

Buffett Undergraduate Research Fellowship Opportunity

Developing Digital Educational Material for Advanced Arabic Using Islamic Manuscripts

Faculty Mentor: Ragy Mikhaeel, Associate Professor, Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences

Project Synopsis: This project will focus on the development of an advanced Arabic language course and textbook entirely focused on the study and analysis of Arabic manuscripts, including some paleography and codicological elements.

Project Term: Summer and academic year

Project Location: Remote

Job Description: During the fall of 2023, the faculty mentor taught the course "Reading Classic Arabic Texts" to Northwestern students for the first time — the course uniquely focuses on Arabic manuscripts and codicology. Students studied manuscripts written in seven different Arabic scripts, from various times and places, and a visiting calligrapher from Mauritania taught the students the fundamentals of calligraphy. Given the positive student response, this project seeks to enhance the course material and develop other educational offerings with Arabic manuscripts to create a textbook that would be available to students at Northwestern and at the global level.

Time Commitment: To be determined upon hiring

Number of available positions: Two, preselected