



UNIVERSITY OF  
ARABIC CALLIGRAPHY

# Diploma in Historical Calligraphy Studies

Calligraphy History

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University of Arabic Calligraphy

Academic Dept.

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## Diploma in Historical Calligraphy Studies

### 1. Introduction:

The Diploma in Historical Calligraphy Studies is designed for individuals who are interested in exploring the rich history of Arabic calligraphy. This program offers an in-depth examination of the evolution of calligraphic styles, their cultural impact, and the development of research methods for studying historical texts. It combines both scholarly research and practical techniques for archiving and preserving calligraphic documents, equipping students with the skills needed to contribute to the academic study of calligraphy.

### 2. Objectives:

The main objectives of the Diploma in Historical Calligraphy Studies are:

- To provide a comprehensive understanding of the history and evolution of Arabic calligraphy.
- To develop advanced research skills and the ability to critically analyze historical texts.
- To enable students to contribute to the field of calligraphy studies through scholarly research and documentation.

### 3. Program Details:

- **Duration:** 6-12 months
- **Total Credits:** 15
- **Total Educational Hours:** 375 hours
- **Mode of Study:** Full-time / Part-time
- **Certification:** Diploma in Historical Calligraphy Studies

## 4. Syllabus:

Semester	Course Code	Course Title	Duration	Credits	Description
1	CALL 901	History of Arabic Calligraphy	12 weeks	4	An in-depth study of the historical development of Arabic calligraphy, focusing on major styles, periods, and influential calligraphers.
1	CALL 902	Research Methods	8 weeks	3	Introduction to various techniques and methodologies for researching historical calligraphy, including paleography, codicology, and historiography.
2	CALL 903	Cultural Impact of Calligraphy	8 weeks	3	Exploration of the cultural significance of Arabic calligraphy throughout different historical periods, examining its role in art, architecture, and society.
2	CALL 904	Archival Studies	8 weeks	2	Techniques for archiving, preserving, and documenting historical calligraphy manuscripts and artifacts, with a focus on best practices in conservation.
3	CALL 905	Capstone Research Project	12 weeks	3	A comprehensive research project on a specific historical calligraphy topic, allowing students to apply their research skills and contribute original findings to the field.
3	CALL 906	Examination and Portfolio Review	4 weeks	2	Final assessment involving a review of the student's research findings and portfolio, including oral defense and critical evaluation by faculty.

## 5. Course Breakdown:

### 1. History of Arabic Calligraphy (CALL 901):

- Focuses on the historical evolution of Arabic calligraphy, covering key styles such as Kufic, Naskh, Thuluth, Diwani, and more.
- Examines the development of calligraphy from its origins in the early Islamic period to its diverse manifestations in different regions and eras.
- Students will analyze key texts, inscriptions, and manuscripts to understand the cultural and historical contexts in which these styles emerged.

### 2. Research Methods (CALL 902):

- Provides training in scholarly research methods specific to the study of historical calligraphy.
- Covers paleography (the study of ancient handwriting), codicology (the study of books as physical objects), and historiography (the study of historical writing).
- Emphasizes critical analysis, data collection, and the use of primary and secondary sources in calligraphy research.

### 3. **Cultural Impact of Calligraphy (CALL 903):**

- Explores the influence of calligraphy on Islamic art, architecture, literature, and society.
- Discusses the role of calligraphy in various cultural contexts, such as its use in religious texts, monumental inscriptions, and decorative arts.
- Encourages students to critically assess the ways in which calligraphy has shaped and been shaped by social, political, and cultural developments throughout history.

### 4. **Archival Studies (CALL 904):**

- Introduces students to the principles and practices of archiving and preserving historical calligraphy documents.
- Covers techniques for conservation, digital archiving, and cataloging of manuscripts and artifacts.
- Focuses on the ethical considerations and best practices in handling, storing, and documenting fragile historical materials.

### 5. **Capstone Research Project (CALL 905):**

- A comprehensive, independent research project that allows students to explore a specific topic related to historical calligraphy in depth.
- Students will be guided through the process of formulating a research question, conducting primary and secondary research, and presenting their findings in a scholarly format.
- The project is intended to demonstrate the student's research skills and contribute original insights to the field of calligraphy studies.

### 6. **Examination and Portfolio Review (CALL 906):**

- The final assessment includes a portfolio review and oral defense of the student's research project before a panel of experts.
- The review focuses on the quality, originality, and rigor of the student's research, as well as their ability to present and defend their findings effectively.
- This assessment ensures that students are prepared to engage in scholarly research or pursue further studies in calligraphy.

## 6. Career Opportunities:

Graduates of the Diploma in Historical Calligraphy Studies can pursue various career paths, including:

- **Researcher or Academic:** Conducting scholarly research on calligraphy and contributing to academic publications or institutions.
- **Archivist or Curator:** Working in libraries, museums, or archives to preserve and document historical calligraphic manuscripts and artifacts.
- **Cultural Heritage Consultant:** Providing expertise on the preservation and promotion of calligraphic heritage within cultural or governmental organizations.
- **Educator:** Teaching the history of calligraphy at academic institutions, cultural centers, or through public lectures and workshops.
- **Conservation Specialist:** Engaging in the preservation and restoration of historical manuscripts and calligraphic works.

## 7. Entry Requirements:

- **Educational Background:** A background in history, art history, Middle Eastern studies, or related fields is preferred.
- **Skills:** Basic knowledge of Arabic calligraphy is recommended; proficiency in research and academic writing is required.
- **Application Requirements:** Submission of a resume, a statement of purpose detailing the applicant's interest in historical calligraphy studies, and any previous research or work experience related to the field.