

Arabic 101: Beginning Arabic (4 credits)

Professor. Ahmad Hamo

Time: Monday and Wednesday 2:00-3:50 PM

Location: MC304

Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday 11:30-12:30 and from 2:30-3:00 .p.m. Or by appointment.

Offices: Rhodes Tower 1612

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COURSE MATERIALS:

1. Brustad, Kristin, Mahmoud Albatat, and Abbas al-Tunusi, *Alif baa with DVDs: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds* (Washington D. C.: Georgetown University Press, 2010).
2. Brustad, Kristin, et al. *al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya with DVDs: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic*, part one (third edition) (Washington D. C.: Georgetown University Press, 2011).

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course constitutes the first step in learning the Arabic language and culture. Hence, it is designed for students at the beginning level with no previous knowledge, or those who cannot read and write in Arabic. There are many Arabic dialects spoken in the Arab World, but this course is entirely dedicated to Modern Standard Arabic (*FUSHA*) as well as to the Levantine dialect (*SHAMI*). During the first eight weeks of the course we will be learning how to pronounce and write the Arabic alphabet. At the same time, we will learn how to ask and answer questions to acquire basic information related to Arabic culture. Following the communicative approach, this course adopts for the most part an interactive teaching approach that is based on real-life situations and the extensive use of the four language skills (listening, reading, speaking, and writing). Learning about certain aspects of Arab culture will be another important part of this course. The learning outcomes of this course are in line with the Ohio Transfer Assurance Guide (TAG). The teacher's role is to provide a practical structure and guidance to the students in their first steps of learning Arabic. Since the course is a student-centered class, your participation is instrumental in making this course a successful and enjoyable experience. Therefore, **you must always come prepared for class, particularly by doing your homework, turning assignments on time, and arriving in time to class.**

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Read and write in Arabic and identify all the diacritical marks
- Handle a short and predictable conversations by asking and answering basic questions
- Be familiar with basic aspects of Arabic culture (such as greetings)
- Present information about themselves, study, work, family (on the basic level)
- Interact with native speakers on limited topics by using familiar and memorized phrases and basic vocabulary
- Understand the main idea, as well as a few details and idiomatic expressions, in simple, short, and highly predictable texts on very familiar topics

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- i. Attendance at all classes is mandatory. Any missed classes or repeated lateness will lower your grade. In fact, if you miss FOUR sessions your final grade will be automatically lowered by 10 %. If you miss 50 % of the class meetings your final grade will be “F”
- ii. Homework: Homework is assigned daily and **MUST BE** submitted on its due date to be given full credit. If you have to miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for all materials covered in the class and any homework assigned.
- iii. Quizzes: 10 quizzes
- iv. Midterm
- v. Oral exam
- vi. Cultural portfolio
- vii. Meeting with a tutor to practice Arabic
- viii. **Compositions:** Students are expected to write (after the midterm) once a week a composition (40-50 words) on a related topic.
- ix. Final

Grade Distribution:

Attendance and participation	15 %
Homework	10 %
Quizzes	20 %
Midterm	15 %
Oral exam	5 %
Cultural portfolio: write in English about an Arab country.	5 %
Meeting with a tutor/ once a week	5%
Compositions	5 %
Final:	20 %

Extracurricular activities (Movies, lectures, or tours) related to Arabic will affect the final grade up to 5 %. If you attend one of these activities you have to submit a report to the instructor.

Grading scale:

94-100	A	77-79	C+
90-93	A-	70-76	C
87-89	B+	60-69	D
83-86	B	Below 60	F
80-82	B-		

The midterm for will be given on **Wednesday, October 14** and the Final will be on **Wednesday, December 9, 12:15-2:15 PM**

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

- 1) All wireless devices (cell phones, I-Pods, and computers) **MUST** be turned off and put away during class.
- 2) Students are expected to fully participate in all class activities, particularly working in groups assigned by the professor
- 3) No guests (this includes children) are allowed to attend class without prior permission from the professor.
- 4) During exams students **MAY NOT** leave the examination room until the examination is completed. If a student leaves the room, he will receive "F" for that exam.
- 5) **There are NO make-up exams or alternative dates for exams permitted. If you miss the exam, WITHOUT JUSTIFIED REASONS, you receive an "F" for that Exam.**
- 6) If there is a death in the family, major illness, or religious holiday, it must be documented.
- 7) Classroom behavior: all irrelevant conversations and disruptions will not be tolerated in the class. Continuous distractions on the part of any student may lead to dismissal from the class.

Disability Policy

Educational access is the provision of classroom accommodations, auxiliary aids and services to ensure equal educational opportunities for all students regardless of their disability. Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office of Disability Services at (216)687-2015. The Office is located in MC 147. Accommodations need to be requested in advance and will not be granted retroactively.

Academic Honesty:

Academic honesty is essential to maintain the integrity of the University as an institution and to foster an environment conducive to the pursuit of knowledge. The Cleveland State University Academic Community values honesty and integrity and holds its members to high standards of ethical conduct. Academic dishonesty is therefore unacceptable, and students must be prepared to accept the appropriate sanctions for any dishonest academic behavior as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. This code can be found in the Student Handbook published by the Department of Student Life, available on-line at:

<http://www.csuohio.edu/studentlife/conduct/StudentCodeofConduct2004.pdf>

One form of academic misconduct is plagiarism:

Stealing and using the ideas or writings of another in a paper or report (including oral reports) and claiming them as your own. This includes but is not limited to the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement.

Plagiarism includes:

- Downloading and using a free research paper from the Internet.
- Buying and using a paper from another student, a commercial paper mill, or any other source.
- Copying an article from the Web, an online or electronic database, or a local source.
- Cutting and pasting to create a paper from several sources.
- Quoting less than all the words copied from a source.
- Using the words and sentence structure of a source without quoting and/or acknowledging the source.
- Faking a citation.

COURSE PLAN

Week One (August 24-28):

Introduction to the course

Unit One of the *alif baa: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*

Arabic Song

Dialogue one

Week Two (August 31- September - 4):

Unit Two ا-ب-ت-ث-و-ي

Dialogue two

QUIZ # 1

Week Three (September 7-11):

Labor Day – Monday, Sept. 7

Unit Three ج-ح-خ-و-ي

Arabic Song

Dialogue three

QUIZ # 2

Week Four (September 14-18):

Unit Four ء-ذ-ر-ز

Dialogue four

QUIZ # 3

Week Five (September 21-25):

Unit Five س—ش—ص—ض

QUIZ # 4

Week Six (September 28-October 2):

Dialogue five

Unit Six ة---ط---ظ---ع---غ

Arabic Song

QUIZ # 5

Week Seven (October 5-9):

Unit Seven ف—ق—ك—ل—لا

QUIZ # 6

Week Eight (October 12-16):

Columbus Day* – Tuesday, Oct. 13

Unit Eight م—ن—هـ

Unit Nine: the *hamzas*

Midterm Wed Oct 14th

Week Nine (October 19-23):

Unit Ten

Reading activity

Review The first book Unit 1- 10

QUIZ # 7

Week Ten (October 26-30):

Chapter One of *al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya* أنا مها

Mufradat (vocabulary) activity

Listening activity exercise 5 page 4

Composition # 1: write a composition (30-40 words) about yourself (study, where you live, and family).

Arabic Culture

Quiz # 8

Week Eleven (November 2-6):

Arabic Names (culture)

Grammar: Gender (Feminine and Masculine),

Reading activity: exercise 9 page 9

Composition # 2: you meet a new student at CSU, use the questions in pages 14-15 to get information about him/her.

Quiz # 9

Week Twelve (November 9-13):

Veterans Day – Wednesday, Nov. 11

Grammar: the Definite article the *Nisab* adjective and asking questions

Chapter Two: أنا فعلا وحيدة

Mufradat activity

Arabic Culture

Week Thirteen (November 16-20):

Listening activity: exercise 3 page 21

Composition # 3: (والد، والدة، أخ، أخت) أسرتي

QUIZ # 10

Week Fourteen (November 23-27):

Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, Nov. 26

Grammar: Subject pronouns, Number: Plural, and Nominal sentences

Listening activity: exercise 9 page 29

Reading activity: exercise 1 pages 29-30 or exercise 12 page 31

Week Fifteen (November 30 -December 4):

Review

FINAL: Wed Dec 9th 12:30 -2:30 p.m