

Centre for General Studies

Liberal Arts Requirement Courses

LAR Course	Description
Arabic / LAR 101	This course provides an introduction to the basics of Arabic language and literature. It explores the topics of form, structure, lexicography and connotation. It addresses methods of literary criticism and stylistics through texts from different genres in both prose and poetry.
History of Bahrain / History 121	This course provides the students with a brief introduction to Bahrain's history. It explores Bahrain's strategic geographic location. Historically, the course begins with the civilization of Delmon, running through to the Islamic period and ending with the Portuguese invasion. The course then provides an overview of Bani Utbah migration and Bahrain's subsequent foundation. Lastly, the course looks at British presence in Bahrain, relevant treaties, British withdrawal and Bahraini independence.
French /LAR102	This course is designed for students with very little or no background in French. It focuses on developing basic proficiency in all four skill areas: Listening, speaking, reading and writing. It is intended to emphasize basic grammar, forms of words, and vocabulary building.
Philosophy/ LAR 171	The course provides basic understanding of philosophical concepts and focusses on enhancing student's ability to identify problems, develop arguments, and apply reasoning to arrive at logical conclusions. It also contributes to effective leadership and decision making.

Introduction to Sociology/ LAR136	The course provides a broad overview of sociology and how it applies to everyday life. It develops sociological perspective to understand the complexities of contemporary societies, individuals and institutions. It encourages students to employ sociological imagination to identify and analyse a variety of social issues.
English for Tertiary Studies / LAR 103	English for tertiary studies is designed to advance ESL students' communication skills in the English language. By the end of this course, students will grasp the English language at the necessary level for university education. The course transitions from general English skills to academic skills in reading and writing. Some oral presentations skills are also introduced. Using authentic texts, this course covers general grammar beginning with sentences and ending with short essays.
STUDY AND RESEARCH SKILLS / LAR 111	The aims of this course are to provide students with knowledge and understanding of study skills essential for enhanced organization, productivity, flexibility and self-sufficiency. Students will attain basic research skills necessary for undergraduate studies and learn to research, retrieve, access, evaluate, process and document information from a range of resources. Students will also be introduced to key issues of academic integrity, including plagiarism and copyright and be able to comprehend the importance and methods of referencing external data used in scholastic work. Learners will also be able to acquire and imbibe time management and other important study skills.
Gender in Films/ LAR135	The course will focus on the power of film as a cultural medium and the depiction of gender in film. Analysing a wide variety of films, the course will discuss gender representation, discrimination and gender stereotyping. It will also examine portrayal of women in films by women film directors.
Women in Literature and Popular Culture/ LAR 161	Literature and popular culture, like society itself, have from their very own inception been entwined with images of gender and femininity. In this course we will follow the threads of this entanglement in a combination of formal lectures and student-led discussion. Both the analytical approaches we will take and the readings we will analyse are, to an extent, eclectic in nature. This eclecticism will shed light on different female identities, helping us

	answer the question: “What does it mean to be a woman?” This course will include an introductory examination of two critical theories: intersectionality and identity politics. These two theories will serve as a scholarly backbone to our analyses of texts and images from different cultures and time periods.
Women Across Cultures/ LAR 133	The course provides students with an opportunity to study at a basic level, the diversity of cultures in relation to women and their lives. It also raises collective consciousness and sensitivity towards women’s issues in a global and local context and encourage critical and alternative thinking.
Principles of Leadership / LAR134	The course is part of the Liberal Arts Requirement (LAR) courses available to all students from all faculties. Students learn the different views on leadership, its definition and the various theories and approaches. The course encourages students to identify and evaluate leadership approaches in various environments from home to professional settings. The course introduces students to the various theories of leadership and the students are encouraged to reflect on the social implications of various leadership approaches.
Effective Communication/LAR131	The course is part of the Liberal Arts Requirement (LAR) courses available to all students from all faculties. This is a skills-based course providing students with academic and also life skills. The skills taught will prove to be useful to students throughout their studies as well as in certain aspects of their lives. The course helps students develop crucial communication skills for life, and learn about various aspects and methods of communication including but not limited to message adaptation, body language, cross-cultural communication, job search strategies, CV writing and presentation skills.
Introduction to Information Technology /COS110	This course provides students with the basis for understanding the main concepts in the field of information technology. Topics to be included are basic and specialised applications software, system software, input and output devices and the system unit (HW). Moreover,

	in this course an emphasis will be on practical skills such as word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation applications software.
Introduction to Business /BUS100	This course introduces students to the modern world of business. It provides an overview of environmental factors that affect business and the economic systems in which business has survived and thrived. It then focuses on the various functional areas that comprise the modern organization of today. The ultimate goal is to help students understand where their interests and talents fit in today's job market and what skills they need to develop to get the positions they seek.
Oil Painting /LAR151	This course aims at introducing students to the media and techniques of painting in oil. It also explores the technical and aesthetic possibilities and limitations of the oil medium and emphasizes formal painting concerns, including color theory and composition. Students will learn how to paint application and surface quality, to color, to value, to composition; to volume, light and space as the necessary elements of recreating perceptual experience. In addition, students will be able to incorporate the more abstract aspects of painting side by side with the more perceptually based aspects.
Mixed Media /LAR152	In this course student will learn how to combine different painting and drawing media. The learners develop the skill to use painting and drawing with media for expression of ideas. They experiment with art media to achieve a personal expression. They also develop a visual language creating successful art, craft, and designs. Accurate and artistic compilation of a body of work in a portfolio is also an aim of the course.