

SYLLABUS

Arabic 100
Moravian College
Foreign Languages Department
Fall 2007

Instructor: Nada Hamouch
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Office Hours: M W 3:40 to 4:40 pm
F 1:15 to 2:15 pm

Course Objectives:

The main objective of this course is to help students to master Arabic sounds and the Arabic writing system. In addition, students will begin to use everyday conversational Arabic, including a number of greetings and other common expressions, and will acquire and learn to use a basic vocabulary. Also linguistic skills will be complemented with a regular dose of cultural tidbits and discussions, with the goal of awakening in students an awareness and an appreciation of the cultural context in which the Arabic language is used.

By the end of the course, students should, with relative ease, be able to:

- (1) Distinguish by ear all the sounds of the Arabic language;
- (2) Produce all the sounds of the Arabic language both in speech and in writing;
- (3) Sound out any given Arabic text composed of familiar words and expressions
- (4) Comfortably use basic words and expressions in everyday speech situations.

Course Requirements:

Students will be expected to make regular use of the textbook, and to spend ample time on pronunciation and writing exercises outside class. It is imperative that students become thoroughly familiar with each new set of sounds and letters, and to complete all pronunciation and writing exercises before coming to each class session. In-class time will be dedicated to exercises, dictation, reading and other activities designed with the assumption that students have already become conversant with the material at hand.

The textbook used (see below) is composed of ten units. We will cover, on the average, one unit per week. Our study of each unit will end with an in-class dictation designed to allow students to measure their mastery of the material

covered. A formal quiz will be administered after the completion of two or three units. There will be a total of three (3) such quizzes, in addition to the final examination.

If you are ill on the day of a quiz, you must notify the instructor by phone or e-mail **before** class if you wish to be considered for a make-up. If you fail to notify the instructor by phone or by e-mail **before** class, you will receive a grade of zero. If you do wish to be considered for a make-up, it is **your** responsibility to discuss this with the instructor **before the next class meeting**

Evaluation: Students' final marks for the course will be based on the three in-class quizzes, the final exam, regular attendance coupled with active class participation, and the careful and timely preparation of homework assignments.

Attendance:

You need to come to class and be on time. 0-3 absences will not be penalized, but may affect class performance. If you need to miss class for a valid reason, please let me know ahead of time so we can make arrangements for missed work. More than three absences will result in a lowering of the final grade by one point for every additional absence. The student would need to make arrangements to complete missed work.

Arriving late (10 min or more) to class more than four times will equal one absence.

Preparation and participation:

Active participation in class is crucial for increasing conversational skills in Arabic. Students are expected to arrive prepared to participate in all class activities by having studied the topics to be covered and having completed all assigned homework. Simply being present and taking notes does not constitute active participation.

No attendance, no participation at all : When a student is not in class, he/she gets a zero for that day regardless of the reason for that absence

Grades will be computed according to the following percentages:

Attendance :	10%
Participation:	10%
Homework:	10%
Quizzes (3):	45%
Final Exam:	25%
Total	100%

Required Text :

Brustad, Kristen, Mahmoud Al-Batal and Abbas Al-Tonsi. *Alif Baa with DVDs: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds. Second Edition.* Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2004.

Letter grades:

95-100	A	76-73	C
94-90	A-	72-70	C-
89-87	B+	69-67	D+
86-83	B	66-63	D
82-80	B-	62-60	D-
79-77	C+	59-00	F

COURSE SCHEDULE

August

- Monday 27 : Introduction
Wednesday 29 : Unit 1 - the letters alif , baa and taa
Friday 31 : Unit 1 - the letter thaa
- long vowels

September

- Monday 3 : **LABOR DAY**
Wednesday 5 : Unit 1 - short vowels
Friday 7 : Unit 1 - culture, dictation and review
- Monday 10 : Unit 2 - the letters jiim and haa
Wednesday 12 : Unit 2 - the letter khaa
- sukuun as the absence of a short vowel
Friday 14 : Unit 2 - waw and yaa as consonants “w” and “y”
- culture and dialogues
- Monday 17 : Unit 2 - dictation and review
Wednesday 19 : Quiz on units 1-2
Friday 21 : Review of quiz on units 1-2
Unit 3 - the letter hamza
- Monday 24 : Unit 3 - the letters daal and dhal
Wednesday 26 : Unit 3 - the letters raa and zaa
Friday 28 : Unit 3 - culture, dictation and review

October

- Monday 1 : Unit 4 - doubling of consonants “shadda”
- the letter seen
Wednesday 3 : Unit 4 - the letters sheen and saad
Friday 5 : Unit 4 - the letter daad
- exercises

FALL RECESS

- Wednesday 10 : Unit 4 - culture
- grammatical gender
- dictation
Friday 12 : Unit 5 - taa marbouta
- the letter taa
- Monday 15 : Unit 5 - the letters dhaa and ayn
Wednesday 17 : Unit 5 - the letter ghayn

- culture
- Friday 19 : Unit 5 - dictation and review
- Monday 22 : Review of units 3-5
- Wednesday 24 : Quiz on units 3-5
- Friday 26 : Review of quiz on units 3-5
Unit 6 - the letters faa and qaaf
- Monday 29 : Unit 6 - the letters kaaf and laam
- Wednesday 31 : Unit 6 - the writing of laam-alif
- culture

November

- Friday 2 : Unit 6 - dictation and review
- Monday 5 : Unit 7 - the letters miim and nuun
- Wednesday 7 : Unit 7 - the letter haa
- exercises
- Friday 9 : Unit 7 - Arabic numerals and numbers (1-10)
- culture : Coffee Time !
- Monday 12 : Unit 7 - dictation and review
- Wednesday 14 : Unit 8 - the definite article (alif laam)
- Friday 16 : Unit 8 - hamzat al wasl and dagger alif
- culture
- Monday 19 : Unit 8 - dictation, culture and review
- Wednesday 21 : Review of units 6-8
- Friday 23 : Quiz on units 6-8
- Monday 26 : Unit 9 - alif maqsura and alif madda
- Wednesday 28 : Unit 9 - hamza on yaa seat
- hamza on waw seat
- Friday 30 : Unit 9 - culture, dictation and review

December

- Monday 3 : Unit 10 - tanween
- Wednesday 5 : Unit 10 - handwriting styles
- culture
- Friday 7 : Review of units 1- 4 for final exam
- Monday 10 : Review of units 5- 10 for final exam
- December 12-19 : Final examinations