

Magdalena I. Sammut

msammut@arizona.edu | LinkedIn [Magdalena Sammut](#)

Education

Aug 2023 - **University of Arizona**
present

GPA: 3.78/4.00

Bachelor of Arts in Arabic

- Relevant Coursework: Intermediate Arabic II, Languages and Societies of the Middle East
- Member of the Arabic Language Flagship Program

Bachelor of Science in Astronomy with a minor in physics

Language Experience

Languages

- English: Native proficiency
- Arabic: Intermediate proficiency
 - Able to use Modern Standard Arabic in everyday communication
 - Proficient in reading and reciting High Classical Arabic, with a strong foundation in Qur'anic Arabic.
 - Trained in Tajweed, the set of linguistic and phonetic rules governing proper pronunciation, articulation, and rhythm of Arabic particularly of Qur'anic recitation, ensuring accuracy in phonemes, elongation, and pauses as traditionally preserved
- Spanish: Intermediate proficiency
 - Able to communicate and understand a variety of topics in both speech and writing

Aug 2023 - **Arabic Language Flagship**
present *Projected Capstone Year in Morocco in 2027-2028*

University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ

- Member of the Arabic Language Flagship program
- Engaged in supplemental tutoring designed to enhance my Arabic literacy and verbal communication
- Attending events to learn more about Arab history and culture

Volunteering Experience

Oct 2024 - **Math Tutor**
present *Islamic Center of Tucson Tutoring Program*

Islamic Center of Tucson
Tucson, AZ

- Mentor one to two students between kindergarten and twelfth grade in mathematics for one hour every Sunday
- Interact with Arabic-speaking students and guardians of Middle Eastern origin and descent

Aug 2024 - **Teacher's Assistant** Islamic Center of Tucson
present *Islamic Center of Tucson* Tucson, AZ

- Teaching Classical Arabic and Qur'an recitation to approximately 25 children aged between nine and ten for four hours every Sunday
- Prepare lesson plans and cultivate an engaging environment of mutual respect

July 2024 **Summer School Volunteer** Islamic Center of Tucson
Tucson, AZ

- Supported lead teachers to ensure students remained engaged and focused during Islamic studies and Qur'an lessons
- Addressed students' questions on a one-on-one basis
- Collaborated with students of diverse cultural backgrounds

Projects

May 2024 **The Language Attitudes of a Saudi Arabian Woman** Grade: 100%
towards Standard and Regional Arabic

- Interviewed a woman from Saudi Arabia to research how she feels about her regional dialect of Arabic versus standardized Arabic
- Compared her answers to past linguistic research to examine correlations and differences in language attitudes from different time periods and regions.
- Studied previous literature to determine trends in language attitudes

Research Experience

Aug 2024 - **Undergraduate Research Assistant** University of Arizona
present Mentor: Dr. Tim Eifler Tucson, AZ

- Forecasting the science of performance of the Roman Space Telescope (launch 2026) to optimize cosmological analysis, and constraints on dark energy
 - Involved with the Roman Science Collaboration: a group of scientists from a variety of institutions overseeing the telescopes development
- Scheduled to present my research to astronomers, faculty, and colleagues on April 24, 2025

Oct 2024 - **Independent Research** University of Arizona
present Supervised by Dr. Fulvio Melia Tucson, AZ

- Designed a research project to measure the magnetic field at Hoover Dam in collaboration with a peer
- Wrote and presented a research proposal to the department head and a faculty member
- Approved to spend \$100 in instrumentation to first conduct a small scale experiment in Tucson

Jul 2022 - **National Synchrotron Light Source - II Intern** Brookhaven National Laboratory

Aug 2022 Mentor: Dr. Dean Hidas

Upton, NY

- Used Python in Jupyter Notebooks to fit linear, exponential, and power law curves to synchrotron data with Matplotlib, reducing pre-experimentation calculation time
- Utilized a chi square calculation to verify fit quality
- Presented the results of this research to researchers and general public, adapting content for different levels of technical understanding
- Wrote a [paper](#) on the results, and was selected as a semifinalist to [present](#) to the Junior Humanities and Science Symposium at CUNY York College (January 2023)

Awards and Scholarships

Aug 2023 - **Arabic Language Flagship**
present *\$11,000 to study abroad*

University of Arizona

- Awarded government funding to develop my Arabic proficiency and further my Arabic degree in Morocco

Apr 2023 - **Arizona Excellence Tuition Scholarship**
present *\$20,000 per year, 4 years*

- Awarded to incoming freshmen who completed high school with a GPA of 3.75-3.89 and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0

May 2024 **Dean's List**
- present

University of Arizona

- Awarded to students with a GPA of 3.50-3.99 at the end of the semester

May 2024 **Academic Distinction: 2023 - 2024**
- present

University of Arizona

- Awarded to students with a GPA of 3.500 - 3.999 at the close of the academic year

Dec 2023 - **Dean's List with Distinction**
May 2024

University of Arizona

- Awarded to students with a 4.0 GPA at the end of the semester

May 2020, **National Spanish Exam**
2021, 2022

Sacred Heart Academy
Hempstead, NY

- Two time bronze (2020, 2021) and silver medalist (2022) for proficiency in Spanish reading, listening, and grammar