

Cleveland State University  
Department of Modern Languages

Fall 2007

**Elementary Arabic (ARB 101)**

Time: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 11:00-12:05

Location: MC 307A

**Instructor:**

Hmoud Al Otaibi

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesday 12:15- 1:15 PM.

Rhodes Tower room 1609

Tel. 216-523-1185

Email: nadedd@yahoo.com

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:**

1. Brustad, Kristin, Mahmoud Albatal, and Abbas al-Tunusi, *alif baa with DVDs: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds* (Washington D. C.: Georgetown University Press, 2004).
2. Brustad, Kristin, et al. *al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya with DVDs: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic*, part one (Washington D. C.: Georgetown University Press, 2004).

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

As a Semitic language Arabic is, in many aspects, different from English, but it is *not* a difficult one. This course aims at offering a framework within which students will experience their first steps in learning Arabic. Learning to pronounce and write the Arabic alphabet will be our first task. Following the communicative approach, this course will make an extensive use of the four linguistic skills: listening, reading, talking, and writing. Likewise, this course puts an emphasis on the cultural aspects of Arabic. Thus, we will be listening to Arabic songs and reading Arabic stories. The teacher is here to provide a constructive framework for the course and guidance to the students. The role of the students is instrumental in making this course a successful and enjoyable experience. Therefore, you must come always prepared to class, particularly by doing your homework and arriving on time to the class. By the end of the course students will be able to communicate with native speakers by using common phrases and basic vocabulary.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

\*\* Attendance at all classes is mandatory. Any Missed classes or repeated lateness will lower your grade. In fact, if you miss three sessions your final grade will be automatically

lowered by 10 %. If you miss 50 % of the class meetings you will receive an “f” as your final grade. If you have to miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for all materials covered in the class and any homework assigned.

\*\* Since the activities performed in the class are predominantly centered on your participation, you are expected to come to class prepared and to use Arabic to the full extent of your abilities.

\*\* For each class hour student must spend two hours for preparation and homework.

\*\* Homework is assigned daily and MUST BE submitted on its due date to be given full credits.

\*\* Students are expected to write (after the midterm) once a week a composition on a related topic.

**The midterm for will be given on Wednesday, October 10 the Final will be on Friday, December 14 8:30-10:30 AM.**

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

- 1) All wireless devices (cell phones and computers) MUST be turned off during class.
- 2) No guests (this includes Children) are allowed to attend class without prior permission from the professor.
- 3) During the exam the student MAY NOT leave the examination room until the examination is completed. If a student leaves the Room, he will receive “F” for that exam.
- 4) **There is NO make-ups exams or alternative dates for exams permitted. If you miss the exam, WITHOUHT JUSTIFIED REASONS, you receive an “F” for that Exam.**
- 5) If there is a death in the family, major illness, or religious holiday, it must be documented.
- 6) 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 his dismissal from the class.
- 7) **IF YOU MISS CLASS MORE THAN THREE TIMES YOU WILL LOOSE 10 % OF THE FINAL GRADE. STUDENT WHO MISSES 50 % OF THE CLASS SESSIONS WILL RECEIVE AN “F” FOR THIS COURSE.**

### **THE GRADING SYSTEM:**

25 % Attendance, Preparation, Class Participation and Homework

20 % Quizzes

20 % Midterm

35 % Final

5 % of the grade will be given on at least 5 hours a work with the Arabic tutor

As part of the ARABIC SALON activities, each student **Must submit** a response in English on movies that will be presented during the semester. For attending these events and submitting a response paper for each event at 6 point will be added to his grade.

**Grading scale:**

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

**COURSE PLAN**

Week one (August 27-31)

Introduction to the course

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

Dialogue one

Week Two (September 3-7)

September 3<sup>rd</sup> Labor day- no classes

Unit two

Unit three

Dialogue two

**QUIZ # 1**

Week three (September 10-14)

Unit Four

Unit Five

Dialogue three

**QUIZ # 2**

Week Four (September 17-21)

Unit six

**QUIZ # 3**

Week Five (September 24-28)

Unit seven

Dialogue four

**QUIZ # 4**

**Week Six (October 1-5)**

Unit eight

Dialogue five

**QUIZ # 5**

**Week Seven (October 8-12)**

**October 8, Columbus Day, no Classes**

Unit nine

Unit ten

**Midterm 10/10/ 07**

**Week Eight (October 15-19)**

Chapter one of *al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya*

Mufradat (vocabulary) activity

Arabic Names

Listening activity

**QUIZ # 4**

**Week Nine (October 24-26)**

**Grammar:** Gender (Feminine and Masculine), the Definite article, the *Nisab* adjective, and asking questions

Chapter two:

*Mufradat* activity

**QUIZ # 5**

**Week Ten (October 29-November 2)**

Listening activity

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

**Week Eleven (November 5-9)**

Listening activity

Reading activity

**QUIZ # 6**

**Week Twelve (November 12-16)**

Chapter three:

*Mufradat* activity

Family and relatives

Listening activity

**QUIZ # 6**

**Week Thirteen (November 19-23)**

**Grammar:** the *Idafa*

**Grammar:** possessive pronouns

**Week Fourteen (26-30)**

Chapter four:

*Mufradat* activity

Listening activity

**Week Fifteen (December 2-7)**

**Grammar:** Present tense, Verbal sentence, and asking questions

Reading activity

**Final 12/12/07**

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**I have read the syllabus of ARB 101 and fully understood its components and regulations.**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_