

# FOUNDATION TAJWEED AND ARABIC FOR COMPLETE BEGINNERS

(part-time study)

## Course Specification

## COURSE CONTEXT: THE ISLAMIC SCIENCES PROGRAMME (ISP)

The Islamic Sciences Programme at EC is a 3 year course in Islamic Sciences and Arabic language. At the EC 6<sup>th</sup> Form the programme is offered in conjunction with a choice of AS/A level subjects. The ISP is a condensed version of the first 3 years of the traditional Islamic sciences programme taught in darul ulooms known as the *Dars Nizami*. It also forms the first 3 years of the Alim course taught at EC and is followed by 3 years of undergraduate study known as *al-Alimiyyah* which is integrated with a BA in Islamic Sciences and Society (validated by a British university). So by the end of the Alimiyyah EC students would have completed the equivalent of *mauquf alaih* (of the dars nizami curriculum) and achieved a BA from a British University. Following the basic structure of the *Dars nizami* course the Alim will conclude with a year of intense hadith study called *Dawrah al-Hadith* at the end of which students will receive *ijazah* (permission to transmit/teach) in hadith. Full details of the Alim course are available on EC's website.

In the ISP, there are subjects that run through all 3 levels. These are Arabic language & Grammar, Fiqh (Islamic Jurisprudence), and *Tajweed & Qira'ah* (Qur'anic recitation). Other subjects such as Aqeedah (Islamic creed and theology), Tafsir (Qur'anic exegesis), Ulumul Qur'an run through 2 or a single level of the ISP.

The objective of the ISP is to prepare students for the 'Alimiyyah (undergraduate) level by giving them a firm foundation in the Arabic language and essential Islamic sciences. By the end of level 3 of the ISP (ISP3), students would have completed AS and A level Arabic language as well as an additional 3 year programme in Arabic grammar and classical Arabic literature. In *Fiqh* they would have completed *Mukhtasar Al-Quduri*; and a 3 year course in *Tajweed* would have made the students proficient in the recitation of the Qur'an according to the narration of *Hafs*.

All of this gives students sufficient knowledge for progression but also, for those who want to increase their knowledge for the sake of understanding their faith and religious duties, this course is just right and can be taken up by every member of the community; giving them a firm understanding of their faith, responsibilities, and identity; making them altogether better Muslims, human beings, and citizens of the world.

### Core ISP Subjects

Core subjects for those studying the full ISP:	Core Subjects for those (6 <sup>th</sup> formers) not studying the full ISP:
Arabic Language at all levels, Arabic Grammar at all levels, Aqeedah at all levels Fiqh at all levels, Tajweed & Qira'ah 3 (ISP3).	Fiqh at all levels, Aqeedah at all levels, Tajweed at all levels.

## INTRODUCTION

**Subject Title:** Foundation Tajweed and Arabic for Complete beginners

**Teacher:** Maulana Mohammed Abdullah

**Teacher's brief biodata:**

Maulana Abdullah graduated from his Alimiyyah studies in 1997. The majority of his studies were at the renowned Institute of Islamic Education in Dewsbury; during which time he was trained under the rigorous regime of Tajweed that Dewsbury madrasah is famous for under Shuyukh such as Sheikh Yusuf Darwan, and Sheikh Mohammad Imtiyaz. Since then he has been teaching Tajweed and Arabic at a variety of levels and his students have also gone to teaching Tajweed and Qira'ah themselves.

**Brief description of course:**

This course develops the learner's ability in Arabic phonetics specifically for the purpose of the recitation of the Qur'an. The course is designed to cater for complete beginners in *Tajweed* who have no previous experience of reading Arabic. Students will learn to recognise the different letters of the alphabet and the correct pronunciation of Arabic letters and vowel sounds. Subsequently the course will build on initial recognition and pronunciation to formation of words and groups of words. This course will also help towards meeting the entry requirements for Level 1 Arabic Language (ISP1 Arabic).

**Level:**

Foundation (Pre Level 1)

**Status:**

Preparatory course for students who wish to study Tajweed level 1 or Arabic Language level1 but are not able to read Arabic.

**Prerequisites:**

There are no particular prerequisites for this course.

**Progression:** Students who complete this course will be able to progress to Level 1 Tajweed and Qira'ah (ISP1 mod1).

**Duration of the Course:**

This part time course will run on two evenings per week over 4 weeks. Each lesson consists of one two-hour session.

**Contact time allocated:** 16 hours

## GENERAL SUBJECT AIMS:

Studying *Foundation Tajweed and Arabic* should enable students to:

- Develop the love of reciting the Qur'an
- Recognise and distinguish between the physical shapes of different letters in all of their different forms.

- Pronounce the letters correctly from their origins in the mouth or throat (*makharij*).
- Begin to develop the ability to use the correct phonetics and accent in the Arabic language when speaking it, or reciting the Qur'an, *du'as*, *adhkar* or any other form of reading or recitation;
- Understand and apply the different vowel signs in conjunction with different letters whilst maintaining correct pronunciation.
- Be inspired to recite the Qur'an correctly fluently, and beautifully.
- Be able recognise and pronounce words correctly and develop the ability to read.

### **Tarbiyah – Spiritual, Moral, Ethical and Social issues**

Tarbiyah is a cross curricular objective that runs through almost all of the ISP subjects. In tajweed developing oneself spiritually by constant recitation of the Qur'an and a love for it is a primary tarbiyah objective. Students should be encouraged and advised to recite the Qur'an daily for life and make a commitment to practicing its message. Students must understand and practice the etiquettes of the Qur'an of purity, respect, concentration and focus, and reciting with good intention, ending recitation with du'a etc.

### **COURSE CONTENT**

Session	Content
1.	Introduction to the alphabet, Letter groups in terms of pronunciation, letter groups in terms of writing.
2.	Identifying and distinguishing between different forms of letters and increasing speed of recognition.
3.	Introducing the simple vowel sounds individually and assorted. Practice on difficult combinations and speed building.
4.	Introducing the <i>sukun/ jazm</i> and the letters of <i>madd</i> in their abbreviated forms plus the letters of <i>leen</i> . Speed building in mixed compositions of previously covered areas.
5.	Introducing the <i>shaddah</i> including application of the <i>shaddah</i> in conjunction with stretched vowels. Speed building in mixed compositions of previously covered areas.
6.	Exposure to anomalous circumstances and exceptions to general rules. Speed building in mixed compositions of previously covered areas. Exposure to short phrases and sentences in Arabic and practice in fluency.
7.	Group recitation of selected extracts from the Quran and practice in speed and fluency.
8.	More recitation of the Qur'an with a specific focus on building up fluency and the ability to read independently.

Although the subject has been broken down according to the number of sessions, the above should be taken more as a description of the order in which the content will be covered. This is because the course will be taught in a differentiated manner enabling some students move ahead faster than

others if their progress warrants it. This differentiation also takes in to consideration the fact that some students will have some limited exposure to the alphabet while others may have none.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES/ ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES FOR FOUNDATION TAJWEED AND ARABIC FOR COMPLETE BEGINNERS:

On successful completion of the course students should be able to achieve the following outcomes in conjunction with the course content detailed above:

Knowledge and understanding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Familiarity with the Arabic alphabet;</li> <li>2. Understanding the application of the Arabic vowel signs;</li> <li>3. some basic understanding of letter grouping and origins of pronunciation;</li> <li>4. understanding of some basic tajweed rules;</li> </ol>
Skills and application	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Appreciation of and commitment to the highest standards of applied <i>Tajweed</i> in terms of pronunciation of letters and vowels.</li> <li>2. The ability to pronounce the Arabic letters correctly.</li> <li>3. Correct pronunciation of Arabic letters, words and phrases in reading.</li> <li>4. Correct pronunciation of Arabic words containing all assortments of letters and vowel signs.</li> <li>5. To recite selected extracts of Quran with correct pronunciation and accent, and some degree of fluency.</li> <li>6. Ability to read <i>any</i> vowelised (with <i>harakaat</i>) Arabic text independently with limited fluency.</li> <li>7. The ability to independently work on improving one's fluency maintaining the basic Tajweed skills acquired.</li> </ol>

### ASSESSMENT

There will be no formal assessments at the end of the course: Students will be provided with further practice guidance in order to build on the skills developed in this course and to bridge any gaps or weaknesses remaining so that students can join the next available Tajweed course at a higher level.