Historic 2-Year Part-Time Diploma Programme

DIPLOMA IN
ARABIC LANGUAGE & ISLAMIC STUDIES

ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL ARABIC & ISLAMIC STUDIES PROGRAMMES IN THE WORLD

Historic 2-Year Part-Time Diploma Programme

Online Worldwide

By Shaykh Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi
Dean of Cambridge Islamic College
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CURRICULUM & DATES
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 ‘Alimiyyah/graduation programme. It is intended for those who can devote only part of their time to these subjects. The course has four components: Arabic language, hadith, fiqh & general Islamic studies.

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.

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 principal text will be al-Ihkam. 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 do 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 lawful and unlawful in Islam. The principal 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 learn about the lives of the major Prophets & the sirah of the Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon them all, as well as some elementary aspects of the history of Islam and Islamic society.

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 get 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

Alhumdulillah I have been exposed to a good share of Islamic Academic Institutions and scholars who have dedicated their life to teaching. Cambridge Islamic Collage is by far the most fruitful Islamic learning experience that I have had; the most authentic and rigorous scholarship with ease and convenience.

Syed Hassan, The Taqwa Institute & AlManarat Private School
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 (licenses) from many of the most renowned scholars of our time including Shaykh Abul Hasan Ali Al-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 female scholars of Hadith in Islamic History. He is the recipient of the Allama Iqbal prize for contribution to Islamic thought. He is a former Research Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Oxford University and is widely recognised as one of Western Europe’s leading Islamic scholars and is the founder and Dean of Cambridge Islamic College.

"Akram’s zeal for knowledge reminds you of the Prophetic saying: ‘Allah’s Apostle ﷺ said: There are two avaricious people who are never content: one greedy of knowledge who is never content & the other greedy of the world (worldly riches & that of power) who is never content."

Shaykh Yunus Jaunpuri
Teacher of Sahih al-Bukhari for over 20 years at Maza’ir al-‘Ulum, Saharanpur, India
[Akram Nadwi is] one of the excellent young scholars...this excellent person.
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
It is a great honour and privilege to be taught by a scholar of such great rank, knowledge and humility. I am finding the course immensely rewarding in so many ways. Furthermore, the organisers – Cambridge Islamic College – are extremely professional and have provided a very structured and high-quality course, both with the online facilities and on location in Oxford.

Muhammad Meki, PhD Student, Oxford, United Kingdom
## 1ST YEAR

### Term 1
1. Al’Arabiyyah lil-nash’een (Vol I) - 2 hrs
2. Stories of the Prophets by Abul Hasan ‘Ali Nadwi (Vol I) - 1 hr
3. Weekly Tutorial - 1 hr

### Term 2
1. Al’Arabiyyah lil-nash’een (Vol II) - 2 hrs
2. Stories of the Prophets by Abul Hasan ‘Ali Nadwi (Vol II) - ½ hr
3. Principles of Arabic Morphology by Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi - ½ hr
4. Weekly Tutorial - 1 hr

### Term 3
1. Al’Arabiyyah lil-nash’een (Vol III) - 2 hrs
2. Stories of the Prophets by Abul Hasan ‘Ali Nadwi (Vol III) - ½ hr
3. Principles of Arabic Grammar by Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi - ½ hr
4. Weekly Tutorial - 1 hr

### Term 4
1. Revision & Exercise sessions on Arabic Morphology - 1 hrs
2. Revision & Exercise sessions on Arabic Grammar - 2 hrs
3. Weekly Tutorial - 1 hr

### Self Study [Mandatory]
1. Tajweed
2. Memorization of Juz ‘Ammah
3. Forty Hadith of Imam Nawawì and
4. Fiqh Al Islami by Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi (Vol I).

## 2ND YEAR

### Term 1
1. Al’Arabiyyah lil-nash’een (Vol IV) - 1 hr
2. Kalila wa-Dimna (Part I) – 1hr
3. Al-Ihkam (Part I) – 1hr
4. Mukhtasar Al-Quduri (part I) – 1 hr
5. Weekly Tutorial - 1 hr

### Term 2
1. Al’Arabiyyah lil-nash’een (Vol V) - 1 hr
2. Kalila wa-Dimna (Part II) – 1hr
3. Al-Ihkam (Part II) – 1hr
4. Mukhtasar Al-Quduri (part II) – 1 hr
5. Weekly Tutorial - 1 hr

### Term 3
1. Al’Arabiyyah lil-nash’een (Vol VI) - 1 hr
2. Hamasah - the Book of Manners by Abu Tammam – 1hr
3. Al-Ihkam (Part III) – 1hr
4. Mukhtasar Al-Quduri (part III) – 1 hr
5. Weekly Tutorial - 1 hr

### Term 4
1. Sharh of Qatrul-Nada (Advanced Arabic Grammar) by Ibn Hisham - 3 hrs
2. Mukhtasar Al-Quduri (part IV) – 1 hr
3. Shadha Al’Arf (Advanced Arabic Morphology) by Hamalawy - 3 hrs
4. Weekly Tutorial - 1 hr

### Self Study [Recommendation]
1. Stories of the Prophets (Vol IV & V)
2. Suwar Min Hayaati As-Sahaba (Inspirational biographies of eminent Companions) By Dr. ‘Abd al-Rahman Ra’fat Pasha.
3. Tafsir Surah Yusuf [Mandatory]
A brief introduction to the individual texts that will be used as course reference for the Diploma is given below.

**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 the 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 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 Morphology by Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi**
This text constitutes a concise introduction to the science of Arabic Morphology (As-Sarf).

**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 sciences of Arabic Morphology (Al-Sarf).

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“**I found the rigorous curriculum both engaging and exciting. Alongside study of grammar – sarf and nahw both – we were reading modern Arabic prose and the acclaimed work on the lives of the Prophets, Qisas al-Nabiyyin. This last text is used in madaris worldwide; its inclusion in the curriculum made me realise that I was receiving an experience similar to that of the typical madrasah student I’d dreamed of becoming even without leaving these shores.**

Harun Mahmud, History Student, Cambridge University
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.

Al-Ihkam (Hadith Collection)
This is a collection of Hadith pertaining specifically to the juristic rulings as taken from the major Hadith Collections (Bukhari/Muslim). Compiled by Dr Akram Nadwi.

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 comprises of approximately 12,500 issues spanning the entire spectrum of fiqh.

Hamasah - The Book of Manners (Poetry) by Abu Tamam
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 that needed a direct approach to Arabic Grammar. However after a short while, the author compiled an explanation for 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 the highest reputation and recognition: an authority and expert of Arabic Language and Islamic Sciences. He has over 30 years of experience in teaching, both at Islamic colleges and secular universities. He has authored and translated over 25 titles relating to Arabic and Islamic sciences. 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 'Alimiyyah (Islamic scholarship degree) colleges.

- This course combines both Arabic and Islamic studies in one Diploma. This gives students the 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 Islamic knowledge from Arabic sources.

- This course is structured for part time studies - 3 hours a week with the teacher, 1 hour a week of live tutorials with a tutor and another 3 hours a week for self study. Students will have the flexibility to follow the course from anywhere in the world and to catch up or revise each class for one whole week.

- This course takes the student from the beginner level (only able to read and write Arabic without understanding) to a level
Over the past year, I have had the honour and pleasure to study the Arabic & Islamic Studies Diploma under Shaykh Akram Nadwi. As the course has progressed from the basics of Arabic to more advanced topics, what really struck me was the emphasis that Shaykh Akram placed on reasoning and creativity over thoughtless memorization of facts.

Imran Naved, Engineering Student, Oxford
“Being a native Arabic speaker, my primary goal in enrolling was to improve my grammar. By successfully completing Year One of the DAIS program, I have gained much more. If you ask about the curriculum, it is diverse and balanced. If you ask about the Shaykh’s teaching style, he is extremely knowledgeable and engaging. If you ask about the staff, they are professional, responsive and friendly. If you ask about the online components, they are well-designed and user friendly. I highly recommend DAIS to anybody who seeks a solid foundation of the Arabic language. This is your opportunity to seize!

Salwa Elguzouli, Home-Maker and PA, M.Sc. USA
Cambridge Islamic College has transformed my life – It has enabled me to pursue my passion of learning Arabic and Islam without abandoning my career. Which in my view was never a possibility. It has shown me the path to a life long journey of learning and what’s best to know is that I am not alone in this journey. It has made me think, think clearly and critically both about my personal and professional life. It has given me the guidance and surety that it’s not either or – I can do both, deen and duniya.

Paras Gujar, 
Reward Business Partner/Manager, London, UK

I previously completed Cambridge Islamic College’s (CIC) Diploma in Classical Islamic Texts and was impressed by Shaykh Akram’s enthusiasm and adab in teaching and his intimate knowledge not just with major Islamic scholarly works and Arabic, but also his ability to contextualize it for a modern student body. So, when the Diploma in Arabic and Islamic Studies came up, I didn’t hesitate to register.

Khairul Anwar, 
Urban Planner, URA, Singapore
DAIS has been a life-changing course for me, I have achieved so much in learning Arabic through the 2-year course. Even though I can only attend online classes, the recordings, homework and tutorials have really helped. I also like Shaykh Akram’s teaching method where he uses classical Arabic texts such as books of hadith, Stories of the Prophets and modern texts as well to demonstrate the use of the Arabic language. Although I was skeptical in the first place to learn online, alhamdulillah, I would say it has been a great learning experience for me and I hope to continue further to a more advanced level soon in shaa Allah.

Putri Shahnim Khalid,
Staff Engineer, B.E. Malaysia
My learning experience with Dr. Akram has been superb. He is an exceptional teacher who has the ability to engage with his students. He makes us think, ponder and apply the knowledge to our context and think out of the box. He encourages critical thinking, and teaches necessary tools needed to become a good believer and submitter to our Creator. Dr. Akram is very patient with his students and addresses their questions thoroughly.

He is unique due to his command over not just the Hadith studies, but also Tafsir, Seerah and many other Islamic sciences. I highly encourage everyone to study with Dr. Akram and benefit from his knowledge, humility and forbearance. Personally, I pray that Allah gives me the opportunity to study with him in person.

Alhamdulilah, I began my journey of knowledge with CIC in 2014 when I joined the Arabic and Islamic studies course online since I am based in Hong Kong. My hopes were not high but I wanted to give it a try. After the first semester, although I have a family and job, I was more than eager to continue. In my opinion the course with Dr. Akram’s in-depth knowledge and commitment, is unique and a complete guidance based on the Quran and the prophet’s teaching, an experience that lead me to the discovery of multiple forms of Allah’s mercies programmed in us to deal with this life as a Muslim and hope for Allah’s mercy in the hereafter.

Noreen Khanzada, Hong Kong
Cambridge Islamic College’s mission is to produce a generation of independent Islamic scholars and thinkers who are at the same time working professionals contributing to the wider British and western society. Cambridge Islamic College is committed to bridging the disconnect between mainstream secular education and specialised Islamic studies. It puts particular emphasis on attracting bright, capable students who are already professionals or on the way to becoming professionals. It expects its graduates to be active as role models in their communities, respected both for their knowledge of the religion and for the flexibility, realism, and independence of mind with which they apply it. In this way they will inspire others to combine the practice of Islam with a positive concern to use their personal and professional skills for the benefit of the whole society.

Cambridge Islamic College takes its students through a rigorous and critical study of the classical Islamic sciences and their sub-disciplines. Alongside the Islamic sciences, the contemporary challenges facing the world and Muslims in particular, are a core focus of the curriculum. Students are encouraged to develop an informed understanding of the shared and different values among Muslims and non-Muslims, and to cultivate the essentially religious virtue of respect and tolerance of others. That virtue is also the basis of civility and good citizenship, and the foundation of a cohesive society that embraces and enjoys its diversity.

Cambridge Islamic College is dedicated to restoring the full meaning of education by offering an opportunity to study, comprehensively & critically, the syllabus of a classical education in the Islamic sciences sensitively adapted for our time.
College in the past three years has launched three exciting long term structured diploma programmes taught by its Dean, Dr Mohammad Akram Nadwi and supported by a panel of 6 tutors.

1. Diploma in Introduction to Classical Islamic Texts
2. Diploma in Arabic and Islamic Studies
3. Diploma in Advanced Qur'an Tafsir Studies (Surah Baqarah)

The courses were delivered onsite in Cambridge, Oxford and London with also live and recorded online access to students from all over the world in 185 cities in 25 countries.

The College also launched its Cambridge Islamic Sciences Online Diploma series in the year 2015. These are short 6-month programmes consisting of 6 one day courses per diploma.

1. Diploma in Usul al-Deen – Fundamentals of Islam
2. Diploma in Essential Fiqh for Modern Times
3. Diploma in Seerah of the Major Prophets
4. Diploma in Theology, Logic and Philosophy
5. Diploma in Usul al-Fiqh and Fiqh Studies
6. Diploma in Usul al-Hadith and Hadith Studies
7. Diploma in Usul al-Tafsir and ‘Ulum al-Qur’an Studies
8. Diploma in Hadith and Sunnah Studies – Major Books of Hadith
13. Diploma in History of Female Islamic Scholarship.
14. Diploma in History of Sufism & Introduction to Classical Spirituality Texts

For more information visit
www.cambridgeislamiccollege.org/course
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