

SYLLABUS

Arabic 105
Moravian College
Foreign Languages Department
Spring 2013

Instructor: Nada Hamouch

Office: The Hill room 120

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Office Hours: M 2 to 3 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 13 units. Our goal is to cover, on the average, one unit every two weeks, with the ultimate aim of covering 6 lessons thoroughly by the end of the semester. . Our study of each unit will end with a formal test designed to allow students to measure their mastery of the material covered. There will be a total of 4 such tests, in addition to the final examination.

Unless you have a very serious excuse there will be no make-ups for quizzes and tests missed. If you cannot come to class you must let me know **in advance** and I will tell you whether your reason is legitimate or not. If you do wish to be considered for a make-up, it is **your** responsibility to discuss this with me **before the next class meeting**.

Please note:

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Elaine Mara, assistant director of learning services for academic and disability support at 1307 Main Street, or by calling 610-861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

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

Attendance:

All absences count as an absence, even those for which a doctor's note is available. Therefore, it is best to 1) not schedule doctor's visits during class, and 2) miss class only when it is absolutely necessary to do so. The student's final attendance grade (5%) is computed as follows: **0 absence = A+ / 1 = A / 2 = A- / 3 = B / 4 = C+ / 5 = C- / 6 = D- / 7 = -2.5 / 8 = - 3 / 9 = - 3.5 / 10 = - 4 / 11 = - 4.5 / 12 or more = - 5 (To be clear, every time you miss class counts as an absence, even if you have a doctor's note.)**

E-mail or phone number of two classmates to contact for work in case of absence:

Name: _____ Contact info: _____

Name: _____ Contact info: _____

In order to have a **good learning environment** in class I ask that the following conditions be respected:

Arrive in class on time. Repeated late arrivals will be reflected in a lowered class participation grade. Late arrivals of more than 15 minutes will be counted as an absence.

Participate fully in class work. Unsatisfactory classroom behavior, such as little or no verbal response, uncooperative interaction with others for group work and/or a disrespectful attitude will be reflected in a lowered class participation grade.

Turn off cell phones and leave them **out of sight during class**.

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	: 5%
Participation	: 10%
Homework	: 8%
Oral Performances	: 7 %
Tests (4)	: 40%
Final Oral Presentation	: 5%
Final Exam	: 25%
Total	: 100%

Required Text :

Al-Kitaab fii Ta3allum al- 3arabiyya with DVDs:
A textbook for Beginning Arabic. Part One. Third Edition. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2004. Brustad, Kristen, Mahmoud Al-Batal and Abbas Al-Tonsi.

ARABIC Practical Dictionary (Arabic-English/English-Arabic). N. Awde& K. Smith. Hippocrene Books.

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 : Unit 1- Review

February

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

March

- Monday to
Friday : **Spring recess**
- Monday 10 : Unit 4 - the verbal sentence
Wednesday 12 : Unit 4 - conversation and exercises
Friday 14 : Unit 4
- Monday 17 : Unit 4
Wednesday 19 : Unit 4
Friday 21 : **Easter recess**
- Monday 24 : Unit 5 - adverbs and noun - adjective phrases
Wednesday 26 : Test on Unit 4
Friday 28 : Unit 5

Monday 31 : Unit 5

April

Wednesday 2 : Unit 5

Friday 4 : Unit 5

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 : Unit 6

Friday 18 : Unit 6

Monday 21 : review of units 1-4 for final exam

Wednesday 23 : review of units 5-7 for final exam

Friday 25 : oral presentation

Monday 28 : Final examinations at 1:30 p.m