

Arabic-Islamic culture has long valued the power and beauty of language, with poetry playing a central role in social and intellectual life even before Islam. Over the centuries, scholars developed sophisticated reflections on language – spanning grammar, literary criticism, legal hermeneutics, and Qur’ānic interpretation – that were later synthesized in the 13th and 14th centuries into a systematic theory of rhetoric (*ilm al-balāgha*) forming a cornerstone of Madrasa education. Despite this rich tradition, research on Arabic rhetoric remains incomplete, and especially the field of stylistics (*ilm al-badī*) is still underexplored.

The **Encyclopedia of Arabic Stylistic Devices (EASD)** addresses this gap by presenting stylistic devices comprehensively in an English-language online resource. Each entry offers definitions, historical context, examples from poetry, prose, and the Qur’ān, and highlights connections to related figures and disciplines. In particular, the project pays special attention to developments after 1400, a period that has so far received little scholarly attention.

This workshop marks the launch of the EASD project and invites participants to engage with the richness, innovative techniques, and scholarly potential of Arabic stylistics.

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 **Universität
Münster**

Venue

Institute of Sinology and East Asian
Studies
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Organization

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 **برمغ
EASD**

Encyclopedia of Arabic Stylistic Devices

Inaugural Workshop

March 26–27, 2026
Universität Münster

 **Fachbereich 09
Philologie**

 **Institut für Arabistik und
Islamwissenschaft**
living.knowledge

Thursday, March 26

9.45–10.00 **Workshop Opening**
Syrinx von Hees & Andreas Knöll (Münster)

Panel 1

10.00–10.40 ***al-iqtibās***
Maurice Pomerantz (NYU Abu Dhabi)

10.40–11.20 ***al-taḍmīn***
Amidu Sanni (Lagos State University)

11.20–11.40 **Coffee & Tea Break**

Panel 2

11.40–12.20 ***al-tarshih***
Avigail Noy (University of Texas)

12.20–13.00 ***al-madhhab al-kalāmī***
Andreas Knöll (Universität Münster)

13.00–15.00 **Lunch Break**

Panel 3

15.00–15.40 ***al-hazl alladhī yurādu bihī al-jidd***
Geert Jan van Gelder (University of Oxford)

15.40–16.20 ***al-taghāyur***
Syrinx von Hees (Universität Münster)

16.20–16.40 **Coffee & Tea Break**

Panel 4

16.40–17.20 ***al-tamthīl***
Ali Hussein (University of Haifa)

17.20–18.00 ***al-takhalluṣ***
Beatrice Gründler (Freie Universität Berlin)

19.00 **Conference Dinner**

Friday, March 27

Panel 5

09.20–10.00 ***al-tawhīm***
Betty Rosen (King's College London)

10.00–10.40 ***murā'āt al-naẓīr***
Muhittin Eliaçık (Kırıkkale Üniversitesi)

10.40–11.00 **Coffee & Tea Break**

Panel 6

11.00–11.40 ***ḥashw al-lawzīnaj***
Bilal Orfali (AU Beirut/NYU Abu Dhabi)

11.40–12.20 ***al-laff wa-l-nashr***
Kayvan Tahmasebian (SOAS London)

12.20–12.50 **Final Discussion**

13.30 **Lunch & Farewell**