

2-19-2015

## The Five Hundred and Twenty-First Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee: Minor in Arabic.

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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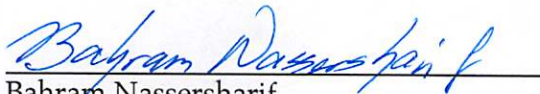
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Serial Number #14-15—19B

TO: President David Dooley  
FROM: Bahram Nassersharif, Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL titled, The Five Hundred and Twenty-First Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee: Minor in Arabic is forwarded for your consideration.
2. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on February 19, 2015.
3. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
4. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective March 12, 2015 three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; or (3) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum.

  
Bahram Nassersharif  
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate


February 20, 2015

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ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

- a. Approved \_\_\_\_.
- b. **Approved subject to Notice to the Board of Education** . Approved 5/6/15
- c. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Education \_\_\_\_.
- d. Disapproved \_\_\_\_.

  
Signature of the President

3.3.15  
(date)

**Notice of Change for: Arabic Language and Culture Minor  
Date: 9/12/2014**

**A. PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**1. Name of institution**

University of Rhode Island

**2. Name of department, division, school or college**

Department: Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures

College: Arts and Sciences

**3. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.**

Initiation date: Spring 2015 (Jan 21, 2015)

First degree date: May 17, 2015

**4. Intended location of the program**

URI - Kingstown

**5. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages).**

**If applicable, please include the existing URI catalog language and proposed catalog language changes that relate to your request.**

*Introduction and Rationale:*

Arabic at URI is a growing program, and has recently significantly revamped its curriculum to offer all courses as 4-credit intensive courses. With a new, stable set of classes in place, we are now able to offer a minor in Arabic Language and Culture to meet student demand. The minor is designed to bring students to the Intermediate Mid or Intermediate High level of language proficiency, while also studying Arabo-Islamic culture within Arabic classes and in related course offerings from other departments. Many students are expected to complete the minor by taking ARB 111 through ARB 311 (5 courses total), but they can also complete the minor by taking through ARB 212 (4 courses) and two courses in history, political science, or gender and women's studies, since they would need more than 12 credits at the 200-level or above for the minor (ARB 211, 212 = 8 credits, + e.g. HIS 379 = 11, so an additional course would be required.) We are also considering offering 1 credit courses under ARB 325 (Topics

in Arabic Culture in Translation) that would solve this slight mathematical difficulty, and allow students to get more exposure to Arabic Culture without adding significantly to their course loads (so a student could take ARB 211, 212, a one-credit ARB 325, and one 3 credit course at the 200 level or above from other departments.) Experience has also shown that students interested in the Arabic language tend to take classes on Arabo-Islamic culture even when not required as part of a minor.

*Current catalog language (2013-2014):*

Arabic

The Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures offers a number of undergraduate courses in Arabic.

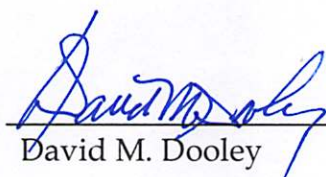
*Proposed catalog language:*

Arabic

The Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures offers a number of undergraduate courses in Arabic, as well as a minor in Arabic Language and Culture.

Students taking the Arabic Language and Culture Minor must complete 18 credits of classes on Arabic Language or Arabo-Islamic culture. Students must take 12 credits at the 200 level or above (ARB 211, 212, 311, 312, 325, 497; PSC 312, 482; HIS 379, 376), of which at least 8 credits must be Arabic classes at the 200 level or above. The remaining credits may be from 100-level or higher classes in Arabic language (ARB 111, 112) or Arabo-Islamic culture (HIS 176, 178; HPR 107). Students must earn a minimum of 18 credits in these courses for the minor. For any course which is a topics course, the student must have advisor approval for that course to count towards the minor.

## 6. Signature of the President

 3.3.15  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David M. Dooley