

SYLLABUS

Arabic 105
Moravian College
Foreign Languages Department
Spring 2008

Instructor: Nada Hamouch

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Office Hours: M W F 1:15 to 2:15 pm (or by appointment)

Course Description and Objectives:

This course is a continuation of Arabic 100. Full knowledge of and easy familiarity with the entire Arabic alphabet and the Arabic phonetic system are an absolute prerequisite for this course. Students who have not taken Arabic 100 must be able to demonstrate equivalent knowledge of the alphabet and phonetic system; otherwise, they will not be permitted to enroll.

The main objective of the current course is to introduce students to the basic grammatical structures of the Arabic language up to a mid-beginners' level, and to provide for the acquisition of a basic vocabulary. The course treats Arabic as a linguistic whole, and while grammar and vocabulary no doubt form the backbone of one's knowledge of any language, the course shall also focus on the development of oral and written skills, rudimentary reading and basic composition.

In addition to in-class speaking activities, students will be required to give an oral presentation to the class. Finally, purely linguistic skills will be complemented with a regular dose of cultural tidbits and discussions, with the goal of awakening in students 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) Carry out basic conversations in formal Arabic.
- (2) Understand readily speech content consisting of the structures and vocabulary acquired.
- (3) Read with relative ease any given Arabic text – even if unfamiliar – with the help of diacritical marks.
- (4) Express oneself on a basic level in correct, idiomatic Arabic prose.

Course Requirements:

Students will be expected to make regular use of the DVDs accompanying the textbook, and to spend ample time on various drills and writing exercises outside class. It is imperative that students become thoroughly familiar with the material to be covered during each class session, and to complete all required aural and written drills before coming to each class week. In-class time will be dedicated mostly to reviewing, expanding, drilling and other activities of an applicative nature designed with the assumption that students have already become conversant with the material at hand.

The textbook used (see below) is composed of twenty units. Our goal is to cover, on the average, one unit every two weeks, with the ultimate aim of covering 7 lessons thoroughly by the end of the semester. . Our study of each unit will end with a formal quiz designed to allow students to measure their mastery of the material covered. There will be a total of six 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 six in-class quizzes, the final exam, oral performance, regular attendance, 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 (attendance's 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 and participation :	10%
Homework:	: 10%
Oral performance	: 10%
Quizzes (6):	: 50%
Final Exam:	: 20%
Total	: 100%

Required Text :

Al-Kitaab fii Ta3allum al- 3arabiyya with DVDs:

A textbook for Beginning Arabic. Part One. Second Edition. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2004. Brustad, Kristen, Mahmoud Al-Batal and Abbas Al-Tonsi.

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

January

- Monday 14 : Introduction
Wednesday 16 : Unit 1 - vocabulary and culture
Friday 18 : Unit 1 - feminine and masculine
- Monday 21 : **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
Wednesday 23 : Unit 1 - nisba adjective
Friday 25 : Unit 1 - asking questions
- Monday 28 : Unit 1 - conversation, exercises and review
Wednesday 30 : Quiz on unit one

February

- Friday 1 : Unit 2 - Vocabulary and culture
- Monday 4 : Unit 2 - subject pronouns
- the plural
- Wednesday 6 : Unit 2 - the plural
Friday 8 : Unit 2 - Arabic sentence
- Monday 11 : Unit 2 - conversation, exercises and review
Wednesday 13 : Quiz on unit 2
Friday 15 : Unit 3 - vocabulary and culture
- Monday 18 : Unit 3 - Possessive pronouns
Wednesday 20 : Unit 3 - review grammar
Friday 22 : Unit 3 - culture and conversation
- Monday 25 : Quiz on unit 3
Wednesday 27 : Unit 4 - vocabulary and culture
Friday 29 : Unit 4 - present tense

March

- Monday to
Friday : **Spring recess**
- Monday 10 : Unit 4 - the verbal sentence
Wednesday 12 : Unit 4 - conversation and exercises
Friday 14 : Unit 4 - review
- Monday 17 : Quiz on unit 4
Wednesday 19 : Unit 5 - vocabulary and exercises
Friday 21 : **Easter recess**

Monday 24 : Unit 5 - adverbs and noun - adjective phrases
Wednesday 26 : Unit 5 - review grammar and exercises
Friday 28 : Unit 5 - culture and review

Monday 31 : Quiz on unit 5

April

Wednesday 2 : Unit 6 - vocabulary and exercises
Friday 4 : Unit 6 - the noun and the interrogative form

Monday 7 : Unit 6 - exercises
Wednesday 9 : Unit 6 - culture: Arabic food
Friday 11 : Unit 6 - conversation and exercises

Monday 14 : Unit 6 - exercises and review
Wednesday 16 : Quiz on unit 6
Friday 18 : Quiz on unit 7

Monday 21 : review of units 1-4 for final exam
Wednesday 23 : review of units 5-7 for final exam
Friday 25 : oral presentation

April 28-May 3 : Final examinations