



PRESS RELEASE

The Language Center of Hamad bin Khalifa University's Translation and Interpreting Institute: Building Linguistic Capacity in Qatar and the Broader Region

Doha, 11 January, 2014 – In a multilingual and multicultural world, the ability to communicate in another language is critical for success in an individual's professional and academic career. The Language Center at Hamad bin Khalifa University's (HBKU) Translating and Interpreting Institute (TII) provides expert language training in Arabic, French, and Spanish to members of the Qatari community, with plans to introduce new programs in English and Mandarin in 2014.

"Foreign language proficiency is an essential requirement in the process of building a globally reaching knowledge-based economy," says Mounir Ouanaimi, Director of the Language Center. "Being able to effectively communicate in more than one language is imperative in well-rounded students, employable graduates, and effective executives and business people."

The Language Center currently offers multiple levels of all three languages. The courses are tailored for non-native beginners. Courses start throughout the year in September, January, and April. Last Fall, over 100 students enrolled in the various programs, and potential students are strongly encouraged to register for the Spring semester that will begin on January 26th as places are limited.

In an environment committed to academic excellence, with up-to-date approaches to language pedagogy, the Language Center at HBKU's TII seeks to create lifelong learners through engaging courses for a diverse student population, and encourage language learning beyond the classroom. It promotes cultural understanding through different social and cultural activities and offers community activities and study abroad programs.

The Language Center is a core component of TII's mission to build professional linguistic capacity in Qatar and the broader region. HBKU's TII delivers advanced translation and interpreting education, high-level training in a range of languages, and translation and interpreting services that meet and exceed the highest international standards.

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