

ARA 1131 Spring 2019 (January 7th - April 24th)
SEC 4845 M/T/W/R/F, 5th per (11:45am - 12:35pm), **Room:** MAT 015

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Office Hours: Mon/Wed, 7th per (1:55pm - 2:45pm) & by appointment

Textbooks and teaching materials:

The Arabic taught in this course is Modern Standard Arabic. No dialect is taught in this course. The aim of the course is to provide a good understanding of the Arabic used in the spoken and print mass media in all Arab countries. A solid knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic would be very helpful in subsequent studies of specific Arabic dialects for those who desire to acquire them. Throughout the semester, the course will rely on a communicative approach to learning and teaching at all times. It will stress oral skills in the study of the language and use of Arabic in class.

1. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum Al-Arabiya, A Textbook for Beginning Arabic*, 3rd edition, Georgetown University Press.
2. Recommended web site: Arabic verb conjugator, <https://qutrub.arabeyes.org/>
3. Additional materials (handouts, practical activities related to the main subjects) will be added in class when needed.

Course Objectives

By the end of this semester, students will be expected to perform at the Novice High to Intermediate Low level of proficiency in Arabic based on the *ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012*. This means that students will be expected to do the following:

1. In the “speaking” area of the language:
 - a. Manage successfully a number of uncomplicated tasks by creating with the language in straightforward social situations.

- b. Handle conversation in a few predictable topics and face-to-face conversation necessary for survival in the target language culture such as information about self and family, some daily activities and preferences, and immediate needs such as ordering food and making simple purchases.
 - c. Respond to simple, direct questions or requests for information (e.g., about biographical information, business hours).
 - d. Ask a few basic questions.
2. In the “writing” area of the language:
- a. Meet limited, basic, practical writing needs using lists, short messages, postcards, and simple notes.
 - b. Write about predictable topics related to personal information and daily life.
 - c. Recombine learned vocabulary and structures to create simple sentences on very familiar topics.
3. In the “listening” area of the language:
- a. Understand information from sentence-length speech, one utterance at a time, in basic personal and social contexts with contextual or extra-linguistic support (although comprehension may be very uneven)
 - b. Understand speech dealing with areas of practical needs such as highly standardized messages, phrases, or instructions, if the vocabulary has been learned.
4. In the “reading” area of the language:
- a. Understand some information from the simplest connected texts dealing with a limited number of personal and social needs.
 - b. Understand predicable language and messages such as those found on train schedules, roadmaps and street signs.
 - c. Drive meaning from short, non-complex texts that convey basic information with the help of contextual or extra-linguistic support.

Classroom policy

Canvas: All assignments, announcements, exercises, study guides, grades and other materials will be posted on the Canvas course page. It is your responsibility to check the page regularly and keep up with all materials and announcements that will be posted.

Attendance: This is not a virtual class. Becoming fluent in a language requires extensive, repeated exposure to that language. A student who misses 4 sessions or more without a documented excuse will receive a failing grade. For more details, please refer to the following website: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx#absences>
Assignments are due on the day indicated, regardless of whether or not you are in class that day. If you miss class, arrange for your assignment to get to your instructor’s box before your scheduled class time. Students should contact the instructor upon return to classes.

Preparation: Students must be fully prepared for class by studying, practicing reading, listening and doing the drills designated as homework before coming to class. Class time should not be spent introducing vocabulary, but rather on practicing and activating it.

Late and Make-Up Work: **NO** late work will be accepted and **NO** make-ups will be offered unless the student offers a legitimate documented excuse. See **Attendance** above.

Cell phones and other electronic devices: No electronic equipment is allowed during exams. Using cell phones during a test will result in an “F” on that assignment.

Academic Integrity: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. Violations of the honor code include, but are not limited to: plagiarism, cheating, bribery, misrepresentation, fabrication, and conspiracy. Such violations may result in the following: lowering of grades, mandatory 0 on assignments, redoing assignments, a final failing grade in the course, expulsion from the course, referral to the student-run Honor Court. The Honor Code states: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.* For more information, refer to:

Students with Special Needs: Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (Disability Resources in Reid Hall). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Contact the Disability Resources Center (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) for information about available resources.

Counseling & Mental Health Resources: Students facing difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help should call the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352-392-1575; <https://drc.dso.ufl.edu/>).

Letters of recommendation: If you wish me to write you a letter of recommendation, before you approach me with a request, please make sure that:

- a. You will earn / have earned at least B+ in all classes you had with me.
- b. You had regular attendance.
- c. You did all required work, including ungraded work.
- d. You never behaved in a disrespectful way - tacitly or otherwise - with me or your classmates.

Online Course Evaluations: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.

Exams

The exams will take place on the following dates: (The dates are tentative and subject to change based on different consideration. Students, however, will be consulted and advised of new dates.)

Exam 1 February 4th
Midterm exam March 15th
Third exam Listening, April 22nd, Written exam to be announced

Regular presentations

Speaking 1: January 23rd
Speaking 2: February 20th
Speaking 3: March 22nd

Final presentation (oral exam): April 17th, 18th and 19th.

Quizzes: There are 5 quizzes throughout the semester. It is your responsibility to check the dates.

Grades

The final course grade will be based on the following percentages:

Exam 1 + Midterm exam	30%
Third exam	20%
Oral exams	15%
Quizzes	15%
Homework	10%
Class attendance and preparation	10%

The course letter grades and grade points will be as follows:

A	93-100	4.0
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	67-69	1.33
D	63-66	1.0
D-	60-62	0.67
E	less than 60%	0
WF, I, NG, S-U		0

Learning a foreign language

1. Observe and listen attentively. The most important element of language learning is the linguistic input you receive: what you read and what you hear. Surround yourself with Arabic by reading as much as you can, even when the reading is not assigned; listening to Arabic using audio recording and CD-ROM as often as possible. As you read and listen, don't worry about not understanding every word; instead, be attentive to what you can figure out and look for examples of points you are studying.

2. Memorize. Although you have learned a lot of Arabic through observation and analysis, you still have to memorize verbs and certain idiomatic expressions. The following techniques may help. Prepare flash cards with Arabic on one side and the English on the other side, with verbs on one side and their **Masdar** on the other. Write words several times and repeat them to associate sounds and written symbols. Arrange words by meaningful clusters that can help you visualize what words mean. Create a new context to try out the words and expressions you are learning.

3. Review often. Make it a habit to summarize key points in texts you have read and keep track of the grammar you have studied. Use the list of the new words for each lesson to make sure you are comfortable with all the new words, including the plural of nouns and the conjugations of verbs.

4. Work with others. Put all your verbal and social interaction strategies to work. Ask for clarification or correction as needed; experiment and role-play with your peers. Be bold and do not worry about your mistakes.

5. Guess and make hypotheses. When you read, if you come to part of a text you don't understand, guess a few words from their context and go on. After you have read more of the text, you can go back and read again, making a second, and perhaps better, guess at the unknown words and unclear points. When you speak, if you do not know the exact word, use synonyms or definition-type explanations to get your ideas across, or even try "creating" an Arabic word following patterns you know.


6. Think in Arabic. If you look at the Arabic text and think in English, you are not reading but translating. This is an extremely inefficient way of approaching a text, and it will not help you to become a proficient reader in Arabic.

7. Be patient with yourself. Remember that learning a language is a lot like training for sport or learning to play a musical instrument. You need to practice every day, even if it does not seem like you are making progress. Progress will come in stages, sometimes small gains, sometimes large gains as you get past a plateau. The rate of language learning is different for each student. Work with classmates but do not always compare yourself to them. If you get too frustrated, stop. Just as you risk injury in a sport if you practice when you are too tired, it is not productive to do too much language learning at a time. It is better to work for an hour twice a day than for two hours in a stretch, especially with a task as taxing as listening comprehension. Take breaks as needed, but don't give up. Go back to the lesson with new enthusiasm, new questions, and new goals to achieve. And most of all, enjoy! The world of Arabic is rich. You are beginning an adventure into some of the most exciting countries and cultures in the world.

Please note:

- Students must turn in the assignments marked **in bold** below at the beginning of class on the dates indicated.
- Other assignments must be prepared prior to coming to class and will be reviewed with the instructor during class time.
- Material marked in **coral** is added to the course in addition to the textbook material. (No need for textbooks that day).
- Students must keep their syllabus, class notes, handouts, returned exams and homework in a **binder**.
(*Good organization is not just critical in your studies; it is key to long-term success.*)

Week days أيام الأسبوع	Monday الاثنين	Tuesday الثلاثاء	Wednesday الأربعاء	Thursday الخميس	Friday الجمعة
Jan 07-11 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Welcome, syllabus and self-introductions	Review Present Tense	Review Question words	Review Plurals	Review Plurals Drill 8 p. 51
Jan 14 -18 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Review Negation with ليس	Review Negation with ليس	Chapter 3 Family Members	Chapter 3 Family Members	Chapter 3 Family Members Quiz 1
Jan 21-25 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Martin Luther King Jr. Day No Class	Chapter 3 Family Members Translation	Chapter 3 *Oral exam # 1 Show a family picture and describe its members (age, professions, schools, relation status etc.) Hand-in: Submit your written script the same day	Chapter 3 عائلة والدي كبيرة Comprehension Page 40 - 41 • Listening/ Drill 17 • Practice reading Submit the questionnaire the same day	Chapter 3 Using adjectives with plurals
Jan 28 Feb 01 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Chapter 3 Quiz 2 Dictation & Reading Drill 20 p. 62	Chapter 3 الإضافة Grammar p. 52, 53 Drill 10 p. 53 Drill 14 p. 57	Chapter 3 محادثة* Speaking activity Drill 13 p. 56	Chapter 3 Grammar: ضمائر الملكية Possessive pronouns p. 54 Drill 11 p. 56	Chapter 3 Grammar: ضمائر الملكية More practice

Feb 04-08 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Exam 1	Chapter 3 Possessive pronouns with عند p.55 Exercises in class <u>Be prepared for tomorrow's class.</u>	Chapter 3 التمرّن على الإستماع Online listening activity Drill 19 p. 61	Chapter 4 كيف أحفظ كلّ الأسماء Comprehension Pages 64 -65 • Listening/ Drill 15 p.82 • Practice reading <u>Submit the questionnaire the same day</u>	Chapter 4 الفعل المضارع Pages 74 -78 • New verbs to learn • Conjugation • Negation of the present Drill 10 p.78
Feb 11-15 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Chapter 4 • Speaking activity Drill 11 p.78 • Conversation Drill 13 p. 79-80	Chapter 4 Food Vocabulary	Chapter 4 Food Vocabulary	Chapter 4 Food Vocabulary	Chapter 4 Culture: الأكل العربي Page 70 <u>Be prepared for Monday's class.</u>
Feb 18-22 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Chapter 4 Listening activity Drill 8 p. 71	Chapter 4 <i>In a restaurant</i> Speaking activity	Chapter 4 Conjugation Verbs ، أكل، شرب، فضل، كره، أحبّ	Chapter 4 *Oral exam #2 Talk about your meals. What do you eat for breakfast, lunch and dinner? When you have time and when you are in a hurry? <u>(Submit your written script the same day)</u>	Chapter 4 Grammar ضمائر النصب Page 81 Drill 14 p.82
Feb 25 Mar 01 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Chapter 4 Grammar ضمائر النصب More practice <u>Hand-in</u> <u>Drill 7 p. 69</u> <u>Drill 12 p.79</u>	Chapter 4 Grammar The nominal sentence p. 84, 85 Drill 16 p. 85	Chapter 4 Grammar The verbal sentence p. 86 Drill 18 p. 87	Chapter 4 Speaking activity Drill 21 p.89 Quiz 3 Vocabulary/Grammar	 Fun time Arabic breakfast
Mar 04-08	Spring Break No classes				
Mar 11-15 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Chapter 5 الطقس حار جدًا في الصيف Comprehension Page 92 - 93 • Listening/ Drill 16 p.103 • Practice reading <u>Submit the questionnaire the same day)</u>	Chapter 5 • بالنسبة لـ p.93 • Conversation	Chapter 5 • Adverbs p.104 Drill 18 p. 105	Chapter 5 Speaking activity Drill 3 p. 94	Mid-term

Mar 18-22 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Chapter 5 Weather • New vocab • Speaking activity Talking about weather and the seasons. Hand-in Drill 3 p. 67 Drill 17 p. 87	Chapter 5 Weather What do you do when the weather is.....?	Chapter 5 Weather How to present the weather forecast. (New expressions to learn)	Chapter 5 Weather How to present the weather forecast. (New expressions to learn)	Chapter 5 Oral exam # 3 <u>Present a hypothetical weather forecast</u> Submit your written script the same day)
Mar 25-29 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Chapter 5 Definite & indefinite phrase p. 97-98 Drill 8 p. 98	Chapter 5 Nouns & Adjectives p. 99-100 Drill 10 p. 101	Chapter 5 <u>Grammar</u> الأعداد 1 - 10 • Exercises Conversation	Chapter 5 <u>Grammar</u> الأعداد 11 - 100 • Drill 12 p. 102 (at home) Exercises in class	Chapter 5 Quiz 4 Dictation & Reading
Apr 01-05 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Chapter 6 مُعِيد بَكْلِيَّة التَّجَارَة Comprehension Vocab p.114-115 • Listening/ Drill 6 • Practice reading Submit questionnaire the same day)	Chapter 6 • Conjugation of حَصَلَ / تَخَرَّجَ • Using مِنْذ in sentences	Chapter 6 Grammar المَثْنَى p. 119 Exercise in class	Chapter 6 Hobbies Vocabulary	Chapter 6 Hobbies
Apr 08-12 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Chapter 6 Hobbies Speaking activity	Chapter 6 Hobbies Translation	Chapter 6 Hobbies Speaking activity Quiz 5 Vocabulary	Chapter 6 Grammar المَصْدَر و الإِضَافَة Drill 7 p.125	Chapter 6 Grammar لَأَنَّ / بِسَبَبِ / لِ p. 128, 129
Apr 15-19 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Chapter 6 Grammar لَأَنَّ / بِسَبَبِ / لِ More Practice	Chapter 6 Reading " روزانا " Drill 13 p. 130 New expressions and verbs.	Final Oral Exam الإِمْتِحَان الشَّفْهِي النِّهَائِي Talk about your hobbies during the weekdays and the weekend When the weather is nice or bad. Show what you have learned during the whole semester as vocabulary and grammar (Submit your written script the same day)		
Apr 22-26 الكتاب ج 1 Textbook	Listening Exam (Part of the final) <u>No make-ups</u>	Review	Review	No class	No class

The instructor reserves the right to change the content of the syllabus at any time throughout the term to respond to pedagogical imperatives.