# IJ-ATL: International Journal of Arabic Teaching and Learning

Vol. 09 No. 01 (2025): 84-96

Available online at <a href="https://ejournal.unuja.ac.id/index.php/ij-atl">https://ejournal.unuja.ac.id/index.php/ij-atl</a>



# Integration of Empiricism, Rationalism, and Positivism in Arabic Language Teaching: a Philosophy of Education Approach

# Mochammad Saifudin Arif<sup>1</sup>, Kamal Yusuf<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1, 2</sup> Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Ampel Surabaya, Indonesia

Received:	Revised:	Accepted:	Published:
24 March 2025	25 April 2025	27 May 2025	14 June 2025

#### Abstrak:

Arabic language instruction often faces challenges due to its complex grammatical structure, diglossic nature, and the fragmented application of teaching philosophies. Traditionally, educational practices tend to favor isolated methods, either experiential, theoretical, or evaluative, leading to imbalanced learning outcomes and limited communicative competence. In response to this issue, this study investigates the integration of empiricism, rationalism, and positivism as a philosophical foundation for Arabic language teaching to develop a more comprehensive and balanced instructional model. Employing a qualitative case study approach, data were collected through classroom observations, interviews with Arabic language educators, and analysis of curriculum documents and instructional materials. The findings reveal that empiricist strategies such as contextualized role-plays and experiential learning enhance students' functional language proficiency. Rationalist elements support conceptual mastery through structured grammar instruction and deductive reasoning, while positivist assessments provide objective measurement of learning outcomes through standardized evaluation tools. However, each paradigm, when applied in isolation, revealed limitations in supporting holistic language development. The study concludes that a philosophical integration of these three paradigms enriches Arabic language pedagogy by aligning practical, conceptual, and evaluative dimensions of instruction. This model contributes to the design of theoretically grounded, context-responsive Arabic teaching practices for more effective language acquisition.

**Keywords:** Arabic Language Teaching, Educational Philosophy, Empiricism, Rationalism, Positivism, Instructional Integration.

### Abstrak:

Pengajaran bahasa Arab sering menghadapi tantangan karena struktur tata bahasanya yang kompleks, sifat diglosik, dan penerapan filosofi pengajaran yang terfragmentasi. Secara tradisional, praktik pendidikan cenderung lebih menyukai metode yang terisolasi baik eksperiensial, teoritis, atau evaluatif yang mengarah pada hasil pembelajaran yang tidak seimbang dan kompetensi komunikatif yang terbatas. Sebagai tanggapan terhadap masalah ini, penelitian ini menyelidiki integrasi empirisme, rasionalisme, dan positivisme sebagai landasan filosofis untuk pengajaran bahasa Arab untuk mengembangkan model pengajaran yang lebih komprehensif dan seimbang. Dengan menggunakan pendekatan studi kasus kualitatif, data dikumpulkan melalui observasi kelas, wawancara dengan pendidik bahasa Arab, dan analisis dokumen kurikulum dan materi pengajaran. Temuan tersebut mengungkapkan bahwa strategi empiris seperti permainan peran kontekstual dan pembelajaran eksperiensial meningkatkan kemahiran bahasa fungsional siswa. Elemen rasionalis mendukung penguasaan konseptual melalui pengajaran tata bahasa terstruktur dan penalaran deduktif, sementara penilaian positivis memberikan pengukuran objektif hasil pembelajaran melalui alat evaluasi standar. Akan tetapi, setiap paradigma, jika diterapkan secara terpisah, menunjukkan keterbatasan dalam mendukung pengembangan bahasa secara holistik. Studi ini menyimpulkan bahwa integrasi filosofis dari ketiga paradigma ini memperkaya pedagogi bahasa Arab dengan menyelaraskan dimensi praktis, konseptual, dan evaluatif dari pengajaran. Model ini berkontribusi pada perancangan praktik pengajaran bahasa Arab yang berlandaskan teori dan responsif terhadap konteks untuk pemerolehan bahasa yang lebih efektif.

Kata kunci: Pengajaran Bahasa Arab, Filsafat Pendidikan, Empirisme, Rasionalisme, Positivisme, Integrasi

\*Corresponding author

Email: msa30032001@gmail.com

How to Cite:

Arif, M. S., & Yusuf, K. (2025). Integration of Empiricism, Rationalism, and Postivism in Arabic Language Teaching: a Philosophy of Education Approach. *IJ-ATL (International Journal of Arabic Teaching and Learning)*, 9(1), 84-96.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.33650/ijatl.v9i1.11265

#### INTRODUCTION

Arabic language instruction, particularly within formal educational contexts, presents unique pedagogical challenges due to its complex grammar, diglossic nature, and deep-rooted cultural dimensions. Despite the increasing demand for communicative competence, many learning processes remain fragmented and insufficiently grounded in comprehensive philosophical frameworks (Harb, 2020; Mazzolini, 2024; Watt, 2024). As such, education scholars have increasingly turned to foundational epistemological paradigms, empiricism, rationalism, and positivism to reframe language instruction. Empiricism, as proposed by Egid (2023), emphasizes knowledge gained through sensory experiences. Rationalism, rooted in Descartes' thought, stresses deductive reasoning and logic. Meanwhile, positivism, originating from Auguste Comte, centers on observable, scientific knowledge. These paradigms, while distinct, provide a balanced philosophical foundation that can potentially enhance Arabic language pedagogy (Abdullina et al., 2020; Bordonaba-Plou & Jreis-Navarro, 2023; Kulmanova et al., 2022). By integrating these frameworks, educators can address diverse student needs, cognitive, experiential, and evaluative, thereby establishing an instructional model that is both holistic and philosophically grounded.

In Arabic language instruction, these philosophical paradigms are often applied in isolation, limiting their full educational potential. For instance, the empiricist approach may emerge through task-based or communicative learning strategies focused on real-life interactions. Rationalist elements are typically present in grammar instruction and abstract reasoning exercises, helping students understand linguistic rules through logical structures (Khamray, 2021; Smirnov, 2023). Positivist influence appears in standardized testing, measurement of outcomes, and evidence-based evaluations. However, the separation of these paradigms often results in learning experiences that are either overly theoretical, lacking in practicality, or heavily focused on numerical achievement without deeper understanding. This fragmented application can weaken students' comprehensive language development (Akyüz, 2023; Alyemny et al., 2023; López-Farjeat, 2021). Many learners struggle with functional language use, conceptual mastery, and test performance simultaneously. Therefore, there is a clear need for an integrated philosophical framework that combines these epistemologies to create a more balanced and effective approach in Arabic language teaching.

Research within the Indonesian education system further highlights the relevance of these paradigms in shaping instructional practice. Klinger (2024) argues that the empirical learning methods, aligned with empiricist philosophy, are reflected in contextual learning models and hands-on activities, promoting experiential engagement with content. Tala (2020) also argues that the rationalist influences are visible in curriculum standards that emphasize conceptual clarity, abstract reasoning, and intellectual development,

particularly in subjects such as Arabic grammar and rhetoric. Meanwhile, Akewula (2020) states that the positivist values underpin national assessment standards through reliance on quantitative indicators, structured rubrics, and scientific procedures in evaluating student performance. However, these philosophies continue to be employed independently, and Arabic language education lacks a unified model that incorporates all three. Consequently, this study responds to the urgent need for a synthesized instructional framework rooted in philosophical integration, particularly within Arabic language teaching contexts.

The primary objective of this study is to formulate a comprehensive Arabic language teaching model that systematically integrates the principles of empiricism, rationalism, and positivism. Unlike previous research that treats each paradigm separately, this study recognizes the complementary nature of the three in shaping an instructional approach that balances theory with practice and assessment. Empiricism enriches learning through interactive, real-world experiences; rationalism deepens conceptual understanding; and positivism ensures measurable progress through objective evaluations. This integration addresses core pedagogical issues, student engagement, cognitive development, and performance outcomes within a single instructional model. In doing so, the study not only improves theoretical understanding but also enhances learners' practical abilities to use Arabic in authentic communicative settings. By anchoring pedagogy in educational philosophy, this approach offers greater coherence and adaptability for diverse learning environments.

This research is grounded in the argument that Arabic language instruction must be both epistemologically sound and pedagogically relevant. It seeks to bridge the gap between abstract educational philosophy and the concrete realities of classroom instruction. While prior studies have examined each philosophical paradigm in isolation, this study contributes a novel integration model specifically tailored to Arabic language learning. Moreover, by incorporating these philosophies into instructional design, this research aligns teaching strategies with deeper educational values, including critical thinking, creativity, and reflective learning. The study also aims to contribute a replicable model that can serve as a reference for curriculum developers and educators in designing Arabic language programs that are philosophically informed, culturally sensitive, and instructionally effective. Thus, this study not only enriches academic discourse but also provides practical tools for improving Arabic language teaching in contemporary education systems.

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

This study applies a qualitative case study design to examine how philosophical paradigms, empiricism, rationalism, and positivism are reflected in Arabic language teaching practices and curriculum implementation within selected Islamic educational institutions (Stern et al., 2020). The case study method is suitable for exploring the complexity of real-world educational phenomena while maintaining a strong theoretical foundation. In this study, the philosophical frameworks serve as analytical lenses to investigate how these epistemological schools of thought influence language teaching methods, materials, and learning evaluations. The approach allows for a contextualized exploration of how abstract philosophical principles are interpreted and applied by educators in actual classroom settings.

The research was conducted in two Islamic educational institutions selected

purposively based on their distinct approaches to Arabic instruction and their openness to curriculum development informed by educational philosophy. These institutions, one madrasah and one Islamic university, were chosen to provide a contrasting yet complementary understanding of how empiricism, rationalism, and positivism are integrated (or not) into instructional design. The selection was based on accessibility, curriculum structure, and the presence of Arabic language programs that actively incorporate reflective, practical, and evaluative elements. These sites also reflect broader trends in Indonesian Islamic education, where efforts to modernize the curriculum often intersect with classical Islamic epistemologies.

Data were collected through in-depth interviews with key informants, including Arabic language teachers, curriculum developers, and educational leaders (Gray et al., 2020). These participants were selected based on their professional expertise, pedagogical experience, and involvement in Arabic language instruction. The interviews focused on their instructional strategies, philosophical perspectives, and assessment methods. In addition to interviews, the researcher analyzed relevant curriculum documents, lesson plans, and teaching materials to triangulate findings and capture how philosophical paradigms manifest both implicitly and explicitly in instructional practices. This approach enables the researcher to interpret practical data through a philosophical lens, ensuring both theoretical depth and contextual relevance.

The data analysis process involved several key steps: (1) transcription and coding of interview data using thematic analysis, (2) document analysis to identify philosophical patterns in curriculum and pedagogy, and (3) synthesis of findings within the framework of empiricism, rationalism, and positivism. Thematic categories were mapped against the three philosophical paradigms to evaluate their presence and integration in teaching practices. This methodological framework bridges abstract theory with educational practice and contributes to a deeper understanding of how Arabic language instruction can be enriched through a philosophical foundation. By employing this case study design, the research aims to generate practical insights and offer a conceptual model for future curriculum development in Arabic education.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

# **Findings**

# **Empirical Immersion Enhances Functional Proficiency**

One of the central findings of this study demonstrates that Arabic language instruction rooted in empirical immersion through simulations, real-life interactions, and experiential learning significantly enhances students' functional language use. In one of the observed madrasahs, instructors employed various strategies aligned with empiricist thought, such as role-playing dialogues, context-based speaking drills, and vocabulary acquisition through tangible objects and sensory aids. This approach enables students to associate language with real-world contexts rather than abstract memorization. Teachers noted that students became more engaged when activities mimicked everyday scenarios such as giving directions, introducing themselves, or describing their environment. These experiential settings act as linguistic anchors, allowing learners to internalize expressions through repeated exposure and purposeful use.

A standout activity was the "Arabic Daily Task Rotation" (Tadbīq al-Mahārāt fī al-Wāqi'), where students took turns acting as receptionists, store clerks, and announcers in classroom mockups of real-world settings. One student shared, "When I act as a

storekeeper, I have to think fast and choose the right words; I can't just memorize." This activity required not only spontaneous sentence construction but also quick comprehension of peers' responses. The natural unpredictability of the interaction allowed for error-driven learning, where students corrected themselves through usage and observation. Teachers also reported that such practical activities helped reduce anxiety, fostered learner autonomy, and encouraged the development of situational fluency, where vocabulary is remembered in association with its use, not in isolation.

Additionally, observational data showed a positive transformation in student behavior and confidence. Initially, learners relied heavily on written scripts and prompts; however, after several weeks of repeated immersion, students began initiating conversations without cues, sustaining dialogues longer, and experimenting with new expressions. One teacher remarked, "They used to wait for exact instructions. Now they ask questions, repeat words for clarity, and even joke in Arabic." This shift reflects the empirical principle that knowledge solidifies through direct experience and interaction, rather than passive reception. The madrasah's integration of experiential modules proves that language acquisition thrives in settings where meaning is constructed through doing.

Another notable development was the emergence of strategic language use. For instance, when unable to recall specific terms, students used circumlocution to express their ideas, such as describing "a stapler" as al-ālah allatī talṣiq al-awrāq (the tool that sticks papers together). This reflects growing metalinguistic awareness and problemsolving ability traits not commonly developed through rote learning. Students also demonstrated improved self-monitoring by using facial cues or gestures alongside speech to clarify meaning. These adaptive strategies indicate that immersive empirical learning fosters not just fluency, but resilience and communicative flexibility essential for navigating real-life conversations in Arabic.

In interviews, students consistently expressed a preference for these immersive methods over conventional grammar drills. One learner commented, "Before, Arabic was just rules and memorizing lists. Now, I feel like I'm living it." This statement encapsulates the cognitive shift from learning Arabic as a school subject to experiencing it as a communicative tool. The integration of empirical immersion repositions students from passive recipients of knowledge to active users of the language. As such, the findings confirm that embedding empirical principles within Arabic instruction does more than enhance oral proficiency; it cultivates learner confidence, spontaneity, and the ability to use Arabic in fluid, context-sensitive ways. This offers valuable implications for curriculum designers aiming to move beyond decontextualized models of language teaching.

# Rationalist Structures Deepen Conceptual Mastery

The second major finding highlights how the rationalist paradigm, particularly in the context of Arabic grammar instruction, significantly contributes to learners' conceptual mastery of abstract linguistic structures. In the Islamic university under study, instructional design emphasized logical sequencing, analytical exercises, and rule-based grammar deduction reflecting Descartes' notion of knowledge grounded in reason and structured cognition. This rationalist orientation was most apparent in the teaching of naḥw (syntax) and ṣarf (morphology), where students were guided through explicit pattern recognition, derivational logic, and rule application. While this method demands higher-order thinking and precision, it builds a solid intellectual framework for understanding language as a system governed by coherent structures.

The rationalist approach was validated through a structured documentation and classroom analysis process. Teachers applied deductive reasoning models across five instructional modules involving sentence construction, verb conjugation, nominal sentence rules, rhetorical device analysis, and logic-based translation. These lessons were supported with analytical worksheets, grammar charts, and logic maps that allowed students to identify structural relationships among words and sentence components. Observations and lesson logs revealed that students were able to articulate grammar rules with clarity and apply transformations correctly in written exercises. However, the use of these rules in spontaneous speech or open-ended contexts remained limited, signaling a gap between knowing rules and using them communicatively.

As shown in Table 1, the most significant improvement was seen in sentence logic identification, where 89% of students correctly analyzed and restructured compound and complex sentences using accurate connectors (hurūf al-ʿaṭf, hurūf al-sharṭ). Similarly, morphological pattern recognition improved notably, with 82% of learners successfully conjugating verbs into derived forms (fiʿl mazīd, fiʿl mujarrad) across multiple pronouns. However, functional deployment of these forms in spontaneous or contextual communication tasks remained at a lower threshold (56%), reflecting the limits of purely rational instruction when unaccompanied by empirical and evaluative reinforcement.

 Table 1. Student Mastery in Rationalist-Based Instructional Modules

Instructional Component	Mastery Rate	Observed Outcome	
Sentence Logic Identification	89%	Clear recognition of syntactic relationships	
Morphological Pattern	82%	Accurate verb conjugation in controlled	
Recognition		exercises	
Abstract Grammar	78%	Effective articulation of rules and	
Explanation		structures	
Functional Grammar	56%	Limited spontaneous use in	
Application		communicative tasks	
Translation Using Deductive	74%	Reliable logical flow in sentence-level	
Logic		translation	

The data from Table 1 affirms that rationalist instruction builds strong structural awareness and rule internalization, essential for long-term language development. However, its lower effectiveness in applied performance suggests that rational mastery needs to be paired with empirical practice and positivist evaluation. The isolated application of rationalism may reinforce cognitive knowledge but leaves learners underprepared for real-time language production, which requires responsive and adaptable skills. As such, a rationalist model provides a necessary but partial foundation in a comprehensive teaching framework.

In conclusion, this finding demonstrates that rationalist pedagogy excels in deepening grammatical understanding and logical manipulation of language, particularly within written and structured exercises. Yet, its educational potential can only be fully realized when situated within a broader instructional model that also cultivates practical fluency and performance accountability. Future curriculum design should therefore integrate rationalist components into hybrid models where reasoning, action, and evaluation coalesce, enabling learners not only to think in Arabic structurally but also to function in it expressively and effectively.

### **Positivist Evaluation Supports Objective Learning Outcomes**

The implementation of positivist assessment frameworks in Arabic language instruction has brought about a notable transformation in how learning outcomes are structured and evaluated across both research sites. At the madrasah and Islamic university, teachers systematically employed standardized tests, analytic rubrics, and performance-based indicators to assess student achievement in vocabulary acquisition, grammar accuracy, reading fluency, and comprehension. These evaluation tools reflect the influence of positivist philosophy, where valid knowledge is derived through observable, measurable, and replicable data. The results of these assessments not only provide feedback for students but also serve as a foundation for instructional planning and administrative reporting. Through this system, the learning process gains a sense of academic rigor and transparency that aligns with broader accountability demands within the national education framework.

A central feature of the evaluation model observed is its quantitative orientation. Assessment items are carefully mapped to learning objectives, and scoring systems are explicitly designed to ensure inter-rater consistency and objectivity. Teachers were observed administering structured weekly tests, producing student performance graphs, and using statistical summaries to analyze class-wide trends. This data-driven culture enables instructors to pinpoint areas of conceptual weakness and design targeted remedial instruction. It also reinforces a scientific ethos in the classroom, where learning is seen as a measurable progression rather than an abstract process. However, despite its strengths, the model's rigidity sometimes limits opportunities for students to demonstrate creative or contextual understanding, particularly in open-ended communicative tasks.

# Arabic Language Learning Framework

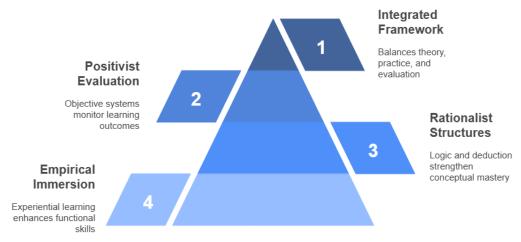


Figure 1. Implementation of Positivist Assessment Structures in Arabic Language Classrooms

Observations and field documentation, as illustrated in Figure 1, indicate that students gradually adapted to the demands of positivist evaluation systems. Early in the semester, many relied heavily on memorization, displaying shallow comprehension and minimal expressive skills. However, over time, students began to exhibit improvement in specific micro-skills such as word recognition speed, sentence construction accuracy, and error correction efficiency. These gains were most visible in structured assessment settings like reading comprehension quizzes and grammar-based cloze tests. Yet, this progress often plateaued when students were placed in spontaneous language production

situations, highlighting a gap between measured accuracy and functional fluency.

This limitation stems from the one-dimensional nature of positivist assessment when used in isolation. By prioritizing output that can be quantified, some assessments inadvertently suppress the cognitive and affective complexity of real-world language use. For instance, oral proficiency tests often reduce interaction to scripted responses and do not fully capture nuances such as hesitation management, circumlocution, or intonation. Moreover, the high-stakes environment fostered by repeated testing can contribute to anxiety, which may distort actual language competence. Therefore, while positivist tools are indispensable for monitoring instructional effectiveness, they must be understood as one part of a larger ecosystem complemented by experiential and reflective modes of evaluation.

In conclusion, this study's findings affirm that positivist assessment strategies provide clarity, structure, and direction in Arabic language teaching. They establish consistent benchmarks and encourage data-informed pedagogy. However, to avoid reductionism and promote holistic language development, these systems must be synergized with empiricist and rationalist elements. A balanced instructional model would not only assess what students know and can do but also how they apply, reflect on, and internalize that knowledge. Such integration ensures that Arabic is taught and evaluated not only as a grammatical system but as a living, adaptable medium of communication. The implications of these findings advocate for curriculum developers to recalibrate assessment design, embedding positivist rigor within philosophically inclusive frameworks.

#### Discussion

The findings of this study underscore the pedagogical value of integrating empiricism, rationalism, and positivism as complementary philosophical foundations in Arabic language instruction. Three interconnected themes emerged from the data: (1) the enhancement of functional language use through empirical immersion, (2) the deepening of grammatical conceptualization via rationalist structuring, and (3) the reinforcement of measurable learning outcomes through positivist evaluation mechanisms. These themes converge in affirming that philosophically grounded instruction yields a more holistic, effective, and responsive learning model suited to the complexity of Arabic as a second or foreign language.

First, the empirical immersion strategies employed, such as role-playing, contextual dialogues, and simulation of real-life interactions, reflect the foundational premise of empiricism that knowledge is best acquired through sensory experience. Drawing from constructivist language acquisition theories, the use of situationally anchored activities transformed classrooms into environments of linguistic action and reaction. Consistent with Dewey's experiential learning model and supported by second-language acquisition literature by Jamalpour (2024) show these practices enabled learners to engage with Arabic as a living language rather than as a static academic subject. Observable improvements in fluency, vocabulary retention, and communicative confidence affirm the hypothesis that language develops most robustly when it is practiced in realistic and emotionally engaging settings (Facchin, 2020; Najjar, 2020; Pskhu & Paribok, 2023). The emergence of spontaneous language use and strategic circumlocution confirms that empirically grounded instruction fosters both linguistic resilience and cognitive adaptability.

Second, the rationalist teaching framework rooted in Descartes' epistemology proved instrumental in deepening learners' understanding of Arabic morphology and syntax. Grammar-based modules emphasized deductive reasoning, pattern recognition, and logical application, enabling students to articulate linguistic rules and manipulate sentence structures with conceptual clarity. These findings align with cognitive theories of language instruction that prioritize explicit rule learning and mental modeling (Günther, 2023; Jali, 2025; Mahmoud, 2024). While this rationalist approach cultivated structural awareness and analytical precision, the data also revealed limitations in its communicative transferability when applied in isolation. Students often excelled in written grammar tasks but underperformed in spontaneous speaking situations, highlighting the need to integrate this paradigm with empirical and evaluative elements (Ramadan, 2023; Safitri & Zawawi, 2025; Shoja et al., 2024). According to educational philosophy literature, rationalist instruction alone is foundational but incomplete; it must be part of a triangulated instructional design that bridges theory and application (Aziz & Sain, 2025).

Third, the incorporation of positivist assessment systems anchored the instructional model in objective measurement and educational accountability. At both research sites, structured rubrics, standardized tests, and performance metrics aligned with Comte's principle that valid knowledge must be observable and quantifiable. These assessment tools provided teachers with actionable insights into student progress and instructional effectiveness (Elsherif, 2020; Hina, 2024; Lin, 2020). The implementation of frequent, data-driven evaluations mirroring frameworks found in outcome-based education helped institutionalize a feedback loop that reinforced learning goals and remedial strategies (Abdullah, 2024; Putri, 2024; Umar & Khaer, 2024). However, the overemphasis on quantifiable performance sometimes obscured more nuanced communicative competencies, such as pragmatic fluency and contextual responsiveness. This supports recent critiques in language education that posit that positivist tools are most effective when situated within broader, multidimensional assessment systems (Pskhu, 2022; Sain, 2025; Tarasti, 2020). Therefore, while positivism contributes rigor and consistency, it should serve as one evaluative dimension within a pluralistic pedagogical architecture.

Collectively, these findings substantiate the value of a philosophically integrative model for Arabic language education. Rather than adopting these paradigms in isolation, this study demonstrates how their deliberate convergence creates a more complete and flexible instructional approach (Arifin et al., 2024; Bali & Heru, 2024; Nisa' & R, 2024). Empiricism supplies the experiential core, rationalism provides cognitive structure, and positivism ensures verifiable learning outcomes (Faisol, 2023; Setiawan Putri et al., 2024). This alignment is consistent with holistic education theories, which advocate for instruction that engages the mind, senses, and evaluative faculties (Baharun, 2023; Hikmatul Hidayah, 2024; Munawwaroh, 2024). Furthermore, the model resonates with the goals of Islamic educational philosophy, which emphasizes balance between action (amal), knowledge (ilm), and reflection (fikr).

In sum, this study contributes to the evolving discourse on Arabic language pedagogy by proposing a model that not only addresses cognitive and linguistic outcomes but also foregrounds philosophical coherence in instructional design. It bridges traditional epistemologies with modern language teaching theory and offers a replicable framework for educators in Islamic and general educational settings alike. Future research may explore longitudinal applications of this model, assess its adaptability across proficiency

levels, and investigate its alignment with learners' metacognitive development and intercultural communicative competence. The integrated philosophical approach outlined here affirms that Arabic language education can be both epistemologically rigorous and pedagogically responsive when grounded in a triadic instructional philosophy.

# CONCLUSION

This article examines three principal schools of educational philosophy: empiricism, which posits experience as the source of knowledge through John Locke's tabula rasa concept; rationalism, which establishes reason as the primary foundation of knowledge, pioneered, which asserts that only observable facts constitute valid sources of truth, introduced by Auguste Comte. These three schools influence modern educational practices, including project-based learning (PBL), emphasis on critical thinking, and datadriven assessment. While distinct, they collectively underscore the significance of systematic methodologies in knowledge acquisition, whether through experience, reason, or empirical verification, and their relevance in contemporary curricula like the Merdeka curriculum. To implement empiricist, rationalist, and positivist principles in education, instructors must adopt experiential learning strategies, cultivate critical thinking through textual analysis, and implement objective data-based evaluation. Educators are expected to facilitate learners in actively constructing knowledge through creative and collaborative projects, while simultaneously leveraging digital technologies for instruction and assessment. Furthermore, educational approaches must maintain humanistic considerations to avoid purely mechanistic methodologies, thereby cultivating individuals with broad perspectives, critical thinking skills, and strong character.

## **REFERENCES**

- Abdullah, A. (2024). Innovative Approach in Curriculum Development: Improving Education and Training Programs through Multidimensional Strategies. *PEDAGOGIK*: *Jurnal Pendidikan*, *11*(2), 160–179. https://doi.org/10.33650/pjp.v11i2.9290
- Abdullina, L. B., Abdullina, G. R., Bakhtiyarova, A. N., Sagitova, A. G., & Lasynova, N. A. (2020). Influence of Arabic Language and Arabic-Islamic Philosophy on the Formation of Bashkir Philosophical Language. *Astra Salvensis*, 423–435. https://www.scopus.com.85092155523
- Akewula, A. O. (2020). Al-Ghuluwu Fi Al-Amsal Al-Arabiy: Of Postproverbials in Modern Arabic Literature and Perceptive Transformations in Afro-Arab culture. *Matatu*, 51(2), 299–310. https://doi.org/10.1163/18757421-05102006
- Akyüz, Y. (2023). Speech Acts and Imperative Illocution Forms in Arabic. *Hitit Theology Journal*, 22(2), 881–900. https://doi.org/10.14395/hid.1333155
- Alyemny, O., Al-Khalifa, H., & Mirza, A. (2023). A Data-Driven Exploration of a New Islamic Fatwas Dataset for Arabic NLP Tasks. *Data*, 8(10). https://doi.org/10.3390/data8100155
- Arifin, S., Khoiroh, U., Aini, T. N., & Sahidah, A. (2024). Teacher Strategies for Instilling an Attitude of Tolerance in Students in Responding to Differences in Beliefs. *Proceedings International Conference on Education, Society, and Humanity*, 02(02), 2020–2024. https://ejournal.unuja.ac.id/index.php/icesh
- Aziz, A. L., & Sain, S. H. (2025). Sustainable Legal Education: Aligning Curricula with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. *GAS Journal of Law and Society*

- (GASJLS), Volume-02(Issue-01), 10-19. https://gaspublishers.com/gasjls/
- Baharun, H. (2023). The Implementation of Augmented Reality in Science Education in Secondary Schools. *International Journal of Instructional Technology*, 02(01), 34–45. https://doi.org/10.33650/ijit.v2i1.9325
- Bali, M. M. E. I., & Heru, M. J. A. (2024). Crafting Leaders in the Digital Age: How Adaptive Management Strategies Revolutionize Leadership Development in Islamic Schools. *Communautaire: Journal of Community Service*, 3(1), 79–92. https://doi.org/10.61987/communautaire.v3i1.458
- Bordonaba-Plou, D., & Jreis-Navarro, L. M. (2023). Light in Assessing Color Quality: An Arabic-Spanish Cross-Linguistic Study. In *Logic, Argumentation and Reasoning* (Vol. 33, pp. 151–170). https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-28908-8\_8
- Egid, J. J. (2023). How Does Philosophy Learn to Speak a New Language? *Perspectives: Studies in Translation Theory and Practice*, 31(1), 104–118. https://doi.org/10.1080/0907676X.2022.2145908
- Elsherif, G. (2020). Philosophical Production through Translation: The Kindī-circle and Development of an Arab Philosophy Tradition. In *New Voices in Translation Studies* (Issue 23, pp. 86–109). https://www.scopus.com.85108973600
- Facchin, A. (2020). Whole-Part-Whole Reading Instruction in the Teaching and Learning of Arabic as a Foreign Language at the Beginner Level. In *Annali di Ca Foscari Serie Orientale* (Vol. 56, pp. 177–196). https://doi.org/10.30687/ANNOR/2385-3042/2020/56/007
- Faisol, M. (2023). Internalization of Islamic Teaching Values in Forming Students with Siddiq, Amanah, Tablig, and Fatonah Characters. *Journal of Social Studies and Education*, 1(2), 10–18. https://doi.org/10.61987/jsse.v2i1.518
- Gray, L. M., Wong-Wylie, G., Rempel, G. R., & Cook, K. (2020). Expanding Qualitative Research Interviewing Strategies: Zoom Video Communications. *Qualitative Report*, 25(5), 1292–1301. https://doi.org/10.46743/2160-3715/2020.4212
- Günther, S. (2023). Textual Endings as Persuasive Educational Beginnings: An Inquiry into the Epistles of the Brethren of Purity. *Al Abhath*, 71(1–2), 96–121. https://doi.org/10.1163/2589997X-00710106
- Harb, L. (2020). Arabic Poetics: Aesthetic Experience in Classical Arabic Literature. In Arabic Poetics: Aesthetic Experience in Classical Arabic Literature. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108780483
- Hikmatul Hidayah. (2024). Leadership Transformation and Organizational Strengthening in Improving Collaboration and Operational Effectiveness of Islamic Boarding Schools. *Journal of Social Studies and Education*, 1(2), 126–139. https://doi.org/10.61987/jsse.v1i2.519
- Hina, S. (2024). School Zoning Policy Controversy In Elementary Education. *EDUCARE: Jurnal Ilmu Pendidikan*, 3(1), 1–11. https://doi.org/10.71392/ejip.v3i1.70
- Jali, H. (2025). Integration of Teacher Exemplary Behavior in Character Education to Build A Globally Perspective Madrasah Generation. EDUCARE: Jurnal Ilmu Pendidikan, 4(1), 1–13. https://doi.org/10.71392/ejip.v4i1.69
- Jamalpour, M. (2024). A Research on the Writing of Philosophical Texts in the Persian Language in the Region of Azerbaijan with an Emphasis on the 6th to 8th Lunar Centuries. *Journal of Philosophical Investigations*, 18(46), 439–460. https://doi.org/10.22034/jpiut.2023.59442.3642
- Khamray, O. (2021). Reality of Grammatical Phenomena, Truth of Grammatical Meaning

- and "Correctness" of Grammatical Forms in Arabic. *Shidnij Svit*, *2021*(4), 115–128. https://doi.org/10.15407/orientw2021.04.115
- Klinger, D. D. (2024). Being Another Way: The Copula and Arabic Philosophy of Language, 900–1500. In *Being Another Way: The Copula and Arabic Philosophy of Language*, 900–1500. https://www.scopus.com.85209682239
- Kulmanova, Z. B., Zhirenov, S. A., Mashinbayeva, G. A., Orynbayeva, D. G., Abitova, Z. S., & Babayeva, K. S. (2022). Reflection of the Religious Worldview in Language. International Journal of Society, Culture and Language, 10(3), 31–43. https://doi.org/10.22034/ijscl.2022.544382.2484
- Lin, L. (2020). A Winged Word on Marriage: Socrates and the Gnomological Tradition. In *Oriens* (Vol. 48, Issues 3–4, pp. 251–281). https://doi.org/10.1163/18778372-04801100
- López-Farjeat, L. X. (2021). Classical Islamic Philosophy: A Thematic Introduction. In Classical Islamic Philosophy: A Thematic Introduction. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315389288
- Mahmoud, O. N. (2024). The Relationship between Society and Language Acquisition: Influence and Interaction, A Comparative Study between Linguistics, Sociology, and Philosophy. *Edelweiss Applied Science and Technology*, 8(6), 7469–7482. https://doi.org/10.55214/25768484.v8i6.3625
- Mazzolini, A. P. (2024). Lessons Learned and Unlearned: A Lifelong Journey with 'Active Learning' as a Constant Companion. In *Challenges in Physics Education: Vol. Part F2281* (pp. 3–18). https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-48667-8\_1
- Munawwaroh, I. (2024). Enhancing Critical Thinking Through the Integration of Self-Directed Learning in Sustainable Education in Madrasah. *AFKARINA: Jurnal Pendidikan Agama Islam*, 9(1), 1–10. https://doi.org/10.33650/afkarina.v9i1.9352
- Najjar, M. (2020). Teaching Arabic Syntax for Non-Speakers: A Pragmatic Approach. *International Journal of Learning*, 6(4), 252–256. https://doi.org/10.18178/IJLT.6.4.252-256
- Nisa', K., & R A. H. A. (2024). Empowering Educators: A Comprehensive Human Resources Framework for Improving Islamic-based Schools. *Journal of Islamic Education Research*, 5(1), 31–44. https://doi.org/10.35719/jier.v5i1.385
- Pskhu, R. V. (2022). Possible Correlation of Genetivus Objectivus Semantics with Socio-Practice in Different Philosophical Cultures. *Filosofskii Zhurnal*, *15*(4), 78–87. https://doi.org/10.21146/2072-0726-2022-15-4-78-87
- Pskhu, R. V., & Paribok, A. V. (2023). Sanskrit Philosophical Terminology (Karma, Sūkṣma, Sthūla) Translated into Arabic (Based on al-Bīrūnī's "Kitāb bātanjala al-hindi"). Voprosy Filosofii, 2023(9), 181–190. https://doi.org/10.21146/0042-8744-2023-9-181-190
- Putri, D. F. (2024). Mindful Messaging: Public Relations (PR) STRATEGIES in Schools by using the Hierarchy of Effects. *Manager: Indonesian Journal of Educational Management*, 6(1), 98–110. https://doi.org/10.52627/managere.v6i1.429
- Ramadan, H. I. (2023). Arabic Rules Between Philosophy of Language and Grammar Criterion: A Modernist Approach. *Darulfunun Ilahiyat*, 34(2), 453–469. https://doi.org/10.26650/DI.2023.34.2.1262493
- Safitri, S. D., & Zawawi, A. A. (2025). Balancing Educational Finance through Power Equalizing Models. *Education and Sociedad Journal*, 2(2), 88–97. https://doi.org/10.61987/edsojou.v2i2.710

- Sain, Z. H. (2025). From Chalkboards to Chatbots: Revolutionizing Education with Al-Driven Learning Innovations. *Educative: Jurnal Ilmiah Pendidikan*, 3(1), 1–10. https://doi.org/10.70437/educative.v3i1.823
- Setiawan Putri, D. M., Widiasari, F., & Zahro, F. (2024). Behaviour Management in the Classroom: Improving the Quality of Education through Systematic Optimization of the Learning Environment. *FALASIFA*: *Jurnal Studi Keislaman*, *15*(1), 35–47. https://doi.org/10.62097/falasifa.v15i1.1787
- Shoja, M. M., Tritsch, T., & Tubbs, R. S. (2024). Lorenz Fries on the Defense of Avicenna, the Prince of Physicians: Addressed to the Medics of Germany. *Clinical Anatomy*, *37*(6), 649–660. https://doi.org/10.1002/ca.24169
- Smirnov, A. V. (2023). Logic-and-Meaning Study of Arabic Literary Language: Morphogy vs. Ishtiqaq. *Voprosy Filosofii*, 2023(12), 50–64. https://doi.org/10.21146/0042-8744-2023-12-50-64
- Stern, C., Lizarondo, L., Carrier, J., Godfrey, C., Rieger, K., Salmond, S., Apostolo, J., Kirkpatrick, P., & Loveday, H. (2020). Methodological Guidance for the Conduct of Mixed Methods Systematic Reviews. *JBI Evidence Synthesis*, *18*(10), 2108–2118. https://doi.org/10.11124/JBISRIR-D-19-00169
- Tala, M. (2020). The Works of al-Kāiyajī and Its Contribution to Arabic Linguistics: Identification, Classification, and Evaluation. *Cumhuriyet Ilahiyat Dergisi*, 24(3), 1081–1111. https://doi.org/10.18505/cuid.703882
- Tarasti, E. (2020). Theories of Irredentism in the Eastern and Western Cultures through Their History: A Postcolonial and Existential Semiotic Approach. In *The Interpretation of Nizami's Cultural Heritage in the Contemporary Period: Shared Past and Cultural Legacy in the Transition from the Prism of National Literature Criteria* (pp. 51–67). https://www.scopus.com.85113636682
- Umar, M., & Khaer, A. (2024). Human Resource Management (HRM) in Improving Customer Behavior Through Emotional Attachment (EA). *Proceedings of International Conference on Education, Society and Humanity*, 02(01), 850–859. https://ejournal.unuja.ac.id/index.php/icesh
- Watt, J. W. (2024). Rhetoric and Philosophy from Greek into Syriac. In *Rhetoric and Philosophy from Greek into Syriac*. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003554066