

Cleveland State University
Department of Modern Languages

Fall 2008/2009

Elementary Arabic (ARB 101)

Time: Tuesday and Thursday 6:00-7:50 PM
Location: MC 311

Instructor: Ahmad Hamo
Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 5.00-600 PM.
Office :Rhodes Tower 1603
Cell : 216-334-4064
Email : hamo.cbsr@hotmail.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 through various aspect engaged learning. 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 credit.

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

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) **There is NO make-up exams or alternative dates for exams permitted. If you miss the exam, WITHOUHT A JUSTIFIED REASON, you receive an “F” for that Exam.**
- 4) If there is a death in the family, major illness, or religious holiday, it must be documented.
- 5) 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.
- 6) **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
10 % Listening assessments
10% Country Project and presentation
20 % Quizzes
15 % Midterm
20 % Final

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

The **Arabic Salon** is an opportunity to emerge in the language and culture. Attending activities presented by the Arabic Salon is not required, but highly recommended. You will be given extra credit for your attendance.

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 25-29)

Introduction to the course

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

Dialogue one

Week Two (September 01-05)

September 1st Labor day- no classes

Unit two

Unit three

Dialogue two

QUIZ # 1

Week three (September 08-12)

Unit Four

Unit Five

Dialogue three

QUIZ # 2

Week Four (September 15-19)

Unit six

QUIZ # 3

Week Five (September 22-26)

Unit seven

Dialogue four

QUIZ # 4

Week Six (September 29- 03 Oct)

Unit eight

Dialogue five

QUIZ # 5

Week Seven (October 06-10)

Unit nine

Unit ten

Week Eight (October 13-17)

October 13 Columbus Day no classes

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

Mufradat (vocabulary) activity

Arabic Names

Listening activity

Midterm 10/15/ 08

QUIZ # 4

Week Nine (October 20-24)

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

Chapter two:

Mufradat activity

QUIZ # 5

Week Ten (October 27-31)

Listening activity

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

Week Eleven (November 03-07)

Listening activity
Reading activity

QUIZ # 6

Week Twelve (November 10-14)

Chapter three:

Mufradat activity
Family and relatives
Listening activity

QUIZ # 6

Week Thirteen (November 17-21)

Grammar: the *Idafa*

Grammar: possessive pronouns

Week Fourteen (24-28)

Chapter four:

Mufradat activity
Listening activity

Special note :

The instructor reserves the right to modify the schedule ,materials, topics as needed

Final 12-11-2008