

Vision, Mission, and Objectives of Department of Ancient Iraqi Languages

According to Bologna Process for the Academic Year 2025-2026

Vision:

The Department of Ancient Iraqi Languages at College of Archaeology, University of Mosul, strives to develop a cadre of specialists in cuneiform writing and ancient languages, known internationally as Assyriology. This will enable them to absorb modern scientific developments and technologies, in line with the current state of cuneiform studies in Iraq, and to advance the field of linguistic studies in accordance with Bologna Process. The department aims to become a leading center in developing the process of reading and analyzing cuneiform writing and ancient languages in their various dialects.

This includes the study of Eastern languages such as Syriac, Aramaic, and Hebrew, as well as the analysis of newly discovered cuneiform texts at archaeological sites. The department also seeks to expand the pool of beneficiaries of its specializations, adhering to comprehensive quality standards and applying European standards within the Bologna Process framework.

Mission:

To highlight the pioneering role of Mesopotamian civilization by intensifying linguistic studies focused on Sumerian and Akkadian languages, including their Babylonian and Assyrian dialects. This includes establishing a branch of Oriental Languages dedicated to study of Syriac, Aramaic, and Hebrew, and showcasing the role of Mesopotamians in creating the oldest known writing system in the world. Therefore, the department seeks to attract global attention to the study of these languages and the scripts used to write them.

Objectives:

- To prepare specialized Iraqi scholars capable of reading, analyzing, and understanding cuneiform texts, which are among the most important sources for studying Mesopotamian civilization.
- To address and maintain the shortage of specialists in cuneiform writing in Iraq, a field that was the exclusive domain of European institutes and universities for many years.
- To develop specialized scholars in Syriac, Aramaic, and Hebrew.
- Actively contributing to the provision of scientific consultations between the department's staff and the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage in the field of archaeological investigations and excavations, relying on the reading and analysis of cuneiform texts and supervising postgraduate students, in addition to promoting local and international scientific research and publications within global databases, particularly those of European universities operating according to Bologna Process.
- Participating in raising archaeological awareness and protecting cultural heritage at the local level by highlighting the importance of Sumerian, Akkadian, Syriac, Aramaic, and Hebrew languages, and engaging with the Ministry of Education to cultivate a generation aware of and understanding the key civilizational foundations from which Mesopotamian civilization arose, its authenticity, and its enduring cultural influence to the present day.