IDC HERZLIYA | **ICT** International Institute for Counter-Terrorism

Arab Culture & Environment

مَن تَعَلَّمَ لُغَةَ قَومٍ أَمِنَ شَرَّهُم

He who learns the language of a nation protects himself from its evils.   *Arabic proverb*

Counter-Terrorism Studies Professional Certificate

For more information or to apply email us at: **ctstudies@idc.ac.il**, or visit: **www.ict.org.il**

Program Content

The one-week **Arab Culture and Environment Program** gives a comprehensive view of the Arab and Islamic cultural environment - its structures, values, basic language elements and social practices. By learning about the socially accepted norms and values in the Arab and Islamic world, participants gain tools that enable them to work successfully in Arab and Islamic environments as well as begin to appreciate the subtleties of this culture.

The program is intended for security experts, practitioners, scholars, students and all those interested in addressing and working with Arab and Islamic communities. Lectures provide participants with tools to understand the Arab and Islamic environment and cope with the challenges of daily life, governing and communicating. The program enables participants to design useful policies in working with Arab and Islamic populations and to improve their communication skills so as to achieve their goals with minimum confrontation while maintaining a positive atmosphere.

The Arab Culture and Environment Program provides intensive, in-depth exposure to the fine points of Arab and Islamic society and daily life. Through a combination of academic study, simulations and field experience, participants obtain an understanding of the challenges this important culture presents to foreigners and how to overcome them. The program consists of five complementary parts that cover essential theoretical knowledge as well as its implementation in routine interactions with Arab and Islamic populations. Emphasis is placed on practicing the acquired theoretical knowledge through participation in simulations and exercises. A joint project of the Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) and the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy, both at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya, the Arab Culture and Environment Program combines practical knowledge based upon experience with the best in academic research and theory.

*subject to change

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
9:00-10:30	Registration & Introduction	The Sounds of Arabic: Introduction to the Language	Characteristics of Arab Society	Basic Greetings, Courtesies and Blessings	Documentary Film; Discussion and Analysis	Field Experience: Get the feel of a typical Arab city by interacting with the local population
11:00-12:30						
12:30-13:30	Lunch					
13:30-15:00	Who's an Arab?	Civil, Religious and Tribal Law Systems	Social Institutes: Maintaining Social Stability	Characteristics Of Communication	Simulation	
15:30-17:00						

Topics

Arabic Cultural and Social Environments - Using infrastructural knowledge to provide a context in which situations and processes should be understood and judged. The lectures cover Arab and Islamic history, the structure of Arab and Islamic society, the relationship between society, religion and tradition, systems of codes and prominent values (time, honor, hierarchy, gender etc.).

Characteristics of Communication - Learning the norms of communication in Arab culture is vital to developing relationships with members of the Arab population. These lectures help participants acquire and improve intercultural communication skills, understand communication codes prevalent in Arab culture, and master tools and concepts to improve message formulation and delivery. In addition, guidelines are presented to help participants avoid making unnecessary mistakes in interactions with Arab society.

Language - A general overview of the language: The sounds of Arabic - consonants, vowels and letters (which are provided in Latin letter transcription). Simple phrases, prevalent proverbs and idioms in spoken and written Arabic, which are useful for avoiding or resolving conflicts in daily situations. No preliminary knowledge of Arabic is needed.

General and Specific Simulations - Participants implement knowledge that has been taught in specially designed simulations. The simulations demonstrate practical consequences of the Arab cultural system of values and codes. They focus on recognizing and resolving problematic situations: refusing, commanding, encouraging, reproaching, calming down and others.

Field Experience - A one-day field experience in which participants visit an Arab town and have the opportunity to examine the atmosphere and to use the knowledge they have acquired during meetings with the local population.

Faculty

The faculty is composed of ICT's senior researchers, lecturers and associates, directed by Mr. Yoav Mimran. **Mr. Yoav Mimran** is a well-known expert in Middle-Eastern, Arab and Islamic cultures, social behavior, environment and language. He has more than 20 years of experience in training intelligence, military and police personnel to understand and adapt to Middle-Eastern environments. He formerly taught spoken Arabic at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Mr. Mimran earned an M.A. at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Program Structure & Tuition

The Arab Culture and Environment Program is taught in English over a one-week period. It consists of one graduate-level course consisting of 48 academic hours delivered by an expert in Arab culture, language and security service training. Upon completion of the program, participants are granted a certificate from ICT and the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy, IDC Herzliya. Tuition for the one-week Arab Culture and Environment Program is €1,700. If the course is taken with the three-week Executive Certificate Program in Counter-Terrorism Studies, tuition is €4,500 for all seven courses. Tuition does not include transportation to/from Israel or accommodations. However, the program helps participants find suitable accommodations near the IDC Herzliya campus if necessary.

"*The Arab Culture and Environment Program provided me with a tremendous amount of knowledge and wisdom and inspired me to learn more.*"
Ph.D. Candidate

"*Participants obtain valuable information which is illustrated by good examples that are inspired by real-world scenarios.*"
Police Officer