Course Syllabus

Course Description

*ARAB 201* is designed to bring student functional ability in Arabic to the Intermediate Low level as measured by ACTFL in terms of speaking, writing, listening, and reading. Students go beyond memorized expressions and start understanding and using more complex language forms to perform a variety of functions. The course is also designed to help students gain better understanding of cultural practices, perspectives and products found in Arabic-speaking countries. By the end of the semester, students are expected to attain the following learning outcomes:

**Learning outcomes:**

Upon completion of the course students will be able to:

- Express personal opinion in the target language
- Talk about past events and future plans in the target language
- Tell the time and the date in the target language
- Express preference, likes and dislikes in the target language
- Give reasons/justify/defend a point of view in the target language
- Read and understand simple paragraphs in the target language
- Listen to short video clips from Al-Jazeera and Al-Arabiyya to learn about current events in the Arab world while reinforcing certain language forms
- Write sentences and short paragraphs in the target language with few or no grammatical/spelling mistakes
- Gain more knowledge about and understanding of the Arabic culture(s), including family, youth hobbies, food, historical places, etc.

**Core Curriculum Objectives**

Using the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century as a framework to organize its content, this course seeks to accomplish the following outcomes:

*Critical Thinking:* The course enhances critical thinking by allowing the students, as they listen to and read about these characters in Arabic, to understand and reflect upon different points of view held by the characters, the social, political and economic context and constraints that are shaping their feelings, attitudes, decisions and behaviors. Students will enrich and expand their knowledge about the Arabic literature, art, geography and history. Through their final projects
and power point presentations at the end of the course, students also get a chance to learn more about different Arab countries and dispel stereotypes they might have about these countries.

Communication: Students will communicate in Arabic in different modes by interacting with each other verbally, interpreting written and spoken messages on a variety of topics, and presenting information through written and oral tasks. Students also use graphic organizers to capture different aspects of the characters’ lives and how they relate to each other.

Social Responsibility: Students will gain social and cross-cultural skills by understanding cultural products, perspectives and practices in the Arab world, and how they are similar and/or different from their own. Students will demonstrate the desire and the ability to study abroad in Arabic-speaking countries and deal with language and cultural challenges effectively, as well as the desire to be a lifelong learner of the Arabic language and culture.

Personal Responsibility: Engagement with course materials provides students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of some aspects of Egyptian society and to reflect on important issues that they might need to grapple with directly or indirectly in the short and long term. Students will gain better productivity and accountability through collaborative work to complete class activities and projects.

Prerequisite

Students enrolled in this class must have completed and passed ARAB 102 with a grade of “C” or higher. Students can test out of ARAB 102 and enroll in this course (ARAB 201) by taking the placement test available at the Office of Measurement. Students must “pass” the placement test by scoring at or above 60% in order to enroll in ARAB 201.

Required Textbook


الكتاب في تعلم اللغة العربية الجزء الأول

The Hans Wher Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic, Spoken Language Services, Inc

Grading

- Class participation: 10% Students are expected to work in pairs and small groups, in every class meeting, to use language forms and complete certain tasks involving the use of certain language forms.
- Quizzes: 40% There will be a total of four quizzes, each covering the materials from the current lesson, including grammar, vocabulary, culture, reading and writing.
- Homework: 20% Each homework assignment needs to be submitted on time and complete in order to receive full credit.
- Project: 10% (see project description). These are individual projects. Each person is expected to select an Arabic-speaking country, use a power point presentation, present information about that country for up to ten minutes. The project will be graded based on pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary and the information presented (see guidelines).
- Final: 20% The final exam is comprehensive, covering all lessons taught during the semester

Attendance and punctuality

If you are late to class more than 10 minutes, you will be marked absent. Similarly, if you leave early without an approved excuse, you will be counted absent. Any graded assignment you miss will not be
made up if you do not have a university excused absence. Because class meets three times a week only, any unexcused absence will result in your final grade being reduced by 2 percentage points. (No penalty will be incurred in case of a University-excused absence.) If you have five unexcused absences, you will not pass the course.

**Excused absences**

Excused absences (see [http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule7.htm](http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule7.htm)) are legitimate but must always be documented. Please provide the explanation of student absence form as outlined in the Texas A&M student attendance rules (see [http://shstamu.edu/forms/Explanatory%20Statement%20for%20Absence%20from%20Class.pdf](http://shstamu.edu/forms/Explanatory%20Statement%20for%20Absence%20from%20Class.pdf)). It is your responsibility to meet with me or with your classmates to see what you have missed.

**Homework**

Class time will not be enough to meet course objectives. You are therefore expected to put in enough time outside of class to complete your homework assignments and prepare for the lesson before coming to class (listening to the CD and understanding the new words). Homework assignments should be completed before you come to class. If you do your homework in class, it will not count (even though I may take it from you). Late homework will be marked down. Incomplete homework will be collected and graded but will not count.

**Academic Integrity**

You are expected to be aware of the Aggie Honor Code and the Honor Council Rules and Procedures, stating that "*an Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do*" (see [http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor](http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor)).

**Americans with Disabilities Act**

The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Office of Support Services for Students with Disabilities in B-118 Cain Hall (845-1637).
Calendar

Aug. 27 – 31

Review lesson 6

- About and  
- Verbal nouns  
- Reading and spelling  

Sept. 3 - 21

Lesson 7 (الله يرحمها)

Story about Khalid

- The Superlative  
- Sentence structure  
- Reading and spelling  

Quiz # 1 (September 21)

Sept. 24 – Oct. 12

Lesson 8 (المستقبل للتجارة)

- Expressing opinion  
- Using past tense/talking about past events  
- Giving reasons (إذناك)  
- Conditional (if… then)  
- Verb root  
- How to use an Arabic dictionary  

Quiz # 2 (Oct. 12)

Oct. 15 – Nov. 2

Lesson 9 (جدتي توقطني في السادسة والنصف)

- Talking about daily schedule  
- Expressing preference (مدينتي المفضلة هو مدينتي المفضلة)  
- Ordinal numbers  
- Telling time  

Quiz # 3 (Nov. 2)
Nov. 5 – Nov. 21

Lesson 10

- القصة
- Describing daily activities
- Conjugating verbs
- More on verbal nouns
- المضارع المنصوب
- Combining the prepositions إلى على with pronouns
- Object pronouns

Quiz # 4 (Nov. 16)

Nov. 26 – Dec. 3

Country Projects Due

Dec. 10 Final (8:00 – 10:00 a.m.)

Note: changes to this syllabus will be made whenever necessary
Country Project

- Select an Arabic-speaking from the list below:

المغرب / موريتانيا / الجزائر / تونس / ليبيا / مصر / السودان / الصومال / اليمن / عمان / السعودية / الإمارات / قطر / الكويت / البحرين / العراق / سوريا / لبنان / فلسطين / الأردن

- Research the selected country and find information about: geographical location – major cities, weather conditions, population, cuisine, traditional clothes, etc. (use words from vocab. list below)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>أسماة أهم المکولات الملاهي العملية</th>
<th>صور وتحليق</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>دیناار جنیه ریال تلغر</td>
<td>الملفس الجو بارد _ حار رطب معتدل</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>فنکل لولی</td>
<td>هنده صيفي</td>
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</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>أهم المدن ومواصفاتها</th>
<th>اکبر من</th>
<th>اکبر من</th>
<th>倨ین العلیمة</th>
<th>بحر الایض المتوسط</th>
<th>بحر الامام المحيط</th>
<th>شرق</th>
<th>قرب قرب من</th>
<th>نام البلد والموقع والسكان</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>في الشمال ازالت الامنوج</td>
<td>جنوب في</td>
<td>شرق في</td>
<td>الربيع مفرغ</td>
<td>فصول فصول</td>
<td>رسوم ماليون للهودا</td>
<td>تقع توجد شمال</td>
<td>جنوب شرق</td>
<td>غرب</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Give 5 to 10 minute power point in presentation
- Your presentation should be in Arabic 100%

Grading criteria

- Use of proper vocabulary
- Use of proper pronunciation
- Use of complete sentences
- Accurate and complete information
- Richness of presentation (pictures)