

ARAB 2301 – Section
MW 4:00-5:30 - Room: 12-AH
2301
Intermediate Arabic I, FALL 2006

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITE:

ARAB2301 is an **intermediate I** language course designed to help students acquire the Arabic language through high frequency use and exposure. To that effect it utilizes: (1) daily exposure to the spoken and/or written Arabic language; (2) listening to tapes provided with the text and doing assigned exercises to reinforce the material learned in class; and (3) using the Language Acquisition Center (<http://www.class.uh.edu/lac>) as directed by the professor. **Prerequisite:** ARAB1502 or equivalent.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVE:

The primary purpose of this course is to develop, thorough comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students will explore authentic Arabic texts and media. Students will develop ability and confidence to communicate in the Arabic language and to understand and relate to Arabic-speaking peoples.

By the end of the semester you will, إن شاء الله:

1. **In Reading**, be able to read with sufficient understanding to follow a sequence of events, to extract information and to identify main ideas in a variety of authentic texts, including literary extracts, daily Arabic news on the Internet, and magazine articles.
2. **In Listening**, be able to understand conversations based on occupational requirements and social situations, narration and TV/radio reporting on events of contemporary significance and/or course-related themes.
3. **In Speaking**, 1) be able to ask and answer questions and to participate in simple conversations on topics beyond the most immediate needs; and 2) to communicate information and begin to express opinions and feelings relevant to themes of personal and contemporary significance.

4. **In Writing**, you will be able to write, with accurate spelling and structure, (in e-mail, personal and official) descriptions, short narratives and cohesive summaries.

III. COURSE MATERIALS:

- Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya, Part I. Brustad, Al-Batal, Al-Tonsi (2nd edition)
- Dictionary of Modern Standard Arabic, Hans Wehr
- Also supplementary listening materials can be found at the following site http://langqtss.library.emory.edu/arabic_listening/page2.htm

IV. APPROACH AND TECHNIQUE:

The teaching/learning process in this course is proficiency-oriented, with emphasis on the functional use of Arabic and communication in context by means of the four language skills: **listening, speaking, reading and writing**.

A variety of authentic audio and video as well as reading materials are presented early on in the course, and students are encouraged to be creative with the language in and out of class.

The preparation of each new lesson in the textbook, including vocabulary, grammar, spelling, and pronunciation is mainly the responsibility of the student.

In preparation for classes, students are required to: 1) listen to the vocabulary and basic text on the DVD, 2) practice reading and writing the vocabulary until they have thoroughly familiarized themselves with the spelling and pronunciation of each word, and 3) prepare written answers to the questions about the text in the book.

In class, students are expected to engage in activities related to the content of the prepared lesson and related functions for which mastery of the new vocabulary and structures is essential. Active participation in all class activities is of paramount importance to progress in language learning, and to achieving the highest level of proficiency.

The cultural element is an integral part of this course. Each new lesson raises new issues of cultural understanding and awareness.

V. COURSE EVALUATION & REGULATIONS:

1. Class participation and attendance (15%):

- You must attend classes and come prepared to participate fully in class activities. This means listening to CDs/online material and learning new vocabulary and structure so that you can actively use them in class.
- **Don not skip classes:** Students absent 4 times or more will be dropped from class. **NO EXCEPTION.**
- Two tardies equal one absence.
- **TURN OFF** pagers and cell phones when in class.

2. Homework Assignments (15%):

- Assignments are to be turned in on time. Please submit your homework **before** the class begins.
- Late assignments may be checked but students will not get credit for them if no reasonable excuse is provided.
- Poorly-done assignments will be returned to students for a one-time re-do.
- Students are encouraged to study and work on homework assignments together; with the stipulation that each student will participate fully in doing the work and submit his/her own individual paper.
- Assignments will be written out and handed in on a separate and neat sheet of paper; pages Xeroxed out of the book will not be accepted. Spiral-end torn sheets will not be accepted.
- It is important to follow up on any instructor's comments on your homework, and it is the students' responsibility to come to the office hours or make an appointment to see the instructors or TA's.
- Every assignment is important and carries the same grade. Each drill in every assignment counts and is entered in the grade book separately.

3. Quizzes (30%)

- There will be several short quizzes, announced or **sometimes unannounced quizzes**.
- These quizzes will be in the material we have already covered.
- There will be **no make up** for missed quizzes (Unless you have a valid excuse to be absent in that day).

4. Tests (30%):

- There will be three tests throughout the semester.
- Each test will carry 10 % of the overall grade.
- No make ups will be given for any of these tests without a valid excuse.
- The dates of these tests will be specified in the course schedule.

5. Journal (10%)

Each one of you is expected to create a fictional character **شخصية** and maintain a biweekly journal in which this **شخصية** tells us about her/his life, friends, school, activities, etc. in a manner similar to **مها** and **خالد**. You are expected to have one entry every two week in your journal; each entry must have a minimum of 75 words. These journal entries should be kept in a special notebook and you may enhance your entries with photos and drawings.

COURSE SCHEDULE

You will be given a weekly/bi-weekly agenda that will announce quizzes, assignments and exams.

August 24

First Day of Class.

September 7

Labor Day Holiday.

September 8

Last day to drop or withdraw without a grade.

November 25-28

Thanksgiving Holiday.

December 5

Last day of classes.

December 9-17

Final examination period.

December 18

Official closing of the fall semester.

