The Academy for Learning Islam (ALI)
Introduction to Qur'anic Arabic
Level 1
Syllabus
2014-2015

Instructor: Mohammadreza Ardehali
E-mail: mohammadreza.ardehali@mail.utoronto.ca
Class Time: Sep. 27 to Oct. 18; Sat, 11:30 am to12:45 pm
Class Location: First 3 sessions MARC library, Last session Room B054, JCC

✧✧✧

Required texts:
1. Younes, Munther. *The Routledge introduction to Qurʾānic Arabic*. Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon ; New York : Routledge, 2013.

Recommended texts:
1. A bilingual (Arabic-English) copy of the Qurʾān.
2. Badawi, El-Said M., and M. A. Abdel Haleem. *Arabic-English Dictionary of Qur'anic Usage*. Leiden: Brill, 2008.
3. *Oxford Arabic Dictionary*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.
4. Cook, Michael. *The Koran, a Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000.

You **must** have **one** of the above dictionaries for work in this course.
Text book has been provided by The Academy for Learning Islam (ALI)

✧✧✧

Course Description:
This course is designed for learners who are interested in reading the Qur'an with accuracy and understanding it. All the *suras* (chapters) of the last part (Part 30) and three longer *suras* will be presented and analyzed; new vocabulary and grammatical structures will be discussed, explained, and practiced systematically. Carefully designed word-building exercises will be used to facilitate the acquisition and retention of new vocabulary. Interested learners will be encouraged to memorize the short *suras* or excerpts from the longer ones. At the end of the course, the successful learner will have mastered a working vocabulary of around 1500 words, correct pronunciation, and the most commonly used grammatical structures.

◇◇

Statement of Teaching Philosophy

The process of understanding the Qur'an as a text could be facilitated by new theories of linguistics and second language acquisition. While it is important to learn *tajwīd* to articulate Qur'anic words and phrases with Arabic pronunciation and voice, and it is important to recite the Qur'an with pleasant voice, those are insufficient to help learners understand the Qur'an. To complement *tajwīd*, learners also need to learn grammar and vocabulary. Students of the Qur'anic Arabic spend years learning about the rules of grammar and are able to complete certain exercises such as conjugating verbs by rote. However, many of them do no achieve the mastery required to understand and communicate with the text of the Qur'an. This course help students of Qur'anic Arabic to know enough Arabic grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation rules so that he or she is able to relate to the text of the Qur'an to understand the concepts and meanings of the verses.

◇◇

Prerequisite: Knowledge of the Arabic alphabet

Attendance and Participation are essential. Since this course involves extensive work on different skills (such as listening, reading, writing and vocabulary-building) in class to learn Qur'anic Arabic as a second language, it is imperative that you attend class regularly and punctually in order to participate in and benefit from these lessons. In-class discussions and activities are designed to practice grammar and improve your oral skills.

For each class meeting you will be asked to prepare a lesson, which at the beginning includes a few short *suuras*, then, as the *suuras* get longer, a number of verses from the *suura* (listen to the verses, read and understand them, memorize some of them, and do the accompanying grammar and vocabulary-building exercises).

◇◇

Evaluation:

Quizzes/class participation	50%
One test	50%