

# NEH Application Cover Sheet

## Challenge Grants for Two-Year Colleges

### PROJECT DIRECTOR

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Mr. Rick Hogrefe  
Dean of Arts and Sciences  
11711 Sand Canyon Road  
Yucaipa, CA 92399-1799  
UNITED STATES

**E-mail:** rhogrefe@craftonhills.edu  
**Phone(W):** 909-389-3205  
**Phone(H):**  
**Fax:** 909-794-0423

**Field of Expertise:** Communications

### INSTITUTION

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Crafton Hills College  
Yucaipa, CA UNITED STATES

### APPLICATION INFORMATION

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**Title:** *Arabic Studies at Crafton Hills College*

**Grant Period:** From 10/2012 to 9/2016

**Field of Project:** Languages - Near Eastern

**Description of Project:** The Arabic Studies project at Crafton Hills College will open the study of Arabic language and culture to community college students in the Inland Empire region of Southern California. Located in Yucaipa, California, Crafton Hills College serves 6,204 students primarily from Yucaipa and the surrounding areas of Beaumont, Banning, San Bernardino, Highland, Redlands, Calimesa, and Mentone. Students have a variety of four-year universities available for transfer, including the University of California at Riverside, the University of Redlands, California State University at San Bernardino (CSUSB), and numerous private and faith-based universities. The most popular destination college for Crafton Hills College transfer students is CSUSB, and CSUSB is also the only CSU to offer a Bachelor of Arts degree in Arabic. Crafton Hills College seeks Challenge Grant funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities to help establish and endowment for ongoing Arabic instruction.

### BUDGET

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<b>Fiscal Year # 1</b>	\$60,000.00	<b>Total from NEH</b>	\$280,000.00
<b>Fiscal Year # 2</b>	\$70,000.00	<b>Non-Federal</b>	\$560,000.00
<b>Fiscal Year # 3</b>	\$70,000.00	<b>Total</b>	\$840,000.00
<b>Fiscal Year # 4</b>	\$80,000.00	<b>Matching Ratio: 2.00 to 1</b>	

### GRANT ADMINISTRATOR

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Ms. Karen Childers  
Director, Grant Development and Management  
11711 Sand Canyon Road  
Yucaipa, CA 92399-1799  
UNITED STATES

**E-mail:** kchilder@craftonhills.edu  
**Phone(W):** 909-389-3392  
**Fax:** 909-794-0423

### Abstract

The Arabic Studies project at Crafton Hills College will open the study of Arabic language and culture to community college students in the Inland Empire region of Southern California. Located in Yucaipa, California, Crafton Hills College serves 6,204 students primarily from Yucaipa and the surrounding areas of Beaumont, Banning, San Bernardino, Highland, Redlands, Calimesa, and Mentone. Students have a variety of four-year universities available for transfer, including the University of California at Riverside, the University of Redlands, California State University at San Bernardino (CSUSB), and numerous private and faith-based universities. The most popular destination college for Crafton Hills College transfer students is CSUSB, and CSUSB is also the only CSU to offer a Bachelor of Arts degree in Arabic.

Preparations for Arabic Studies at Crafton Hills College began in 2006 when the Chancellor challenged the district to increase the number of students acquiring foreign language proficiency. Over the next four years, a team of faculty members created curriculum and secured articulation agreements with four-year institutions, including those in the University of California and the California State University systems. An Associate of Arts degree in Arabic was approved for Crafton Hills College and has been listed in the catalog since 2010, but funding cuts in the California community college system have made it impossible to offer Arabic courses.

The Crafton Hills College Foundation is seeking \$280,000 in Challenge Grant funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities in order to offer courses in Arabic. Funds will be matched at \$560,000 in nonfederal funds. Students will have the opportunity to take beginning through intermediate Arabic in the community college and achieve an Associate of Arts degree in this field. The College's physical proximity to and articulation agreement with CSUSB will make it easy for interested students to continue their advanced study of Arabic language and culture. Moreover, with state and district approval already in place for Arabic courses and the Associate of Arts degree, Crafton Hills College will be able to offer its first Arabic course immediately upon grant award. Also included in this project are library acquisitions, connections to Middle Eastern and Muslim culture, study abroad opportunities, and plans to create three additional courses related to Arabic Studies.

The Crafton Hills College Foundation has almost 40 years experience supporting Crafton Hills College. Established in 1973 as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, the Foundation manages over \$1.2 million in assets and is governed by an experienced Board of Directors. From 2005-2011 a Title V Coop grant established the positions of Director and Administrative Secretary, and in the same time period, annual contributions rose from \$126,553 to \$1,466,328. The two positions are now fully supported by the College. In addition, the project proposal includes a part-time Resource Officer to work specifically on matching funds for the Arabic Studies project. The contacts already established with the Arabic speaking community in the Inland Empire will be a great help in securing the staffing described in the project.

Funds will be raised through annual campaigns, alumni campaigns, special events, major gifts, and grants. Letters of inquiry are being prepared for submission to private foundations with an interest in expanding the knowledge of Arabic language and culture.

**Challenge Grant Budget**

Total NEH funds requested:			\$280,000
	Year 1:	\$60,000	
	Year 2:	\$70,000	
	Year 3:	\$70,000	
	Year 4:	\$80,000	
Non-federal funds to be raised:			\$560,000
<b>Total grant funds (NEH plus match):</b>			<b>\$840,000</b>
<b>Planned Expenditures:</b>			
<i>Direct</i>			
Fundraising costs			\$84,000
Library acquisitions			\$10,000
Project Development			\$2,000
Bridge funds to begin consulting			\$5,000
	Year 1:	\$2,500	
	Year 2:	\$2,500	
Bridge funds to begin instruction			\$87,212
	Year 1:	\$5,600	
	Year 2:	\$22,400	
	Year 3:	\$29,606	
	Year 4:	\$29,606	
<i>Endowed</i>			
Principal			\$651,788
Rate of return expected			5%
Projected annual expendable			\$32,589
Use of annual endowment income			
Faculty salary & benefits for 6 courses per year		\$29,606	

## **Proposal Narrative**

### **Introduction**

Crafton Hills College seeks a Challenge Grant for Two-Year Colleges from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in the amount of \$280,000 to endow a program of instruction in Arabic language and culture. The Arabic Studies program at Crafton Hills College will meet the needs of its students as well as the local and global community. The faculty and administration of the College hold the view that foreign language instruction is a cornerstone to educating students to be informed members of society who demonstrate understanding and empathy toward cultures different than their own. The Dean of Arts and Sciences, who in his previous role as Chair of the Communication and Language department began efforts to develop the Arabic program at the College, is particularly committed to growing the humanities offerings at the College toward the goal of expanding students' exposure to diverse ideas and cultures. The NEH Challenge Grant and subsequent Endowment for Arabic Studies at Crafton Hills College will be an important step in the College realizing the goals set forth in its 2010-2013 Educational Master Plan.

### **Background**

In 2006, the then Chancellor of the San Bernardino Community College District, Donald Averill, challenged the district to increase the number of students acquiring foreign language proficiency. At that time, Crafton Hills College's foreign language offerings consisted of a robust Spanish program and the first two semesters of American Sign Language. Using the Chancellor's goal as the impetus, the then Chair of the Communication and Language department developed a plan to grow the foreign language program exponentially over the next

five years. This process began with faculty in the department conducting research as to what new language offerings would attract the greatest interest and meet student needs in the years to come. The decisions made at that time were to fully develop the American Sign Language program, revive the dormant French program, and create new foreign language curricula in Japanese, Russian and Arabic. Since then, the College has met its goal by developing a comprehensive two year language curriculum in four languages; securing approval from the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges for three new associate degrees in foreign language; and expanding course offerings by over fifty percent.

### **Significance and Value of Arabic Studies at Crafton Hills College**

The initial decision to include Arabic among the three planned new language offerings was based first on the recognition of the importance of understanding Arabic language and culture given the social, religious and political realities of our world. As a result of events during the past fifty years culminating in the September 11, 2001 attacks, many Americans have a one-dimensional perception of Arab individuals and civilizations. Unfortunately, since those attacks, many aspects of American media have reinforced negative stereotypes of Arabic-speaking and Muslim people. Teaching Arabic is one significant way in which Crafton Hills College can help overcome unfounded perceptions held by some members of our community. Research is replete with evidence that learning a second language is associated with developing more positive attitudes toward speakers of that language.

Moreover, environmental scan data demonstrates that the Arabic and Muslim communities in California's Inland Empire are significant. According to American Community Survey data collected between 2005 and 2009, there are over 8,000 Arabic speakers in San

Bernardino County.<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, the most recent data available from Glenmary Research Center shows that in 2000, half a million Muslims resided in southern California—20,000 of them in the Inland Empire, a number which is expected to increase once the updated “Religious Congregations & Membership in the United States 2010” report is released this summer.<sup>2</sup>

Third and finally, Crafton Hills College is in a unique position to maximize the benefits of an Arabic Studies program for its students. Crafton Hills College serves a portion of California’s Inland Empire, an area which is in turn served by two public universities, the University of California, Riverside (UCR) and California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB). CSUSB is located within the borders of San Bernardino Community College District, less than 25 miles from the Crafton Hills College campus. CSUSB is the most common destination college for Crafton Hills College students. What makes this of particular significance to this proposal is that CSUSB is the only of the twenty-three California State Universities to offer a bachelor’s degree in Arabic.

The Arabic program at CSUSB is an outgrowth of the California State University Strategic Language Initiative (SLI). The SLI was established in 2006 to create “affordable, accessible strategic language instruction program that effectively responds to our national critical language needs.”<sup>3</sup> Arabic was identified as one of six languages with the greatest political, social and economic significance in our world. CSUSB was chosen as the first center for Arabic studies as a part of the SLI and subsequently has developed a comprehensive Arabic program which

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<sup>1</sup> B16001. Language Spoken at home by ability to speak English for the population 5 years and over. Universe: Population 5 years and over. Retrieved 1/10/12 from [www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2011/tables/11s0053.xls](http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2011/tables/11s0053.xls)

<sup>2</sup> Association of Religion Data Archives. Religious congregations and membership in the United States. 2000: Glenmary Research Center, Nashville, TN.

<sup>3</sup> CSU Consortium for the Strategic Language Initiative. Retrieved 1/9/12 from [http://icafviet.com/sli/index.php?task=view\\_Article&id=72](http://icafviet.com/sli/index.php?task=view_Article&id=72)

includes a fully developed language curriculum supported by other courses both inside and outside the CSUSB World Languages and Literatures department.

While Crafton Hills College is one of twelve community colleges in CSUSB's service area, no other college has fully addressed the need to prepare students for transfer into the Arabic program at CSUSB.<sup>4</sup> Crafton Hills College's own sister campus, San Bernardino Valley College, is a typical example. SBVC offers only two introductory courses in Arabic, but no intermediate language or related cultural courses are offered. The only other two colleges in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties to offer Arabic, Riverside City College and Chaffey College, only offer three semesters of Arabic instruction. Students attending any of these institutions who aspire to master Arabic at an intermediate level must wait until they transfer to continue their studies. Crafton Hills College is the only community college in the Inland Empire to have a complete course-to-course articulation agreement with CSUSB for the first two years of Arabic language instruction. The NEH grant and subsequent endowment will provide the College the resources necessary to capitalize on this agreement and allow our students the opportunity to transfer to the university having completed their entire first two years of courses.

Although CSUSB provides an excellent opportunity for Crafton Hills College students wishing to further pursue their studies of Arabic language and culture, it is by no means the only institution to which students interested in pursuing further study in Arabic may transfer. The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) also offers an Arabic Studies degree. The University of California, Santa Barbara offers a multidisciplinary Middle Eastern Studies major, and California State University, Fresno offers a minor in the same discipline. Finally, San Jose State University is presently making plans to develop a minor in Arabic.

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<sup>4</sup> Search conducted on 1/21/12 at [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)

While Crafton Hills College places a significant emphasis on its transfer mission, it is a California community college and thus has workforce preparation as part of its mission. Crafton Hills College's career-technical education offerings focus on preparing students for high-demand, high wage careers in public safety and allied health. Undoubtedly, given the aforementioned statistics showing the growth of Arabic speaking individuals in our area, first responders and health professionals with knowledge of a second language, including Arabic, are and will continue to be in high demand.

Many sources attribute the surge of interest among students wishing to study Arabic language and culture to the September 11, 2001 attacks. The SLI website identified these and other global crises of recent years as having "highlighted the critical need for strategic and diplomatic expertise in major world languages, as well as less spoken languages of global hot spots."<sup>5</sup> The website goes on to say that it is essential that those deployed in these areas be able "to communicate with multilingual populations and provide translation, interpretation and cultural competencies in the field, in strategic planning and intelligence."<sup>6</sup> A significant number of first responders trained at Crafton Hills College might very well be those individuals to whom this quote applies. In summary, knowledge of Arabic among first responders will have positive effects both in our community and globally.

Having made the decision to develop Arabic curriculum, in 2008 the College sought out the expertise of Mahmoud Harmoush to develop a comprehensive two year curriculum for Arabic language and culture which was as approved unanimously by the College's Curriculum Committee. Mr. Harmoush possesses a master's degree in interdisciplinary education from Mountain State University and is currently pursuing a second master's degree in Inter-religious

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<sup>5</sup> ibid

<sup>6</sup> ibid

Islamic Leadership from the Claremont School of Theology. He has served as the Director of the Islamic Center of the Temecula Valley since 2002 and is an adjunct faculty member in Arabic and Islamic studies at CSUSB.

From 2008 to 2010, the department chair and the College's articulation officer secured initial articulation agreements with four-year institutions, including those in the University of California and California State University system. At this time, the four Arabic language courses Crafton Hills College is prepared to offer each transfer to all CSUs and UCs and satisfy a variety of general education requirements for students earning associate degrees or preparing to transfer. In 2010, the College was approved to offer an Associate of Arts degree in Arabic by the Office of the Chancellor of California Community Colleges.

Unfortunately, the preparations to begin the Arabic language program at Crafton Hills College corresponded with the onset of largest budget crisis to befall the State of California. Since 2009, the College has been forced to cut section offerings by over 20 percent, postponing the introduction of Arabic coursework at the College. The NEH Challenge Grant for Two Year Colleges provides Crafton Hills College with the opportunity to initiate this long awaited and greatly needed program as well as secure its future.

### **Language Instruction at Crafton Hills College**

The Arabic program at Crafton Hills College is housed within the Communication and Language department, one of six departments in the Division of Arts and Sciences. The Dean, Richard K. Hogrefe, Jr., previously served as chair of the Communication and Language department. The department is currently led by Jeffrey Schmidt, Professor of Spanish, and employs three full-time and fifteen part-time faculty teaching courses in Spanish, American Sign Language, French, Japanese, and Communication Studies. The department is recognized

throughout the campus for excellence in teaching and service to the College. The established learning outcomes in all language courses correspond with the standards of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language and focus in five areas: expressive communication, receptive communication, cultures of those speaking the respective language, cultural diversity, and life-long learning. These areas represent the overarching goals of all language instruction at Crafton Hills College, including instruction in Arabic.

As these learning outcomes suggest, the integration of language and culture instruction is of paramount significance at the College. Students are introduced to aspects of culture, history and society at all levels of language instruction. Foreign language instruction is conducted in the target language and is supported through an online language laboratory environment and access to student support through the College's Tutoring Center. Students enrolled in intermediate-level language courses are expected to read primary documents and literature in the language they are learning, and the department maintains two student organizations for students with an interest in language and culture. Foreign language instruction is also supported by courses in other departments in the division, including those in literature, the humanities, social sciences and multicultural studies. For example, the approved Associate Degree program in Arabic includes as a learning outcome the ability to "apply their knowledge of Arabic language and culture beyond the classroom in interactions within multicultural communities and the world."<sup>7</sup>

The development of the American Sign Language (ASL) and Japanese programs at the College provides both a model for and evidence of the potential success of the Arabic language program at Crafton Hills College. As previously mentioned, in 2005-2006, the College offered one section of ASL per semester, serving only 41 students (unduplicated headcount). Five years

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<sup>7</sup> Crafton Hills College course catalog, Associate Degree requirements for Arabic. 2011-2012, page 82.

later, the College regularly offers between five to six sections per semester and has maintained an unduplicated headcount of 220 students in academic years 2009-2010 and 2010-2011, representing a 437% increase over five years. Since 2009, 35 students have completed the four semester language sequence with an additional 19 anticipated for Spring 2012. This semester the College will award its first associate degrees in American Sign Language. In much the same way Arabic studies are centralized at CSUSB, students wishing to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in Deaf Studies must attend California State University, Northridge (CSUN). A majority of Crafton Hills College's ASL faculty received their degrees from CSUN and have been successful in establishing a relationship with their former institution whereby many Crafton Hills College students have transferred to CSUN.

The Japanese program at Crafton Hills College also has realized considerable growth and success since its inception in Fall 2008. Like the Arabic program, the Japanese curriculum was developed with the assistance of a subject matter expert who then assumed the role of faculty within the program. The College offers four sections of first and second semester Japanese courses annually and the unduplicated headcount of students served by the program has doubled in just two years. As a result of high success, retention and persistence in the program, the College is now prepared to expand Japanese instruction to include third and fourth semester courses. A significant number of students have developed an interest in pursuing their degrees in Japanese at four-year institutions. This interest has also led to the development of two student organizations on campus as well as demand for courses in Asian culture, including Asian art. Crafton Hills College looks forward to replicating the success of the ASL and Japanese programs with the development of the Arabic Studies program.

The endowment for Arabic Studies at Crafton Hills College will allow the College to offer beginning and intermediate Arabic courses. Students completing the four semester Arabic language sequence will be qualified to earn an Associate of Arts degree in Arabic and transfer into the B.A. program in Arabic at CSUSB. These courses will be taught by highly qualified faculty whom the College will secure, and instruction will follow the high standards established for all language courses at the College. The College will also contract a subject expert to assist the Dean and Chair in leading the program during its first two years. This subject expert will recommend library acquisitions, plan professional development offerings on aspects of Arabic and Middle Eastern culture, participate in annual planning and the tri-annual program review process, advise resource development and division staff, and work cooperatively with faculty in other departments in the Division of Arts and Sciences to develop additional courses to complement Arabic language offerings. The College has held exploratory discussions with Mr. Harmoush regarding the subject expert contract, and he is expected to be among the candidates considered for that contract as well as a faculty position in Arabic Studies. Contracts will be awarded based on San Bernardino Community College District policies and procedures.

### **Crafton Hills College**

Crafton Hills College is a comprehensive two-year institution founded in 1972. Located in Yucaipa, it is one of two colleges in the San Bernardino Community College District and serves the economically and ethnically diverse communities of the eastern San Bernardino valley. Crafton Hills College offers a comprehensive range of academic programs and student support services. The College grants associate degrees in 43 programs including Associate of Arts degrees in the humanities and social sciences, Associate of Science degrees in the natural sciences, mathematics and career-technical education programs, and multi-disciplinary degrees

including Liberal Arts-Teacher Preparation. Crafton Hills College has been recognized by the State Chancellor's Office as a leader in the development of new associate in arts and associate in science degrees for transfer. Students who complete the requirements of these degrees are guaranteed admission to a California State University upon graduation. The college also grants occupational certificates in the areas of business administration, child development, emergency medical services, fire technology, and radiologic technology.

During the past seven years, Crafton Hills College has been awarded four federal grants from the Department of Education. In 2005, a cooperative grant with San Bernardino Valley College strengthened the College's ability to raise funds in partnership with the Crafton Hills College Foundation. Also in 2005, a Title V-Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) grant was awarded to Crafton Hills College with the goal of increasing the number of first-year students, especially Hispanic or low-income students, transitioning successfully into college and persisting to a second year. In 2010, another Title V-HSI grant was awarded to strengthen the culture of transfer on the campus and increasing transfer rates to four-year institutions. In October 2011, the College was awarded an HSI-STEM grant, this one with the goal of creating pathways by which Hispanic and other low-income students are exposed to careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in elementary and middle school, receive adequate preparation in science and mathematics in high school, complete the first two years of an academically rigorous STEM education while at Crafton Hills College, and transfer to prestigious STEM programs at four-year institutions.

Established in 2006, the College Honors Institute at Crafton Hills College provides high achieving students the opportunity to join a community of scholars who share a passion of learning. The college presently offers honors coursework in eight disciplines with immediate

plans to expand the number to 20 within the next two years. Students enrolled in honors coursework complete academically more rigorous coursework and conduct original research which they have the opportunity to present at undergraduate research conferences. Graduates of the College Honors Institute receive priority admission and scholarship consideration at universities throughout California.

During the tenure of the current president, Gloria Macias Harrison, Crafton Hills College has embarked on an extensive building campaign, opening a new Learning Resource Center and Aquatics Center in 2010. Plans are now underway for the construction of a new science building, occupational education building and student center/administration building by 2016.

In Fall 2010, Crafton Hills College enrolled 6,204 credit students. Like other community colleges in the state, the College is representative of the diverse community it serves. Just over one-half of Crafton Hills College students are Caucasian (53%), 32% are Hispanic, 6% are Asian and 5% are African American. Approximately 52 percent of the College's students are women. The average age of a Crafton Hills College student is 24.5 years old. The largest percentage of students are 20-24 (37%) while 33% are 19 or younger. Crafton Hills College enrolls a significant number of adult learners as well: 1,876 of the college's 6,204 students are 25 years or older. 31.2 percent of students during the Fall 2010 semester were full-time while 68.8 were enrolled in less than 12 units.

### **Resources**

Crafton Hills College offers a wide range of student services that will support Arabic language learners in the years to come. The Crafton Hills College Library is located in the new Learning Resource Center and houses an extensive collection of 50,000 volumes, of which 20,000 fall into the humanities (language, linguistics, literature, history, jurisprudence,

philosophy, archaeology, comparative religion, and ethics). Under the leadership of the Dean of Math, English, Reading and Instructional Support, the College Library faculty and staff have developed a revised collection development policy and are committed to expanding library offerings in disciplines throughout the College. The NEH Challenge Grant for Two Year Colleges will allow Crafton Hills College to dedicate considerable resources to the acquisition of books, periodicals and academic journals essential to students studying Arabic language and culture, including Arabic language texts.

The aforementioned Learning Resource Center also houses a number of other essential College services including the Tutoring Center and Teaching and Learning Center. The Tutoring Center employs seven faculty and paraprofessional staff as well as student tutors who offer both appointment-based and walk-in tutoring for students in a variety of courses including foreign language. The Center also includes a dedicated Writing Center. The Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) is dedicated to the professional development of the college's faculty and staff. In a technologically-current environment, faculty members attend professional development workshops and work individually or in small groups to improve the quality of their instruction. The TLC provides faculty access to a variety of instructional technologies and houses professional library dedicated to best practices in teaching and learning.

The TLC is managed in part by the College's Professional Development Committee which is dedicated to the personal and professional development of the College's faculty and staff as well as the organizational development of the College as a whole. The work of the Professional Development Committee is complemented by the efforts the Office of Student Life which provides social as well as educational programming for the College's students. During the last two years, the Office of Student Life and the Associated Students of Crafton Hills College

(ASCHC) have collaborated to sponsor a variety of events highlighting the diverse cultures represented in the College's student body. As Arabic Studies grows in recognition and enrollment, the Professional Development Committee and Office of Student Life will incorporate into their events more activities related to Arabic culture, Middle Eastern politics, and Islam.

Several other programs at the College are also dedicated to offering programming to expand the intellectual, cultural and social horizons of its students. The College has a renowned fine arts program, including the Theatre Arts program which consistently stages productions addressing significant cultural and social issues. In fact, the College was the only community college in the state to receive a California Story Fund grant from the California Council for the Humanities in Fall 2011. This year-long grant will underwrite the development of an original stage play adapted from personal narratives collected from Crafton Hills College students who represent the diverse population of the Inland Empire. One of the stories to be collected as a part of this project and represented in the play is that of a young Muslim man and his experience living in the Inland Empire.

In addition, Tom Bryant, Professor of Theatre Arts has recently undertaken a project to develop a theatrical script dramatizing the events surrounding the Irvine 11. On February 8, 2010, eleven University of California, Irvine Muslim students were arrested for disrupting a speech at the University by Israeli Ambassador to the United States Michael Oren.<sup>8</sup> In February 2011, the eleven were charged with conspiracy to disrupt a lawful meeting, an action opposed by

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<sup>8</sup> Santa Cruz, Nicole. "Protesters who disrupted Israeli ambassadors at UC Irvine charged by prosecutors." Los Angeles Times, February 4, 2011. Retrieved 1/23/12 from <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/02/protesters-who-distrupted-israeli-ambassador-at-uci-charged-by-prosecutors.html>

many including UCI faculty<sup>9</sup> and Jewish Studies faculty from throughout the University of California system.<sup>10</sup> Ten of the eleven were found guilty in September and received probation but no jail time.<sup>11</sup>

As part of his research, Professor Bryant attended the trial and has interviewed many of the principal figures involved with the case, including the defendants, lawyers and members of southern California Muslim community. Professor Bryant plans to continue work on the script during the next year and debut the play in workshop at Crafton Hills College sometime in 2013.

Crafton Hills College is member of the Southern California Foothills Consortium for Study Abroad. The consortium is a partnership among twelve California community colleges which allows students the opportunity to study abroad as a part of their first two years of study at a community college. Students who participate earn credits through nearby Citrus College while studying in London each fall semester and Salamanca, Spain each spring. Crafton Hills College historically has a significant number of students who participate in this study abroad experience and during the past two semesters, two Crafton Hills College faculty members were selected to be among the three to travel abroad with the students. Snezana Petrovic, Professor of Art taught in Salamanca during the Spring 2011 semester and Kris Acquistapace, Professor of English taught in London during the Fall 2011 semester.

The Arabic Studies project at Crafton Hills College will also provide another study abroad opportunity for the College's students. One of the three initiatives of the CSU Strategic

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<sup>9</sup> New University Opinion Editors. "UCI faculty letter to DA: Drop the charges against the Irvine 11." New University, February 15, 2011. Retrieved 1/23/12 from <http://www.newuniversity.org/2011/02/opinion/uci-faculty-letter-to-da-drop-the-charges-against-the-irvine-11/>

<sup>10</sup> Wiener, Jon. "30 Jewish studies faculty call on DA to drop charges against Muslim students at UCI." Huffington Post, March 8, 2011. Retrieved 1/23/12 from [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jon-wiener/30-jewish-studies-faculty\\_b\\_832444.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jon-wiener/30-jewish-studies-faculty_b_832444.html).

<sup>11</sup> Santa Cruz, Nicole. "Irvine 11: 10 students sentenced to probation, no jail time." Los Angeles Times, September 23, 2011. Retrieved 1/23/12 from <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/09/irvine-11-sentenced-probation-no-jail-time.html>

Language Initiative is a summer study abroad immersion program. Since 2008, CSUSB has sponsored a summer study abroad experience in Amman, Jordan. Open to students who demonstrate proficiency equal to two years of study of Arabic, Crafton Hills College students who have completed ARABIC 104 will be eligible to apply for this program. In addition, CSUSB offers a seven-week on campus summer intensive program for beginning, intermediate and advanced Arabic language learners.

### **Request**

Crafton Hills College requests a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities in the amount of \$280,000 to support the establishment of the Arabic Studies program at the College. The College will raise a 2:1 match, resulting in an endowment of \$650,000 to support the ongoing operation of this program after the term of the grant.

At present, the College is prepared to offer the complete four-semester sequence of Arabic language courses, culminating in the award of the Associate of Arts degree in Arabic. The first step toward reaching this goal will be to secure a highly qualified pool of adjunct faculty members to teach these courses. The College will rely on the relationship it has already established with the Arabic program at CSUSB to invite their adjunct faculty to teach in the program as well as recruit additional faculty from the community as needed.

Because the Arabic curriculum has previously been developed and articulation agreements with four-year institutions already established, Crafton Hills College is prepared to begin the teaching introductory Arabic courses immediately upon award of the grant. The following represents our proposal for Arabic course offerings during the first four years of the grant period:

<b>Spring 2013</b>	<b>Fall 2013</b>	<b>Spring 2014</b>	<b>Fall 2014</b>	<b>Spring 2015</b>	<b>Fall 2015</b>	<b>Spring 2016</b>
ARABIC 101 1 section	ARABIC 101 2 sections	ARABIC 101 1 section	ARABIC 101 2 sections	ARABIC 101 1 section	ARABIC 101 2 sections	ARABIC 101 1 section
		ARABIC 102 1 section	ARABIC 103 1 section	ARABIC102 1 section	ARABIC 103 1 section	ARABIC 102 1 section
				ARABIC 104 1 section		ARABIC 104 1 section

The ultimate goal is that within six to ten years, student demand will grow to the point where Arabic Studies at Crafton Hills College will require a full-time faculty position to lead the Arabic Studies program. To this end, the Crafton Hills College Office of Resource Development and Grants will continue to pursue funding for the endowment with the long-term goal of supporting a full-time faculty position solely through proceeds of endowed funds.

In addition, work will begin immediately on the development of curriculum for three courses to support the Arabic language curriculum. These courses will be developed in cooperation with faculty from the other respective departments toward the goal of a creating a comprehensive Arabic Studies program. These courses will include:

- MCS 150 Introduction to Arabic Cultures
- POLIT 114 Middle Eastern Politics
- RELIG 177 Introduction to Islam

While housed in their respective departments, these courses will be developed in a manner which will emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of the study of culture and civilization. Upon local approval, these courses will be submitted from approval by the California State University and University of California systems to satisfy lower-division transfer general education requirements in the humanities and social sciences. The Dean and Department Chair will also investigate the feasibility of a multidisciplinary degree in Middle Eastern Studies which would

be offered in addition to the Associate of Arts Degree in Arabic already approved by the State Chancellor's office.

Students completing coursework in Arabic Studies will also be advised to enroll in other general education coursework which will contribute to their overall understanding of Arab cultures and civilizations. These courses would include world religions, world history, introductory sociology, world politics and intercultural communication.

In addition to the Arabic language faculty and an Arabic subject expert, the project will include project development funds to support events intended to expand the community's knowledge of Arabic-speaking individuals, Arab and Muslim culture and issues in the Middle East. These events will include professional development for the College's faculty and staff, educational events sponsored by the College and the Associated Students, fine arts events including Near Eastern art and music and theatrical productions focusing on issues facing Arab and Muslim peoples, and guest lectures.

As specified and encouraged in the NEH program description, the College will utilize a portion of challenge grant funds for fundraising costs. A part-time Resource Officer will be contracted to nurture relationships with and solicit donations from community members and organizations supportive of Arabic Studies at Crafton Hills College. A preliminary meeting was held with Mr. Harmoush in December 2011, and several potential donors were identified. Recruitment of the Resource Officer will include a preference for someone who has or can easily establish collegial relationships with supporters of this program. As part of the Crafton Hills College Office of Resource Development, the part time Officer will also have access to and support of the office that has worked to increase contributions to the CHC Foundation from \$126,553 in 2005 to \$1,466,328 in 2011.

## Project Goals

In keeping with the goals of the NEH Challenge Grants for Two Year Colleges, Crafton Hills College has identified two primary goals related to this proposal:

- To allow students the opportunity to complete the four-semester sequence of Arabic language courses and accompanying coursework at Crafton Hills College and ultimately transfer into an Arabic, Middle Eastern Studies or other humanities program at CSUSB or another four-year institution of their choice.
- To foster understanding and respect among Crafton Hills College faculty, staff and students of Arab culture and civilization; the Arab world; and Muslims and Arabic-speaking individuals both in our community and abroad.

These two goals are reflective of the strategic directions and institutional goals set forth in the College's Educational Master Plan (EMP) developed in 2010. Specifically, the success of this proposal will ultimately be determined by its ability to:

- Deliver and ensure access to programs, services and support that meets students' needs. (EMP 1.2)
- Seek, welcome and respect diversity and promote inclusiveness. (EMP 2.1)
- Identify and initiate the development of new courses and programs that align strategically with the needs of the College and its students. (EMP 4.2)
- Enhance the college's value to the community. (EMP 5.1)
- Seek, advocate for and acquire additional resources. (EMP 8.2)

**Evaluation**

The Arabic program will be evaluated as a part of the College's triannual program review process. This process is an integral component of all academic programs at Crafton Hills College and requires program faculty to conduct a thorough self evaluation using standards developed by the College's Planning and Program Review committee. First, program faculty compose a self study in which they identify the purpose and mission of the program and how these integrate with the overall mission of the College. Second, program faculty examine external factors affecting program offerings. The third component is to analyze the results from the assessment of student learning outcome as well as indicators of program health including enrollment, program efficiency and staffing data; and the fourth is to identify strengths and weaknesses of the program. As a result of this analysis, program faculty articulates a vision for the next three years and creates an action plan including goals, objectives and the resources necessary to achieve these goals and objectives.

The program review documents are reviewed by the Division Dean and forwarded to the College's Planning and Program Review Committee for evaluation. Requests for resources identified within each program review document are prioritized at the departmental and division level as well as by the Planning and Program Review Committee before being forwarded to the President. The President is ultimately responsible for resource allocation informed by the program review process. The Planning and Program Review Committee also makes recommendations to the President regarding the health of programs and services throughout the campus.

During the past program review cycle, all foreign language programs with the exception of American Sign Language completed the program review process collectively. The awarding

of this NEH grant will require that the Arabic program complete the program review process independent of the other language programs at the college. The first program review will be completed in Fall 2014.

### **Impact**

The NEH Challenge Grant for Two Year Colleges and subsequent Endowment for Arabic Studies at Crafton Hills College will have a transformative affect on the instructional programs at the College as well as on its faculty, staff, students, and members of the community. Arabic is spoken by an estimated 280 million individuals throughout the world. As such, it is the fifth most spoken language in the world and is one of the six official languages of the United Nations. Arabic is also the language of Islam, which according to a 2009 comprehensive study is practiced by 23 percent of the world's population. Undoubtedly, providing students the knowledge and skills to communicate with Arabic speakers and Muslims is of tremendous value toward the goal of bridging cultures.

Perhaps more significantly, this grant and subsequent endowment has the potential to positively affect the views of the College's students, faculty, and staff as well as the community in which they live toward Arabic-speaking individuals, Arab culture, the Arab World and Muslims. The September 11, 2001 attacks undoubtedly represent one of the most significant events in American involvement in the Middle East and Americans' perceptions of Muslims. A 2009 article in the Christian Science Monitor cites a Pew Forum survey that found that Americans believe Muslims face more discrimination than any other religious group in the United States.<sup>12</sup> While 58 percent of the respondents acknowledged that Muslims face "a lot" of

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<sup>12</sup> Moore, Jina. "Post 9/11, Americans say Muslims face most discrimination." New York: September 11, 2009. Retrieved 1/9/12 from [www.CSMonitor.com](http://www.CSMonitor.com).

discrimination, 38 percent believe Islam encourages violence.<sup>13</sup> More recently, a national home improvement retail chain pulled its sponsorship from the TLC program *All-American Muslim*, succumbing to pressure from a religiously conservative group centered in Florida. Both the Pew Forum survey and the events of late 2011 demonstrate a continued need to educate our communities about the Arabic-speaking and Muslim world. What better place for this education to begin than in the community college.

Through the support of this grant and subsequent endowment, Crafton Hills College will be able to meet the growing interest and need for Arabic instruction in the United States. A report from the Modern Language Association shows Arabic instruction increased 127 percent between 2002 and 2006,<sup>14</sup> and a USA Today article from the same year stated that the demand for instruction in Arabic has created a shortage of qualified Arabic instructors.<sup>15</sup> Crafton Hills College can help meet this demand by preparing students in academically rigorous two year Arabic language program and promoting their transfer to CSUSB, UCLA or another four year institution offering bachelor's degrees in Arabic or Middle Eastern Studies.

### **Fundraising Plan**

The Crafton Hills College Foundation was formed in 1974 as a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to support Crafton Hills College. The mission of the CHC Foundation is “to promote gifts for the support and enhancement of quality education at Crafton Hills College and, thus, fulfill the needs of the community which the college serves.”<sup>16</sup> Prior to 2005, the CHC Foundation primarily served as a scholarship-granting organization for Crafton Hills College students. In 2005 a Title V-HSI cooperative grant from the U.S. Department of

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<sup>13</sup> *ibid*

<sup>14</sup> Modern Language Association. “New MLA survey shows significant increase in foreign language study at U.S. colleges and universities.” New York: November 13, 2007.

<sup>15</sup> Yahalom, Tali. “Surge in students studying Arabic outstrips supply of teachers.” USA Today, September 4, 2007.

<sup>16</sup> Crafton Hills College website. Retrieved 1/23/12 from <http://www.craftonhills.edu/Community/Foundation.aspx>.

Education established the Crafton Hills College Resource Development Office, which brought an Administrative Secretary position in May 2006 and a Director of Resource Development in August 2006. From 2006-2011, the Foundation expanded its efforts into student and program support through grants, planned giving, annual campaigns, an alumni program, planned annuities, and endowments. The results have exceeded expectations. In 2005, the CHC Foundation showed gross receipts of \$126,553, and the IRS Form 990 for 2011 (when filed) will show gross receipts in excess of \$1,466,000.

While still granting a significant number of scholarships to CHC students, Foundation funds are also used for program support across all disciplines at the College. For example, two grants from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians were used for support in counseling, tutoring, learning communities, summer bridge programs, and various needs within the sciences. The grant amounts were \$189,693 and \$200,000. The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians has been a consistent supporter of the CHC Foundation, and the Resource Development Office will apply for another grant when the next application period opens.

Despite the challenging economy of the last few years, the CHC Foundation saw increases in contributions. The Foundation's assets grew by 400% in the two fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, the number of donors grew by 52%, and new gifts of over \$400,000 were given to the Foundation for the benefit of the College.

As resource development has expanded in scope and importance at Crafton Hills College, grants have become a focus as well. College faculty and staff applied for and were awarded two Title V-HSI development grants, one for \$2,749,857 from 2005-2010, and the second for \$3,100,044 from 2010-2015. The second Title V-HSI development grant included the establishment of a CHC Grants Office and the addition of a Director of Grant Development and

Management. Since the establishment of the Crafton Hills College Grants Office in April 2011, faculty and staff have made the most of this resource by bringing in \$1,117,798 in grants for the 2011-2012 fiscal year, with additional applications pending in the amount of \$736,843. Sources of grant funding include the U.S. Department of Education, the California Endowment for the Humanities, the California Community College Chancellor's Office, and the San Bernardino Community College District Chancellor's Office.

In January 2012 the college brought resource development and grants efforts together into one office with the joint charge of doubling external support at Crafton Hills College between 2009-2010 and 2014-2015. The Director of Grant Development and Management has assumed leadership of the combined office, and the college is in the process of establishing an additional full-time position for resource development. Current staffing includes the Director and two full-time positions for administrative support. The part time Resource Officer proposed for this project will join the Office of Resource Development and Grants, bringing resource development staffing to four full time, one part time, and contract grant writers as needed.

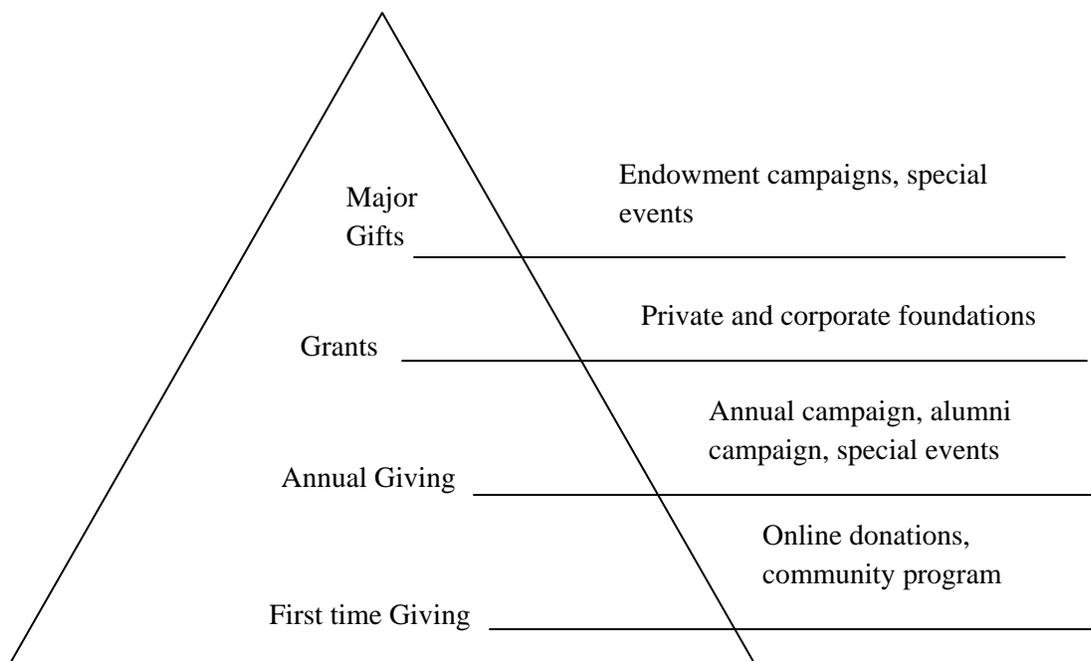
Fundraising for this project will begin with grants and individual donors and continue with annual campaigns and appeals to alumni. The strong partnership between Crafton Hills College and CSUSB will be an important component in cultivating major donors. Mr. Harmoush has named several major donors in the local area and is well connected in the community, and the Resource Officer will meet with him and other supportive members of the community upon hire. Moreover, the Resource Officer will be recruited with consideration of the ability to easily connect with potential donors and raise matching funds. In addition, the grants experience of the current Director is already proving useful in this project. Letters of inquiry are being prepared for

submission to private foundations based on promising matches between this project and the grantors' areas of interest.

One of the first goals of the full time Resource Officer will be to strengthen CHC alumni relations. Included in the appeals will be the opportunity to support Arabic Studies at CHC. This forward-looking project is a source of pride on the CHC campus and is expected to garner strong support among alumni.

Finally, each year the CHC Foundation sets its fundraising goals and determines its annual campaigns. With the larger staff in place for the start of the 2012-2013 academic year, planning will include their voices and experience. The typical fundraising plan for the CHC Foundation includes an annual Gala, donor appreciation activities such as a Donor's Tea and a Donor Appreciation Wall, the President's Circle, selected campaigns for specific needs, and ongoing donor stewardship. The Arabic Studies project is already a topic of discussion within the CHC Foundation Board, and planning will include discussion of Arabic Studies as an opportunity for restricted gifts in response to the NEH Challenge Grant.

The plan for Arabic Studies is summarized in the fundraising pyramid below.



**Conclusion**

The NEH Challenge Grant for Two-Year Colleges and Endowment for Arabic Studies at Crafton Hills College will contribute greatly to the College's efforts to offer comprehensive Arabic language and culture instruction to meet the needs of students planning to transfer to a four-year institution as well as those planning to enter the workforce. Likely is there no other effort to bridge culture more urgent than that of educating our students about the Arabic-speaking and Muslim world, preparing them to be global citizens of an increasingly complete society.