

برنامج جامعتي فرجينيا-اليرموك الصيفي للغة العربية  
University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program

Mohammed Sawaie, Director  
PO BOX 400781  
B027 Cabell Hall  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22904-4781  
TEL: (434) 982-2304

Dear 2006 UVA-Yarmouk Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program. I am delighted that you are interested in applying. I have enclosed an application form which must be completed and returned by **Monday March 20, 2006.**

The University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program began in the summer of 1984. It has been quite successful, not only in the level of instruction that has been offered, but also as a way of introducing students to the Arab world. It has been successful because it has been demanding. You are applying for admission to a **genuinely intensive summer language program which requires daily class attendance and participation.**

Yarmouk University is located in a conservative Muslim community and has regulations governing student life which reflect the norms of this society. **Academic standards and demands are rigorous.** Program participants must NOT expect to be able to enjoy all of the freedoms and conveniences of life of an American academic community. We have found that our students who conform to the mores of their Jordanian peers get the most out of their time at Yarmouk. Participants of the Program are housed in Yarmouk University housing facilities, and have curfews in the evening. No exceptions to these rules can be made for our participants.

One of the benefits of foreign study in any country is the opportunity it affords for immersion in the local culture and environment. There are special physical and emotional demands attendant on any such experience abroad, no matter where it might be. Culture shock is a common experience when living in a foreign country.

Deciding to embark on any study-abroad program is a commendable, rewarding, yet immense, undertaking. The pressures of living and studying abroad are considerable. It is important that all participants in this program be able to adjust to changes in climate, diet, living conditions and social norms. Living abroad can create emotional and physical stress for those not able to meet the demands of a new and different environment. There are ways you can prepare yourself for these demands and what to expect once you arrive in Jordan. Start by talking with your Arabic professors and others who may have lived in or visited Jordan or other areas of the Middle East. You may also wish to check your university's library for informational literature.

Also included with this letter and application form is an informational sheet. If you have any questions about any of these documents, please feel free to contact us in writing, by e-mail ([uvayarmk@Virginia.edu](mailto:uvayarmk@Virginia.edu)), by calling us at (434) 982-2304 or by browsing our website ([http://www.virginia.edu/arabic/yarmuk\\_program.htm](http://www.virginia.edu/arabic/yarmuk_program.htm)).

Sincerely,

Mohammed Sawaie  
Director

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## CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE APPLYING

### Academics

- The University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program is intensive and rigorous.
- Classroom instruction in the Program is completely in Arabic and aims at developing the four language skills, speaking, reading, writing and listening evenly.
- One of the goals of the Program is to immerse the student in the Arabic language. Basically, the student will be living a language experience.
- The main purpose of the Program is to develop language skills. The purpose of our Program is **NOT** to provide a cheap summer vacation, nor an opportunity to visit family/friends, nor a time to pursue research interests.
- Participants will pledge to speak Arabic only at the Language Center and the public places of their housing facilities.

### Cultural Differences

- The culture in Jordan, and the Middle East as a whole, is extremely different from that of the U.S.
- Male-female interaction and dynamics are quite different in the Middle East from those in the U.S.
- Conduct in public places may be classified as "reserved." Women, as well as men, dress much more modestly.
- Visitors and Irbidi citizens--especially women--who do not conform to the societal norms may encounter verbal and possibly tactile harassment. This can be even more disturbing than similar conditions in the U.S. when one is unfamiliar with the culture and one's new surroundings.
- Participants are required to abide by a **curfew imposed by Yarmouk University on all students who live in their housing facilities. This curfew is not open to negotiation.**

### Living in Irbid

- Summers in Jordan are pleasantly warm and dry, but bearable. Humidity is low.
- Irbid, as opposed to the bigger cities like Amman, is a small town with no night-life.
- Female participants will be housed as a group in a Yarmouk University housing facility.
- Male participants will be housed as a group in a Yarmouk University housing facility.
- **Expect group living to bring extra expectations as well as pressures.**
- Housing facilities provide simple and basic living amenities. Do not expect to find the "frills" that are common at some U.S. institutions.

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Please note well that each applicant is responsible for gathering all components of the application and forwarding them in one complete application packet to the University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Program Office (address listed below).

**Checklist**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Contact all institutions which you have attended and request that they forward copies of your official transcripts to you. Upon receipt of the transcripts, please keep the envelopes sealed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Make an appointment with your physician. Fill out the "Applicant Section" of the Medical Report form. Take the Medical Report form to your physician. Ask for it to be returned to you in a sealed envelope bearing your physician's professional letterhead. PLEASE DO NOT OPEN THE ENVELOPE.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Fill out the "Applicant Section" of the Personal Reference forms. Give the Personal Reference forms to two referees. Please note well that at least one of the references **MUST** be from your Arabic Professor. The second letter may also come from an Arabic professor, or it may come from a professor who has taught you in one of your Middle East courses. Ask for the letters of reference and the Personal Reference forms to be completed and for both to be returned to you in a sealed envelope bearing their institution's letterhead. PLEASE DO NOT OPEN THE ENVELOPE.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Complete the Information Card.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Complete the Application form.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Forward the complete application packet to:

**University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program**  
**PO BOX 400781**  
**B027 Cabell Hall**  
**Charlottesville, VA 22904-4781**

Please make certain that each of the following have been included in your packet:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Information Card
- \_\_\_\_\_ Application Form & Permission Form
- \_\_\_\_\_ First Reference form from your Arabic Professor, sealed in his/her institutional envelope
- \_\_\_\_\_ Second Reference form from another Arabic Professor or one of your other Middle East professors sealed in his/her institutional envelope
- \_\_\_\_\_ Medical Report sealed in your physician's professional envelope
- \_\_\_\_\_ Official Transcripts in original sealed envelopes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Application Fee: US\$35.00 check or money order made payable to UVA-Yarmouk Program

- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Inquire NOW at your home institution for their policies for transferring credit for study-abroad programs. It may not be necessary to fill out their forms until you are actually accepted into the Program, but you will at least be aware of your institution's procedures and regulations.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Inquire NOW at your home institution and elsewhere for possible financial assistance in the forms of scholarships, loans, FLAS, etc. Please remember that even if you may receive partial funding from a fellowship, you may also be responsible for your own spending money. Each year two to three good students end up withdrawing from our Program at the last minute because they cannot come up with enough money. PLAN EARLY!
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Inquire NOW to find out whether or not your health & accident insurance will cover you while you are outside the U.S. Each Program participant will be responsible for their own health while in Jordan. If accepted into the Program, you will be required to provide proof of your insurance. Inquire with your home institution to see if you can extend your student insurance during the summer. You might also check with your parents; it could be that you are on their policy year-round.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Begin to prepare yourself NOW for the culture which you will encounter should you be accepted into the UVA-Yarmouk Program. Take time to talk at length with your Arabic and Middle East Professors, and others who have lived in or traveled to Jordan. Check with your university's library for informational material in the form of books, video tapes, etc. You may also wish to check with an area travel agency for any pamphlets that are available.

If you have any questions or need assistance completing the application, please feel free to contact the University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Program office by telephone, e-mail, or U.S. mail (address on front side of page).

Telephone:	(434) 982-2304
E-mail:	UVAYARMK@Virginia.edu
Website:	<a href="http://www.virginia.edu/arabic/yarmuk_program.htm">http://www.virginia.edu/arabic/yarmuk_program.htm</a>

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**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

**PLEASE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION.**

The application procedure requires completion of the attached forms and submission of two letters of reference, a medical report, and official transcripts from your present institution and any other institutions which you have attended. A US\$35.00 non-refundable application fee is due with the application. The fee can be paid by check or money order made out to UVA-Yarmouk Program.

All material must be sent as a complete application packet to the address below by

**Monday, March 20, 2006**

Applications will be reviewed once the applicant's file is complete. A final decision will be made for all applicants after the March 20th deadline. All applicants will be notified in writing. Letters of admission, alternate, and rejection will be mailed by the second week of April.

All application materials (application form, letters of reference, medical report, and transcripts) are to be sent to:

**University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program**  
**PO BOX 400781**  
**B027 Cabell Hall**  
**Charlottesville, VA 22904-4781**

**Inquiries can be directed to (434) 982-2304**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2006**

**A US\$35.00 NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE IS DUE WITH THIS APPLICATION**

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**PROGRAM DATES**

**Tuesday, June 13, 2006 - Saturday, August 12, 2006\***

**The Program dates are fixed and not open to negotiation by Program participants.**

(\*NOTE: Dates are based on current airline schedules. Should this schedule change, dates of Program may change slightly.)

**COST** -- The Program cost is \$4,100\*. This includes tuition and fees, room, two educational excursions and hotel lodging during the Program-sponsored trips, orientation session in New York and at Yarmouk University, and a round trip ticket New York-Amman-New York. The stated cost does NOT include meals (estimated at \$10.00 per day), health insurance, incidentals, or transportation between the student's home and Kennedy Airport in New York. Cost for the Islamics Arabic program is also \$4,100\*.

\*Note: The Program cost is dependent upon airfares and may be subject to minor change.

**ORIENTATION SESSION** -- An orientation session will be held in New York on Tuesday, June 13, 2006 prior to departure. This orientation session is MANDATORY for all participants. Students accepted into the Program will be given details as to the place and time of the orientation session so that they can arrange to arrive in New York on time.

**TRAVEL** -- After the orientation session, all Program participants and Program administrators will leave together from Kennedy Airport in New York and travel to Jordan as a group. Students must travel with the group to Jordan and may not make separate travel arrangements.

**CREDIT** -- Most colleges and universities have established procedures for granting credit or the transferring of credit to students studying abroad. Participants in the University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program who wish to receive credit should consult with the overseas study office at their home institution for transfer of credit. Application to transfer credit hours is the student's responsibility, NOT the Program's.

Please note that credit is **NOT** granted by the University of Virginia. Credit is given by Yarmouk University. Upon completion of the Program, participants will be provided with a final performance report. This can be supplemented by letter from the University of Virginia to the registrar of your home institution.

Participants in the University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program earn 7-9 semester credit hours based on the level in which the student is enrolled.

**FELLOWSHIPS** -- Students in need of financial assistance are encouraged to investigate scholarship and loan possibilities at their own institutions. We strongly urge you to begin seeking your own source of funding well in advance. In addition to personal sources, opportunities may exist through your own university, from FLAS, or other sources. The Program offers Fulbright-Hays grants from the U.S. Department of Education. Applicants with two or more years of Arabic are eligible.

**HEALTH INSURANCE** -- Participants in the Program are responsible for their own health insurance during the Program. Prior to departure, all Program participants are required to take out health and accident insurance for the duration of stay in Jordan. You may want to check out options such as parents' insurance company or coverage through your university. Please note that our Program requires verification of the insurance you choose.



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## Application

PLEASE TYPE OR LEGIBLY PRINT ALL INFORMATION.

**\*NOTE WELL: THIS IS AN INTENSIVE PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION (IN ARABIC), COMPLETE WITH THE PRESSURES AND REQUIREMENTS OF GROUP LIVING AND GROUP STUDYING. Be sure that you have read the information at the beginning of this application packet and understand well these conditions before applying.\***

### I. GENERAL INFORMATION:

Name: Mr./Ms./Mrs.

\_\_\_\_\_

Last	First	Middle
Social Security Number: _____		Marital Status: _____
Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____		Citizenship: _____
Current Address: _____		

Current Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E- mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address between May 1 and June 13: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone between May 1 and June 13: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please Note: If your present address, or the address you expect to be at immediately prior to departure for Jordan should change, you are responsible for sending written information to the Program office.**

The following levels of instruction in Modern Standard Arabic will be offered in 2006. Please check the one in which you are academically prepared to enroll.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Lower Intermediate**, with a prerequisite of one year of college-level Arabic or the equivalent.

Students enrolling in the lower intermediate level will use materials specially prepared for the Program.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Upper Intermediate**, with a prerequisite of two years of college-level Arabic or the equivalent.

Students enrolling in the upper intermediate level will use materials specially prepared for the Program.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Advanced**, with a prerequisite of three years of college-level Arabic or the equivalent.

Students enrolling in the advanced level will use material specially prepared by the Program.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Islamic Arabic**, with a prerequisite of four years of college-level Arabic or the equivalent.

**II. EDUCATIONAL/INSTITUTIONAL BACKGROUND:**

Current Academic Standing: \_\_\_\_\_ Undergraduate 1 2 3 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Graduate 1 2 3 4

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Current Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree Sought: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Other colleges or universities attended, full- or part-time:

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>Degree</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**III. ARABIC AND MIDDLE EAST COURSEWORK:**

Please list below all Arabic language courses as well as all Middle East area studies courses you have taken or are now taking at the college or university level. List courses by title, not number. If course content is not clear from the title, give a brief description. Indicate whether credit is semester (S) or quarter (Q).

**ARABIC LANGUAGE COURSES**

<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Date</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

**MIDDLE EAST COURSES**

<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Date</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

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**IV. TRAVEL ABROAD:**

If you have lived, studied, or traveled in any foreign country, please list dates, location, and purpose of travel.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**V. REFERENCES:**

You are required to submit TWO letters of reference, at least one of which **MUST** be from your Arabic language professor. The other letter may also come from one of your other Arabic professors or from a professor who has taught one of your Middle East courses.

1.) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

2.) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**VI. FELLOWSHIPS:**

- 1.) Do you currently receive fellowship aid for Arabic or Middle East Studies? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
2.) If so, is your fellowship applicable to the cost of a summer program abroad? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**VII. ESSAY:**

Please explain why you are interested in the University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program. Include information about your plans for continuing your work in Arabic or Middle East studies after completion of the Program. (Please type your essay below, or attach a typed copy to the application form.)

**VIII. PLACEMENT**

**Textbooks**

What texts are you using in your current Arabic language class?

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What lessons or chapters are you currently studying?

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How far do you expect to proceed in your text by the end of the spring semester or quarter?

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Applicants who are accepted into the Program will also take an oral placement test in Irbid prior to the beginning of classes.

**IX. TRANSCRIPTS**

It is required that you forward official copies of all transcripts to the University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program along with your application. You should have the transcripts sent to **you** so that you can include them in your application packet.

**I certify that the preceding statements are correct and true.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**[WITH THIS APPLICATION, PLEASE INCLUDE A US\$35.00 MONEY ORDER OR CHECK MADE OUT TO UVA-YARMOUK PROGRAM.]**

**STUDENT BIOGRAPHY INFORMATION**

In an effort to help students get better acquainted with one another, we would like to compile student biographical information to distribute to accepted Program participants prior to departure. In this pamphlet we will put information about each students' academic affiliation, educational background, and field of study. If you are willing to have your information included, please sign below. Personal information such as social security numbers, telephone, addresses, and grades will **NOT** be included in the material.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**LETTER TO PARENT/GUARDIAN/SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER**

Prior to departure for Jordan, the University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program sends an informational letter to each participant's parent, guardian, spouse, or significant other. This letter will contain information about the Program, telephone numbers and addresses of student housing facilities in Jordan where they can reach you, and a little bit of information about Jordan and Irbid which may help alleviate any fears that they may have concerning your travel in the Middle East.

If you would like for this letter to be sent, please give your approval by signing below.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I wish for this letter to be sent.

\_\_\_\_\_ No, I do not wish for a letter to be sent.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

If you wish for a letter to be sent, please fill out the following information for that person:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Program Participant  
\_\_\_\_\_

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

In case of emergency, please give information about the person we should contact.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Program Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Medical Report

### I. Applicant Section

Please provide the information requested below and then give this form to your physician. Your physician is asked to complete the remainder of the form. Please note that it is the responsibility of the applicant to forward the completed form to the Program office along with the remainder of the application packet.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Height: \_\_\_\_\_

Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Blood Type: \_\_\_\_\_

1.) When and for what reason did you last consult a physician? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2.) What diseases, ailments, or injuries have you had in the past five years? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3.) Have you been hospitalized in the past two years? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, what was the reason? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4.) What allergies do you have, if any? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5.) If you are on a restricted diet, give details. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The answers I have given are correct to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date







## II. Referee Section

**IF THE STUDENT WAIVER IS NOT SIGNED, PLEASE SUBMIT THIS REFERENCE ONLY IF YOU ARE WILLING TO ALLOW THE STUDENT TO READ IT IN ITS ENTIRETY, OR RETURN THE BLANK FORM TO THE APPLICANT.**

The University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program provides instruction in three levels (lower intermediate, upper intermediate, and advanced Modern Standard Arabic), with a course in the Jordanian dialect. The Program focuses on all language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students in the lower intermediate level will have four hours of formal classroom instruction each day plus dialect, five days a week for eight weeks. Students in the upper intermediate and advanced levels will have three hours of formal classroom instruction per day plus short courses in media and Arabic dialect.

The following are geared toward the applicant's Arabic language proficiency, Middle Eastern studies background and personal qualities. In your letter of reference, please address the following points:

- 1.) Evaluate the applicant's knowledge of Arabic, including **aural/oral abilities** and **reading/writing abilities**.
- 2.) Comment on the applicant's commitment to Arabic and Middle Eastern studies.
- 3.) Comment on any personal strengths or weaknesses that might contribute to or detract from the applicant's performance in the University of Virginia-Yarmouk University Summer Arabic Program.
- 4.) Comment on the applicant's emotional readiness to deal with a new and foreign culture and living in a foreign country.
- 5.) Any other information that would be helpful to us in our evaluation of this student.

We thank you for helping us in our efforts to select students who are academically qualified and emotionally prepared to deal with the pressures that living and studying abroad may present.

_____		_____	
Name (printed or typed)		Signature	
_____		_____	
Title	Date		
_____			
Institution			
_____			
Address			
_____			
City	State	Zip	
_(_____)	_____		
Telephone	E-mail (if applicable)		

**Upon completion of the reference form, please seal it in an envelope bearing your institution's name and address. The envelope should be returned to the applicant. Applicants have been asked to collect all components of the application materials and forward them to our Program in one complete packet. Please note that our Program application deadline is Monday, March, 2006.**