not provide detailed course-by-course transcripts. When this occurs, students may be required to supplement their records with additional information, such as course descriptions, syllabi,

or letters from their school. It is the responsibility of the applicant to contact their school and obtain the necessary documentation to support their application.

### **Provisional / Conditional Admission**

Conditional admission may be granted to applicants who demonstrate strong potential but have not yet completed the required exam or submitted full documentation. Once the exam is passed or the necessary records are provided, the applicant's admission will be converted to full status.

### **Documents Not in English**

All transcripts and official records must be submitted in English. Students are responsible for obtaining certified English translations of their academic documents. If a student is unable to arrange this, they may contact the Ribāṭ University Admissions Office for guidance. Please note that assistance is limited and not guaranteed, so students are encouraged to plan ahead and secure certified translations independently whenever possible.

### **Differences in Grading Scales and Educational Structures**

Because grading systems, curricula, and academic structures vary widely across countries (e.g., "A-levels" vs. a U.S. high school diploma), Ribāṭ University requires that transcripts be accompanied by grade conversions into the U.S. grading system. It is the responsibility of the applicant to arrange for this conversion, either through their school or a recognized credential evaluation service. If this is not possible, applicants may contact the Admissions Office for limited assistance, though support cannot always be guaranteed.

### **A Flexible Approach**

At Ribāṭ University, we understand that international applicants may face unique challenges in accessing, translating, or supplementing their academic records. While certain requirements must be met to ensure academic integrity, our Admissions Team is committed to working with applicants, within our available resources, to help them overcome these barriers wherever possible.

### **Our Commitment**

We understand that challenges with documentation are often beyond a student's control, particularly in cases of displacement, conflict, or hardship. Ribāṭ University is committed to offering fair pathways to admission wherever possible, ensuring that deserving students have the opportunity to pursue their studies and continue their educational journey.

### **Admissions Office Contact**

For more information or assistance, applicants may contact the Admissions Office at [admissions@rabata.org](mailto:admissions@rabata.org).

## **Ethical Conduct and Community Standards**

### **Rights and Responsibilities of Students**

Students are entitled to a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment where they can pursue their academic goals without discrimination or harassment. They have the right to access educational resources, express their ideas, and participate in institutional governance where applicable. With these rights come responsibilities: students are expected to uphold the university's code of conduct, engage in academic honesty, treat faculty, staff, and peers with respect, and contribute positively to the university community. By embracing both their rights and responsibilities, students help foster a culture of integrity, learning, and mutual respect.

### **Freedom of Expression**

Ribāṭ University affirms the fundamental importance of freedom of expression as a cornerstone of academic inquiry and personal growth. The university encourages the open exchange of ideas and the respectful exploration of varied viewpoints within an environment of mutual dignity and intellectual integrity. While community members are free to express their views in speech, writing, and creative work, this freedom carries the responsibility to uphold standards of civility, avoid harm, and contribute constructively to the learning environment. As an institution rooted in values of faith, scholarship, and community, Ribāṭ University is committed to fostering dialogue that is both intellectually rigorous and ethically grounded.

## **Ribāṭ Code of Conduct**

Students enrolled in Ribāṭ University are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, respect, and professionalism. The following guidelines outline the responsibilities of each student:

### **Academic Integrity and Coursework**

- All submitted work, including assignments, papers, and tests, must be the student's own original work. Any material taken from other sources must be clearly cited.
- Use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools for coursework must be in full accordance with the guidelines provided by the instructor for each assignment or activity.
- Students must not engage in dishonest behavior that would unfairly improve their own performance or affect the performance of others.
- Assignments must be submitted by the stated deadlines unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

### **Class Access and Content Privacy**

- Students may not record class sessions, in whole or in part, by any means.
- Class links, recordings, and course materials must not be shared with unregistered individuals.
- As Ribāṭ courses are designed for students aged 17 and above, students acknowledge the risk of exposing underage viewers to potentially age-inappropriate content if they are within hearing or viewing range.
- All course content, including material from classes, workshops, and seminars, is the intellectual property of Ribāṭ University. This content may not be re-taught, re-purposed, or used in any personal, local, or online teaching, speaking, or other context without written permission from the Education Director.
- Downloading, distributing, or reproducing course materials beyond personal educational use without permission is prohibited.

### **Conduct and Communication**

- Students must contribute to a respectful, inclusive, and supportive learning environment. Disruptive, discriminatory, or abusive behavior toward instructors or peers will not be tolerated.

- Communication with Ribāṭ instructors, staff, and fellow students must occur only through official Ribāṭ channels and reflect a respectful and courteous tone at all times.
- Students should communicate clearly and professionally in all academic correspondence, including emails, forums, and chat discussions.

## **Participation and Technology Use**

- Students are expected to attend all live sessions or keep up with recordings in a timely manner and participate actively in discussions, assignments, and course activities as required.
- Students are expected to use class technology and online platforms responsibly and exclusively for academic purposes during course sessions.
- Students are responsible for protecting their login credentials and must not share their Ribāṭ account access with others.

## **Consequences**

Failure to comply with any of these guidelines may result in removal from the program.

## **Academic Integrity**

Ribāṭ University upholds academic integrity as a core value of its learning community. Students are expected to maintain honesty and ethical conduct in all academic activities, including coursework, examinations, and communication. Violations of academic integrity compromise the learning environment and will be taken seriously, with potential consequences including course failure, disciplinary action, or removal from the program.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the act of presenting someone else's work, ideas, or words as one's own without proper citation. This includes copying from published sources, other students' work, or using AI-generated content without acknowledgement or permission where applicable. This includes use of AI for editing or reworking submitted coursework. All sources must be clearly and accurately cited using the format required by the instructor. Plagiarism is a serious violation of academic integrity and may result in disciplinary action.



## **Cheating**

Cheating includes using unauthorized materials, resources, or assistance during assignments, quizzes, or exams, or attempting to gain unfair academic advantage. This may involve sharing answers, copying another student's work, falsifying information, or using restricted tools or technologies inappropriately. Cheating undermines the integrity of the academic process and will result in disciplinary consequences.

## **Academic Misconduct**

Academic misconduct encompasses all forms of dishonest or unethical behavior related to coursework or student responsibilities. In addition to plagiarism and cheating, this includes tampering with grades, misrepresenting one's identity, submitting the same work in multiple courses without approval, or disrupting academic processes. Ribāṭ University takes academic misconduct seriously and investigates all reported violations.

## **Suspension and Dismissal**

Ribāṭ University reserves the right to suspend or dismiss a student whose academic performance, professional conduct, or ethical behavior falls below the standards expected of the program. Grounds for suspension or dismissal may include unsatisfactory academic progress, violation of university policies, academic dishonesty, or conduct inconsistent with Islamic values and community trust. Suspension may be applied as a temporary measure to allow the student an opportunity for remediation under specified conditions. Dismissal constitutes permanent separation from the program. Students will be notified in writing of the decision, the reasons for the action, and any available appeal process.

## **Social Media Guidelines**

Ribāṭ University encourages positive and responsible engagement on our social media platforms. We view social media as a dynamic place for our community—students, faculty, staff, and alumni. It allows us to connect, celebrate achievements, share ideas, and stay informed. These guidelines apply to all official university accounts and to all community members engaging on our channels.

## **General Principles**

- **Respect and Integrity:** Users are expected to uphold the highest standards of respect, honesty, and professionalism in all online interactions. Content that is

harassing, discriminatory, defamatory, or otherwise inconsistent with Ribāṭ University policies is prohibited.

- **Accuracy and Responsibility:** Information shared about the university should be accurate, factual, and posted with care. Misrepresentation of the university, its faculty, or its programs is not permitted.
- **Privacy and Confidentiality:** Users must protect the confidentiality of student records, personal data, and internal communications. Posting private, copyrighted, or sensitive material without permission is prohibited.
- **Civility and Constructive Engagement:** The university encourages open dialogue and intellectual exchange online. Disagreement is welcome when expressed with civility and in alignment with the university's code of conduct.
- **Legal Compliance:** All social media activity must comply with applicable laws, including copyright, data protection, and anti-discrimination regulations.

### **Mind Your Manners:**

Posts that contain private information (such as a social security number), derogatory comments or personal attacks aimed at specific students, faculty, or staff are not permitted.

- Keep it clean: Do not use obscene remarks, profanity, abusive or inappropriate language.
- Be factual and honest: Do not post blatantly inaccurate, false, or misleading information.
- Unlawful material, racist, sexist, homophobic, or sexually explicit posts aren't allowed.
- Comments will stay up if they contribute and remain relevant to the conversation.
- The page administrators reserve the right to remove comments. This is not to limit criticism, but to protect the privacy and rights of employees and students.

### **Be Safe:**

We encourage you to engage with Ribāṭ University online, but always prioritize your personal safety and security.

- **Protect your privacy:** We recommend adjusting the privacy settings on your personal accounts.
- **Be aware of unsolicited contact:** Ribāṭ University does not regularly monitor followers on its social media pages. Be cautious of anyone who contacts you asking

for personal or financial information. Ribāṭ University will never ask for personal information or codes through social media or email. When sharing personal information with Ribāṭ University, ensure you are securely logged in to an official university website.

- **Report threats immediately:** Crimes, illegal activity, and behavior that poses or is perceived to pose an imminent threat or risk of harm to anyone must be reported immediately to local law enforcement or the relevant campus safety office.

### **We Hate Spam (We Are Not Alone):**

All spam is removed at our sole discretion to maintain a valuable and positive community for everyone.

- Do not solicit, advertise, endorse, or promote a product or service for commercial or personal gain.
- Posts that do not add value or are overly promotional are removed.
- Repeatedly posting the same comment or content is disruptive to the community.

### **You Are Solely Responsible for the Content You Post:**

Although we may remove inappropriate material, we are not obligated to do so. Posting to our channels means you agree to comply with the Terms of Use for the respective social media platforms, the Ribāṭ University Ethical Conduct and Community Standards, and all internal, state, and federal privacy statements.

### **Ensure Proper Usage Rights:**

- **Implied Permission:** By posting, commenting, tagging Ribāṭ University, or otherwise engaging with official university accounts, you, the user, are giving the university your unlimited permission to republish, refer to, and otherwise use or re-use your words and other posted content in any format or medium at any time. This constitutes agreement to creative commons, fair use, and other use of public domain.
- **Verification of Rights:** By posting to our community, you are verifying that the content you are posting does not infringe on anyone else's intellectual property rights or violate any copyrights or trademarks. You are also attesting that you have the right to use the posted content, including necessary permission from anyone pictured in photography, video, or songs that you post.
- **Brand Protection:** No one should use Ribāṭ University's name or marks, impersonate the university, or imply official endorsement, or benefit financially by using the

university's name or marks without Ribāṭ University's consent. The university has the legal right to defend its brand against these violations.

### **How we engage with and manage content on this site:**

We pledge to be open and transparent to the valued members of our community about how we manage our social media channels.

- We reserve the right to remove content and block any party that does not comply with these guidelines on all official Ribāṭ University social media platforms.
- Ribāṭ University reserves the right to change these guidelines at any time.

## **Leave of Absence Policy**

### **Eligibility**

- Student must be in good academic standing
- Have no disciplinary action
- Be enrolled in a degree-seeking program

### **Types of Leave of Absence**

#### **Medical**

A student may request a Medical Leave of Absence for physical or mental health reasons. Medical documentation from a licensed professional will be required.

#### **Personal**

A student may request a Personal Leave of Absence for non-medical personal reasons (family emergency, death in the family, military duty, etc). Supporting documentation may be required.

#### **Academic**

A student may request an Academic Leave of Absence for opportunities such as research, study abroad, or internships not currently being offered by the university. It is the responsibility of the student to communicate interest in an Academic Leave of Absence with an academic advisor prior to applying for an Academic Leave of Absence and needs approval.

#### **Financial**

A student may request a Financial Leave of Absence due to financial hardship that prevents enrollment.

### **Duration of Leave of Absence**

- Minimum: One full academic term
- Maximum: One full academic year

A student who does not return after an approved time period for leave of absence must reapply with admissions.

### **Status While on Leave of Absence (LOA)**

A student will remain in good academic standing while under Leave of Absence.

Financial aid, scholarships, and loans may be impacted when a student is on a Leave of Absence. It is recommended, and the responsibility of the student, to consult Financial Aid and any lending institution about a change to enrolled status to a LOA status **before** requesting a LOA.

### **Application Process for Leave of Absence**

1. Submit a Leave of Absence Request Form to Registrar and Academic Advisor
2. Provide supporting documentation
3. Meet with an academic advisor for review and approval

### **Returning from Leave of Absence**

- Submit a Return from Leave form at least 30 days before re-enrollment of the upcoming term.
- For a medical leave, a medical clearance letter may be required
- A student returning from a LOA will maintain the same academic status held prior to leaving

### **Contact**

For further information about Ribāṭ University programs, policies, or services, please use the contact information below:

- Admissions Office: [admissions@rabata.org](mailto:admissions@rabata.org)
- Student Affairs Office: [studentaffairs@rabata.org](mailto:studentaffairs@rabata.org)
- Office of the Registrar: [registration@rabata.org](mailto:registration@rabata.org)

- Academic Advising: [advising@rabata.org](mailto:advising@rabata.org)
- Accessibility Services: [accessibility@rabata.org](mailto:accessibility@rabata.org)
- Rabata Bookshop: [bookshop.rabata.org](http://bookshop.rabata.org)
- Faculty: Faculty emails are included in each syllabus