DIPLOMA IN
ARABIC LANGUAGE & ISLAMIC STUDIES
Online Worldwide
Historic 2-Year Part-Time Diploma Programme

By Shaykh Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi
Dean of Cambridge Islamic College
Cambridge Islamic College is offering a two-year foundational level course in Arabic language and Islamic studies. It is designed to qualify participants for admission into the College’s Alimiyah degree programme. It is intended for those who can only devote part of their time to these subjects. The course has four components: Arabic language, hadith, fiqh and general Islamic studies.

In hadith, students will mainly study the important hadiths on which legal rulings are based – i.e. not the hadiths that are concerned with worship, moral virtues, events in the life of the Prophet and his companions, explanations of the Qur’an, etc. The principle text will be Bulugh al-Maram. They will learn the meanings of those hadiths and the detailed discussions in the interpretation of them for law. Time will be set aside for studying those hadiths which explain the fundamentals of Iman and Islam and how they help Muslims to develop piety, humility and good manners.

In fiqh, students will learn how to fulfill the acts of worship (prayer, fasting, zakah, hajj, etc.) properly and with understanding. They will study the main rules of family law, contract law, and the lawful and unlawful in Islam. The principle text used will be a mukhtasar (concise or compact) compendium of laws, such as the Hanafi Mukhtasar al-Quduri. This course is too short to discuss the sources, evidences and arguments adduced in the reasoning of jurists.

In general Islamic studies, students will study the lives of the major Prophets, sirah of the Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon them all, and some elementary aspects of the history of Islam and Islamic society.

In Arabic language, the course will develop skills in reading, speaking and writing Standard Arabic. It will include a wide range of literary and non-literary reading matter to improve essential comprehension skills. Students will be trained to write good prose in Standard Arabic, i.e. prose that is clear and correct in its expression of thought and argument. The course will cover the rules of grammar and syntax (nahw and sarf). By the end of the course, students should be able to understand how sentences are constructed in Arabic, how the different elements relate to each other, and how their relations affect meaning. They should be able, also, to apply this understanding to analyse passages of classical Arabic prose.

Our hope is for this course to meet the basic needs of Muslims living in the West. By doing this course alongside the national curriculum, they will gain a secure foundation on which they can build intelligent, informed practice of their religion, and from which they can proceed to further and deeper study of Arabic and the Islamic sciences.

Mohammad Akram Nadwi
Cambridge Islamic College
Shaykh Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi is from the Indian city of Lucknow and a graduate of the world renowned Nadwatul Ulama (India) where he studied and taught Shariah. Shaykh Akram is a Muhaddith of the highest calibre who has specialised in Ilm ul Rijal [the study of the narrators of Hadith]. He has Ijaza (licences) from many of the most renowned scholars of our time including Shaykh Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi, Shaykh Abdul-Fattah Abu Ghuddah and Shaykh Yusuf Al-Qaradawi. Shaykh Akram Nadwi has a doctorate in Arabic Language and has authored and translated over 25 titles on Language, Jurisprudence, Qur’an and Hadith. In May 2010, he completed a monumental 57-volume work on the lives of the female scholars of Hadith - ‘Al-Muhaddithat’. He is the recipient of the Allama Iqbal prize for contribution to Islamic thought. He is a former Research Fellow of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Oxford University. He is widely recognised as one of Western Europe’s leading Islamic scholars and is the founder and Dean of Cambridge Islamic College.

“Shaykh Muhammad Akram Nadwi, a venerable expert scholar: he has sacrificed his life for knowledge, either studying or teaching, then Allah Most High decreed him fit for writing.
Shaykh Muhammad Yaqubi

“Shaykh Nadwi is one of the excellent young scholars...
Shaykh Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi

“Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi ... is a model of engaged scholarship. A man who knows the principles and the traditions of Islam with great learning. He displays this learning without ostentation, with humility, But he writes about it with unquestioned authority,
James Piscatori, Durham University

“Maulana Mohammed Akram Nadwi has the necessary competence to access the original sources and evidences from the Qur’an and Sunnah, and to analyse legal issues in the light of those sources and evidences...
Shaykh Salman Husayni Nadwi
# Curriculum

## 1ST YEAR

**Fridays 7-10 PM**

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<td>Oct-Dec 2014</td>
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## 2ND YEAR

**Fridays 6:30-10:30 PM**

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## Course Schedule

- **Live Online Classes** every Friday during Term
- **Class Recordings** accessible for One Week
- **10 Weeks per Term - 40 Weeks per Year**

## First Year

**Term 1**
- 1) Al 'Arabiyyah lil-nash'een (Volume I) - 2 hrs
- 2) Stories of the Prophets by Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi (Volume I) - 1 hr

**Term 2**
- 1) Al 'Arabiyyah lil-nash'een (Volume II) - 2 hrs
- 2) Stories of the Prophets by Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi (Volume II) - ½ hr
- 3) Principles of Arabic Morphology by Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi – ½ hr

**Term 3**
- 1) Al 'Arabiyyah lil-nash'een (Volume III) - 2 hrs
- 2) Stories of the Prophets by Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi (Volume III) - ½ hr
- 3) Principles of Arabic Grammar by Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi – ½ hr

**Term 4**
- Shadha Al 'Arf (Advanced Arabic Morphology) by Hamalawy - 3 hrs

### Recommended Self Study - First Year:
- Tajweed, memorization of Juz' Amma, Forty Hadith of Imam Nawawi and Fiqh Al Islami by Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi (vol I)

## Second Year

**Term 1**
- 1) Al 'Arabiyyah lil-nash'een (Volume IV) - 1 hr
- 2) Kalila wa-Dimna – 1 hr
- 3) Bulugh al-Maram (Part I) – 1 hr
- 4) Mukhtasar al-Quduri (Part I) – 1 hr

**Term 2**
- 1) Al 'Arabiyyah lil-nash'een (Volume V) - 1 hr
- 2) Selection from Arabic Literature by Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi
- 3) Bulugh al-Maram (Part II) – 1 hr
- 4) Mukhtasar al-Quduri (Part II) – 1 hr

**Term 3**
- 1) Al 'Arabiyyah lil-nash'een (Volume VI) - 1 hr
- 2) Hamasah - the Book of Manners of Abu Tammam – 1 hr
- 3) Bulugh al-Maram (Part III) – 1 hr
- 4) Mukhtasar al-Quduri (Part III) – 1 hr

**Term 4**
- Sharh of Qatrul-Nada (Advanced Arabic Grammar) by Ibn Hisham - 4 hrs

### Recommended Self Study - Second Year:
- Stories of the Prophets, vol IV & V, and Susur Min Hayaat As Sahaba (Inspirational Biographies of Eminent Companions) by Dr. 'Abd al-Rahman Ra'fat Pasha
Textbooks

A brief introduction to the individual texts that will be used as course reference for the Diploma

Al ‘Arabiyyah lil-nash’een
This text constitutes the primary content for the course. This covers basic understanding of how sentences are structured in Arabic and the components that constitute sentences. The book covers the building blocks of the language in detail while making good use of examples. Each volume of this text builds the foundation in a gradual manner making it an easy and interactive module.

Stories of the Prophets by Shaykh Abul Hasan ‘Ali Nadwi
This is part of a series developed by Shaykh Abul Hasan ‘Ali Nadwi written especially for children to help them learn the Arabic language using prophetic stories written in a simple but clear Arabic style which become progressively more elaborate. Used as a primer for those learning the Arabic language, it is taught in Islamic seminaries around the world.

Principles of Arabic Grammar by Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi
This text constitutes a concise introduction to the science of Arabic Grammar (Al-Nahw).

Shadha Al ‘Arf (Advanced Arabic Morphology) by Hamalawy
This concise text constitutes a detailed study of the science of Arabic Morphology (Al-Sarf).

Kalila wa-Dimna (Arabic Prose)
Kalila and Dimna, named after the two jackals who are the main characters, is a book of fables originally written in Sanskrit sometime in the fourth century A.D. Three hundred years later Ibn al-Mukaffa’ translated it into Arabic in a style so lucid it is still considered a model of Arabic prose.

Mukhtasar al-Quduri (Fiqh Treatise)
Mukhtasar al-Quduri is one of the most celebrated and influential treatises in any Muslim school of thought and is one of the important works in the Hanafi school. It is comprised of approximately 12,500 issues spanning the entire spectrum of fiqh.

Selection from Arabic Literature by Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi
This is a selection of texts from Arabic literature compiled for students of the language.

Hamasah - The Book of Manners (Poetry) by Abu Tamamm
The Hamasah (Arabic for “exhortation”) is one of the greatest anthologies of Arabic literature ever written. There are ten books of poems in the Hamasah, all classified by subject. Some of them are selections from long poems. This is one of the treasuries of early Arabic poetry, and the poems are of exceptional beauty. The book of Manners is one of the ten books.

Sharh of Qatrul-Nada (Advanced Arabic Grammar) by Ibn Hisham
This is an advanced book in the science of Arabic Grammar. Written by one of the experts of this field. This work was originally written as a basic work for students who needed a direct approach to Arabic Grammar. However after a short while the author compiled an explanation on it so as to further ease the understanding of the student.
There are many Arabic and Islamic Studies courses on offer. What makes this course different?

- This course is designed and taught by a scholar of highest reputation and recognition who is an authority and expert of the Arabic Language and Islamic Sciences. He has over 30 years experience in teaching in both Islamic colleges and Western universities. He has authored and translated over 25 titles relating to Arabic and Islamic Sciences including the 57-volume work, ‘Al-Muhaddithat’, on Women Scholars of Hadith. His introductory books on Arabic Grammar (Al-Nahw), Morphology (Al-Sarf) and Principles (Usul) of Tafsir, Hadith and Fiqh are used all over the world in madrasahs, Islamic institutes and colleges for teaching Alimiyah (Islamic Scholarship Degree) students.

- This course combines both Arabic and Islamic Studies in one Diploma. This gives students the unique opportunity to apply the language in various disciplines such as Qur’an, Hadith, Fiqh and History, thereby gaining a thorough grasp of the language whilst also benefiting from learning essential knowledge from the Arabic sources.

- This course takes the student from the beginner level (only able to read and write Arabic without understanding) to a level where they can fluently comprehend the Qur’an as well as classical and contemporary Arabic literature. They will also be able to understand pre-Islamic poetry that defines the usage of the language.

Features of the Arabic & Islamic Studies Diploma Programme

- Designed and taught by a scholar of the highest reputation, recognition & authority
- Taught in the English Language
- Course notes and textbooks made available
- Online Student Collaboration System for discussion and questions
- Online Tutor Collaboration System for queries and assistance
- Taught in Oxford and Cambridge
- Online Live & Recorded Access Worldwide
- High quality HD video delivery system
- Friday classes accessible for one whole week for catch up and revision at no extra cost
- Provision of recordings for longer periods in exceptional circumstances such as travel, illness and exams
- Ideal for adults and children over 15yrs
- Well above A-Level standard achieved - high proficiency in classical and modern Arabic including ancient poetry
- Prerequisite for full-time ‘Alimiyah Degree
- Option of payment for individual terms
- £200 discount if paying in full for a year
- Exam held at the end of each term
- Diploma granted on successful completion by the Cambridge Islamic College

This course is structured for part time study - 3 hours a week with the teacher and 3 hours a week in self study. Students will have the flexibility to follow the course while continuing with other studies or work, from anywhere in the world. They can also catch up and revise with recordings of each class for one whole week (or more in exceptional circumstances). This course is a prerequisite for the full time 2-year degree-level Alimiyah programme at the Cambridge Islamic College. This degree is ideal for those who wish to combine their professional qualifications with Islamic studies in just two years with the best teachers in the UK.
The classes are uncovering treasures which are only known if you are willing to sacrifice time & money to learn from Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi. You will have a very different understanding of Islamic history after observing a wealth of knowledge not found commonly in the textbooks.

Imran Tufail, Reading, UK

The course exceeded my expectations. Hardly anything was not of direct relevance. Comprehensive and very informative – it will give me a great platform on which to build insha’Allah. I thoroughly enjoyed the course. The explanations and examples were excellent. Shaykh Akram peppered his presentation with humour and made a difficult subject very interesting and understandable.

Obaidah Shaker, iERA, London, UK

I have done 4 years of Islamic Studies at an Islamic institute. I was therefore not sure how much I would benefit from the diploma “Introduction to Classical Islamic Texts”. Then I decided to attend anyway with the intention of at least revising my Islamic studies. Also I was not sure how I could follow the course as English is not my first language. But just after a few minutes of attending I was highly impressed. The professional organization made it very easy for me to catch up on the missed classes. The online live-class with high technical standards and the facility to ask questions was very beneficial. So far the class has not only been a revision but much more than that. Dr Akram Nadwi has very high qualities and the depth he goes into is phenomenal. He covers many details which are indeed very hard to find anywhere else. Therefore this course, in my view, is unique in terms of the content as well as the organization. I’m quite sure that I will attend the next series as well. I would recommend these classes to everyone. Thank you very much for Cambridge Islamic Sciences Worldwide for their efforts and for providing such great seminars.

Saber Ben Neticha, Frankfurt, Germany

“A lot of people talk about Imam Bukhari, they narrate from Imam Bukhari, they know his book to be the most authentic but they don’t really appreciate the effort, thought, and depth of Imam Bukhari in his Sahih. After only one day, our students and staff here at Bayyinah Institute have developed a profound appreciation of Imam Bukhari’s contribution and Sh. Akram’s scholarship.

Ustaz Adam Jamal, Bayyinah Dream Instructor, Dallas, USA
Cambridge Islamic College

Cambridge Islamic College is dedicated to restoring the full meaning of education by offering an opportunity to study, comprehensively and critically, the syllabus of a classical education in the Islamic sciences sensitively adapted for our time.

The core aims of the teaching programme are:

- to give students the necessary skills in reading and using both classical and modern Arabic. Without these skills they cannot expect to access the vast treasury of Islamic thought and culture, still less to benefit by interrogating it critically. Also, Arabic remains the common language among Islamic scholars from different parts of the world and is therefore essential for the exchange of perspectives and experiences.
- to teach students the basic techniques and responsibilities of academic research, how to read sources critically, how to negotiate and evaluate arguments and counter-arguments, and how to build their own arguments through writing and speaking exercises.
- to enable students to read the Qur’an and Qur’anic commentary (tafsir) so that they understand how its teaching educates conscience and behaviour. They should be able to explain to others, as well as understand for themselves, how the guidance of the Qur’an relates to contemporary issues and circumstances.
- to teach students the history and development of sira (the biography of the Prophet) and of the hadith sciences: emphasis will be placed on understanding when and how the major hadith compilations were recorded, how the material was assessed and interpreted to inform the norms and rules of individual and collective life, and its continued relevance today.

Cambridge Islamic College is dedicated to restoring the full meaning of education by offering an opportunity to study, comprehensively and critically, the syllabus of a classical education in the Islamic sciences sensitively adapted for our time.

The core aims of the teaching programme are:

- to give students a firm grasp of the major events in the evolution of fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence), the major schools of law, their commonalities and differences, and the good manners (adab) in managing plurality of legal opinion.
- to help students think through some of the theological and philosophical controversies that have persisted in Islamic societies over the centuries and the cultural and political consequences of these controversies in terms of inter-sectarian and inter-religious polemic.
- to enable students to serve as faithful representatives of a practised Islam that is, according to the pattern of God’s Messenger and his Companions, gracious and patient with religious diversity; an Islam based on sound knowledge that the students have acquired for themselves and which they carry back into their communities; an Islam practised as a commitment to respect, care for and serve others; an Islam secured not by attachment to communal identity but by attachment to God.

The most basic function of education is to equip the young with the skills and knowledge that will enable them to participate fully in the human world that they inherit from the older generation and to live ‘a good life’. In recent times this function has come to be understood in the narrow sense of instruction that equips the young to be economically productive; that is, to earn a living. The religious underpinnings and values of ‘a good life’, such as mutual respect and caring, have come to be largely subordinated to economic activity. The negative outcomes of limiting education in this way are everywhere obvious and everywhere on the increase. For example, since regulations and professional procedures cannot teach the will to care and the will to do the right thing, shared public spaces (indeed, even some private spaces) have to be kept under surveillance and policed. That is just one symptom of a vicious spiral of incivility, mistrust and hostility within and between sections of our society.

Mohammad Akram Nadwi
Cambridge Islamic College