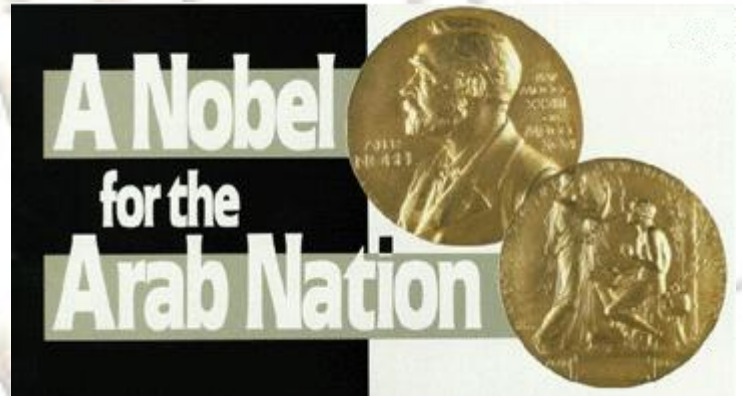


WHAT IS ARABIC LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION?

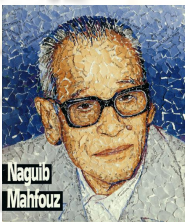
It is literature written by prominent Arab authors and translated into English and other languages.

WHY HAS THERE BEEN A GROWING INTEREST IN ARABIC LITERATURE RECENTLY?

Since Naguib Mahfouz was awarded the Noble Prize, there has been a wealth of Arabic literary works translated into English. Naguib Mahfouz once said, "The Nobel Prize



has given me, for the first time in my life, the feeling that my literature could be appreciated on an international level..... The Arab world also won the Nobel with me. I believe that international doors have opened, and that from now on, literate people will consider Arab literature also. We deserve that recognition."



WHY ARE WE TEACHING ARABIC LITERATURE AT NAC?

Reading literature about the Arab world will definitely allow NAC students a chance to better understand their history and give them the opportunity to explore the cultural and social norms that shape life in Egypt and the Arab world. Today, Arabic literature is recognized around the world. Introducing our students to Arabic Literature in Translation, will not only increase students awareness of the prominent status Arabic literature enjoys worldwide, but will also offer them an opportunity to explore and interact with literature that they can relate to and take pride in.

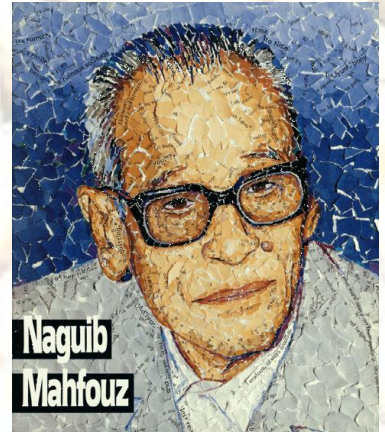
HOW WILL THE ARABIC LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION PROGRAM BE IMPLEMENTED?

This year, Egypt and the whole world celebrate the centenary of the birth of the great Egyptian writer and Nobel laureate Naguib Mahfouz. Accordingly, NAC has decided to dedicate the first trimester to the works of Naguib Mahfouz.

Each grade level in the high school will be assigned one of Mahfouz's novels to read as part of the

Supplemental/Independent Reading Program. During the second and third trimester, students will be introduced to other prominent Egyptian and Arab authors. While some of these novels will be introduced through the Supplemental/Independent Reading

Programs, others will be studied as part of regular English program along with British & American novels. Moreover, the school will invite several prominent specialists in the field to give lectures to our students and will arrange for some of our high school students to visit AUC to attend events held there.



WHAT DO WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE THROUGH THE PROGRAM?

We are positive that Arabic Literature in Translation will enrich the English program at NAC and will offer students a chance to master the English Language while exploring literature they can relate to and take pride in.

WHO ARE SOME OF THE AUTHORS THAT OUR STUDENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED TO?

➤ **BAHA TAHER:**

One of the most widely read contemporary novelists in the Arab world. In 1998, Taher received the State's Award of Merit in Literature and in 2000 he was awarded the prestigious Italian Giuseppe Acerbi prize. We have chosen Taher's novel, *What Doha Said*, as part of our program.

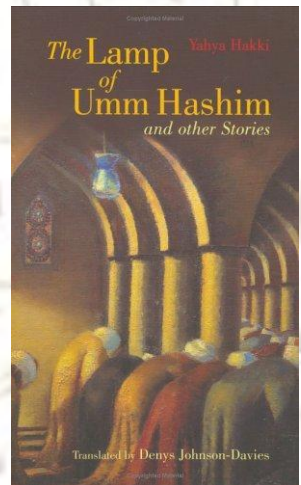


For more information check:

http://www.arabworldbooks.com/authors/bahaa_taher.htm

➤ **YAHYA KHAKI:**

Yehia Khaki is one of the pioneers of the modern literary movement in Egypt. He has experimented with the various literary norms: the short story, the novel, literary criticism, essays, meditations, and literary translation. Grade 9 students will be reading *Khandeel Umm Hashim*, his famous collection of short stories.



For more information check:

<http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2004/688/bo7.htm>

➤ ***RADWA ASHOUR:***

Celebrated author, Radwa Ashour, is well known for her *Granada* trilogy which was voted one of the top 100 literary works by the Arab Writers Union. Ashour co-edited the four-volume Encyclopedia of Arab Women Writers, 1873-1999, with several renowned Arab authors. As a professor of English and Comparative Literature at Ain Shams University, she has actively participated in Egypt's cultural life. Grade 10 students will be reading Ashour's half-autobiography, *Specters*.



For more information check: arablit.wordpress.com/tag/radwa-ashour/

➤ ***MOHAMED BERRADA:***

Mohammed Berrada is a well-known novelist and literary critic from Morocco. He graduated in Arabic Literature from Cairo University and has a PhD from



the Sorbonne. Berrada has written many works on Arabic literature and literary criticism and published several short stories and novels. Grade 11 students will be reading Berrada's *Like a Summer Never to be Repeated*.

For more information check: www.arabicfiction.org

➤ **IBRAHIM AL-KONI:**

Libyan novelist, *Ibrahim AL_Koni*, is one of the most prolific Arabic novelists. He authored over 50 novels, short stories, poems and aphorisms, all inspired by the desert. His works have been translated into 35 languages. Koni is the recipient of numerous awards, on top of which is the Swiss State Award in 1995, the Japanese Translation Committee Award in 1997, the French Order for Literature and Arts in 2006, the Sheikh Zayed Book Award in 2007 and the Arab Novel Award in 2010. Grade 10 Students will be reading Koni's novel, *The Puppet*.

For more information check:

<http://www.alarabiya.net/articles/2010/12/16/129845.html>



➤ **MURAD BARGHOUTI:**

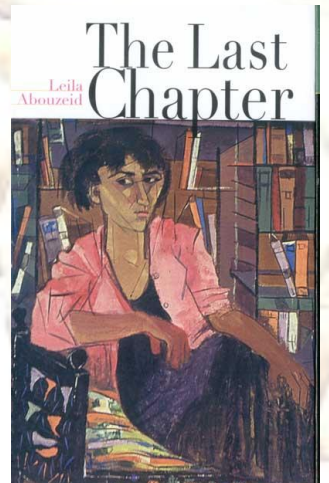
Murad Barghouti is a renowned Palestinian novelist and poet. He received the Palestine Award for Poetry in 2000, and was awarded the Naguib Mahfouz Medal for Literature for his novel *I Saw Ramallah*. Grade 12 Students will be reading *I Saw Ramallah* which is an autobiographical novel inspired by Barghouti's return to the West Bank in 1996 after 30 years of exile.

For more information check: <http://penatlas.org/online>



LAYLA ABU ZEID

Layla Abu Zeidis a Moroccan author. She writes in Arabic rather than in French and is the first Moroccan woman writer of literature to be translated into English. After studying at the Mohamed V University in Rabat and the University of Texas, Austin, Leila Abouzeid began her career as a radio and TV journalist. Former Fellow of the World Press Institute at St. Paul , Minnesota , Leila Abouzeid left the press in 1992 to dedicate herself to writing fiction.



Grade 10 will be reading Abouzeids semi-autobiography, *The Last Chapter*.

For more information check: <http://arabwomenwriters.com/>

KHALED HOSSEINI

Khaled Hosseini was born in Kabul, Afghanistan, but his family moved to the USA after the Soviet army invaded Afghanistan. He is a graduate of the University of California-San Diego's School of Medicine. While in medical practice, Hosseini began writing his first novel, *The Kite Runner*, in March of 2001. In 2003, *The Kite Runner*, was published and has since become an international bestseller, published in 70 countries. In 2006 he was named a goodwill envoy to UNHCR, the United Nations Refugee Agency. Khaled has been working to provide humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan through The Khaled Hosseini Foundation.



Grade 11 students will be reading the *Kite Runner*.

For more information check: www.khaledhosseini.com/hosseini-bio.html

DRISS CHRAÏBI

French-Moroccan novelist, considered the father of the modern Moroccan novel. Chraïbi's work drew heavily on his own life. Central theme in his novels was the clash between different cultures, the East and the West, Arab and French. Chraïbi's range of style changes from epic to comedy. He was one of the pioneers of Maghrebian writers to explore the oppression of women and children in Arab society.



Grade 9 will be reading Chraïbi's novel *Mother Comes of Age*.

For more information check: <http://kirjasto.sci.fi/chraibi.htm>