



**Alibaba
International
Center**

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International Center**

COLLEGE PROGRAMS

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ABIC 02 – Arabic Language and Middle Eastern Area Studies in Jordan (Semester Program)

Ali Baba International Center (ABIC) is an Arabic Language Institute situated in the heart of Amman, the vibrant capital of Jordan. The Center offers year-round Arabic language immersion programs designed to provide a comprehensive cultural and linguistic experience. A typical semester program includes three core components: (1) Arabic language and Middle Eastern area studies course, (2) comfortable, student-friendly accommodation, and (3) a dynamic schedule of extracurricular activities and guided tours to Jordan's most renowned historical and cultural sites. Further details are provided below.

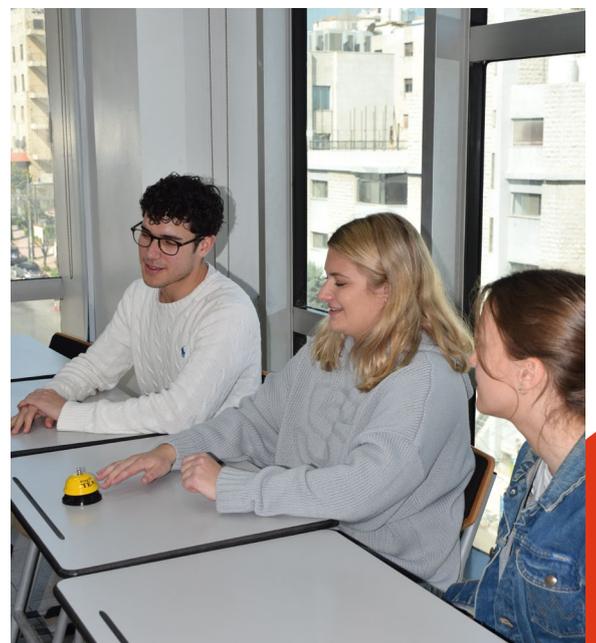
Program Academics

At the heart of the program is the Arabic language and Middle Eastern area studies course. Key details—such as instructional hours, proficiency levels, core textbooks, thematic content, credit transfer guidelines, and program dates—are outlined below.

- **Number of Hours :** The program delivers a total of 320 contact hours over a -16week period. Instruction is provided five days a week, with four hours of class time each day, totaling 20 teaching hours per week. This schedule results in approximately 80 instructional hours each month.
- **Levels :** Each group course is offered at three main levels: beginner, intermediate, and advanced. Depending on enrollment, these levels may be further divided into sub-levels to better accommodate students' needs. Placement into small, level-appropriate groups is determined by the results of an online placement test and a pre-course interview.
- **Course Content and Instructional Resources :** The course is designed to cover two main areas: Arabic Language and Middle Eastern Area Studies. A diverse selection of instructional resources is used to ensure that students meet the program's intended learning outcomes.

o **Arabic Language :** Instructional materials for Arabic language study at ABIC are primarily based on two internationally recognized textbooks—Al-Kitaab and Al-Asas. These core texts are supplemented by additional resources and interactive activities tailored to support skill development in speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

o **Middle Eastern Area Studies :** This component utilizes a diverse range of historical and contemporary sources—such as academic texts, scholarly articles, media content, and research papers—to provide students with a well-rounded understanding of the region's history, politics, society, and culture.



- **Official Credit Transfer and Equivalency:** This program is typically equivalent to at least 16 credit hours at most credit-based universities. ABIC issues official transcripts at the end of each academic term and can provide supporting documentation to help home institutions facilitate direct credit transfer. As a general guideline, one credit hour is granted for every 15 to 20 contact hours completed at ABIC.

- **Program Dates:** This semester-based program is offered twice annually: once in the Fall Semester and once in the Spring Semester.

- The Fall Semester program runs annually from late August/early September to mid-December, concluding before the Christmas holiday. In 2025, it will be held from **August 31 to December 18**.

- The Spring Semester program is offered annually from early February to late May, concluding before the summer holiday. For the 2026-2025 academic year, it will run from **February 1 to May 2026 ,28**.



Accommodation Options

ABIC offers a range of housing options to suit different preferences, including private apartments, shared apartments, and homestays with local Jordanian families. All accommodations are conveniently located near the Center and are easily accessible by foot or a short taxi ride. For more information about each option, please visit our [Accommodation Page](#).

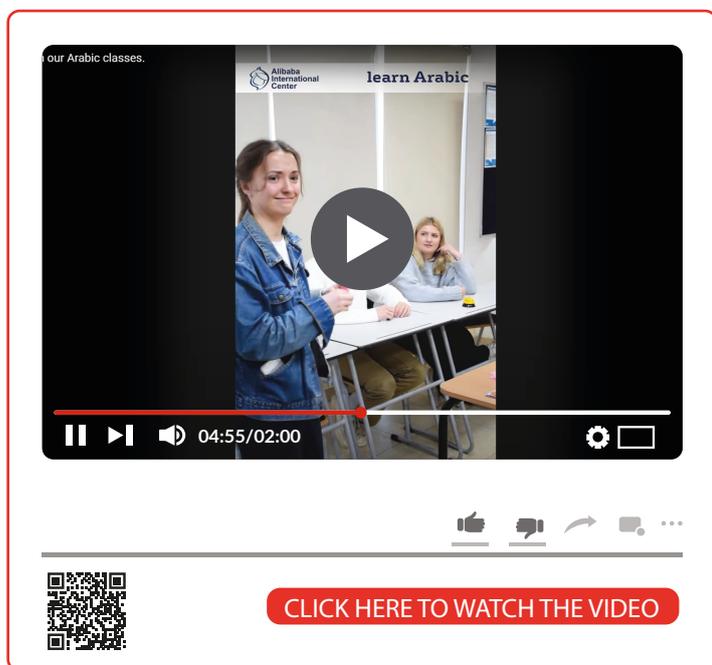
- **Private Studio :** A compact, open-plan living space that includes a bedroom, private bathroom, and kitchenette.
- **Private Apartment:** A fully furnished unit featuring a separate bedroom, bathroom, kitchenette, and living area.
- **Shared Apartment:** A multi-bedroom unit shared with other students, offering shared access to a bathroom, kitchenette, and living area.
- **Homestay with a Local Family:** Includes a private bedroom and bathroom, along with two home-cooked meals per day, providing a culturally immersive experience.

Cultural Engagement: On-Campus Events and Off-Campus Trips

Each week, ABIC organizes a variety of engaging extracurricular activities, both on-campus and off-campus, designed to enhance students' cultural immersion and language learning experience. These activities range from interactive workshops and cultural events to guided excursions across Jordan. A sample of these activities is listed below. To explore photos and videos from past events, please visit our [Activities Gallery Page](#).

- **On-Campus Activities :** A variety of cultural experiences are offered on-site, including Arabic calligraphy workshops, henna design sessions, colored sand bottle art, traditional Jordanian lunch days, and cultural open house events. These activities provide hands-on engagement with Arab traditions and customs

- **Off-Campus Trips:** The program includes three organized day trips every month:
 - A guided tour of downtown Amman with a traditional Jordanian breakfast (Week 1)
 - An unforgettable visit to the ancient city of Petra (Week 2)
 - A combined trip to Jerash and Ajloun, exploring Roman ruins and scenic hilltop castles (Week 3).
- **Language Partner Program:** Students are paired with local university students to practice conversational Arabic and build meaningful cross-cultural connections through informal language exchange.



Program Cost

Program costs vary based on the chosen accommodation type. A detailed breakdown is provided below:

- **Tuition : \$3,500**
- **Accommodation Options :**
 - Homestay with a local family : \$3,400
 - Private studio apartment : \$2,600
 - Shared standard apartment : \$2,200
- **On-Campus Social Activities :** Included at no additional cost
- **Off-Campus Excursions :** Included, with the exception of entrance fees to historical and cultural sites

Scholarships and Financial Support

Students are encouraged to apply for external funding opportunities such as the Boren Awards, Fulbright Program, Fund for Education Abroad, Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, FLAS, and others. ABIC also offers partial financial aid to eligible students.

Registration and Admission

Enrolling in the program is simple and streamlined. To apply, please follow the provided instructions carefully and complete the application form in full to ensure timely processing. For registration details and to begin your application, visit our [Registration Page](#).

Registration Deadline

There is no fixed registration deadline for the program. Enrollment is accepted on a rolling basis, and seats are allocated in the order applications are received until the course reaches full capacity. Early registration is recommended to secure a place. Prospective students are encouraged to contact ABIC at info@alibaba.jo to inquire about current availability and receive assistance with the application process.

Student Testimonials

Student feedback plays a vital role in helping us enhance our programs and services. Testimonials are collected in two formats: written statements and recorded video messages. To view past testimonials, please visit our [Testimonials Page](#).