



## THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP

Creating Global Professionals

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### UM ARABIC FLAGSHIP PARTNER PROGRAM

#### ABSTRACT

The Department of Near Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan (UM) received an award to establish a partnership with the Arabic Flagship Center at the University of Texas (UT). The long-term goal of this partnership is to consolidate and develop the substantial resources and projects that already exist at both institutions, in order to improve, innovate and expand advanced Arabic curriculum in the areas of teaching, testing, material development and dissemination with focus on the following key areas:

- Training current qualified undergraduate students from a variety of disciplines who are motivated to develop high-level proficiency in Arabic while completing their degree requirements
- Curriculum expansion, to include web-based advanced Arabic media courses, content-based courses, and a basic course in Arab culture
- On-line Arabic proficiency testing
- Publication and dissemination of resource materials upon completion, including *Arabic for Communication: Interactive Multimedia Program, Annotated Bibliography on Foreign Language Teaching and Learning (with focus on Arabic), Introduction to Arab Culture Course Materials, Atlas of the Arab World Application and the Online Arabic Proficiency Test*
- Sharing of courses, course syllabi, and field testing newly-developed instructional material
- Intensive summer Arabic teaching at UM/UC
- Applied classroom research on learning strategies

A tested L1 proficiency level is required of students selected for the Arabic Flagship Program. Upon successful completion of their course work of study at UM, Arabic Flagship fellows at L2+ proficiency level and above will be ready to join Flagship sites in Alexandria or Damascus for a full year of study and internship in Arabic.

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