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Fall 2009

### SB01-09/10: Arabic Minor

Ashleen Williams

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1                                   **The Associated Students of The University of Montana**  
2                                   **Resolution Regarding Arabic Minor**  
3                                   **September 16, 2009**  
4                                   **Senate Bill SB1-09/10**  
5                                   **Authored by: Ashleen Williams, ASUM Senator**  
6                                   **Sponsored by: Ray Davis, ASUM Senator**  
7                                   **Andrew Dusek, ASUM Senator**

8  
9   Whereas, The University of Montana Department of Modern and Classical Language and Literature's  
10   Arabic Language program has seen interest and enrollment consistently rise in eleven years of instruction;

11   Whereas, the Arabic Language program has seen so much growth that the first year levels were  
12   incorporated into two sections, now at maximum capacity;

13   Whereas, The University of Montana's Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee  
14   (ASCRC) approved a proposal for a Central and Southwest Asian studies major involving two years of  
15   language study in a critical language;

16   Whereas, Arabic Language is one of the United States Department of State's designated critical  
17   languages;

18   Whereas, in the spring of 2009, of over 150 letters from students sent to ASCRC in support of the Central  
19   and Southwest Asian Studies Major, many requested an Arabic minor;

20   Whereas, over 400 student signatures were collected on a petition in support of an Arabic Minor in the  
21   spring of 2009;

22   Whereas, the Arabic Language program at The University of Montana has been recently awarded a grant  
23   for instruction in Missoula public schools;

24   Whereas students at The University of Montana have routinely benefited from the Arabic Language  
25   program, many being recipients of the US Department of State's Critical Language Scholarship;

26   Whereas, the Arabic Language program at The University of Montana offers 33 credit hours of  
27   instruction, which is traditionally enough for a language studies minor;

28   Whereas, an Arabic Language studies minor fulfills The University of Montana's mission statement and  
29   encourages diversity;

30  
31   Whereas, a proposal for an Arabic Language Minor will be submitted for review during the academic  
32   year 2009-2010;

33   Whereas, in the last three years, two prior Senates have passed a resolution regarding support for the  
34   Arabic Language program;

35 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)  
36 encourage the formation of an Arabic Language Studies Minor at the University of Montana.

37 Let It Be Further Resolved that the ASUM encourages the College of Arts and Sciences, the Academic  
38 Standards and Curriculum Review Committee, The Offices of the Provost and The President of The  
39 University of Montana, and the Montana State Board of Regents to investigate and support the formation  
40 of an Arabic Language Studies Minor to be incorporated into the Department of Modern and Classical  
41 Languages.

42 Let It Be Further Resolved that copies of this resolution be distributed to all necessary parties.

43

44 Passed by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_, 2009

45 Passed by Senate: \_\_\_\_\_, 2009

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48 \_\_\_\_\_

49 Andrew Dusek,  
50 Relations and Affairs Chair

\_\_\_\_\_

Emily May,  
Chair of the Senate