

SYLLABUS

Arabic 100
Moravian College
Foreign Languages Department
Fall 2013

Instructor: Nada Hamouch

Office : The Hill 120

[Email:nadahamouch@moravian.edu](mailto:nadahamouch@moravian.edu)

Office Hours: F 1 to 2 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 every day 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 test will be administered after the completion of two or three units. There will be a total of three (3) 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 quizzes, the three 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: _____

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.

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**.
- ◆ **Plan to stay in class for the full 70 minutes** without taking a break to use the bathroom, check messages, etc.

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 :	15%
Quizzes:	10%
Test (3):	45%
Final Exam:	20%
Total	100%

Required Text :

Brustad, Kristen, Mahmoud Al-Batal and Abbas Al-Tonsi. *Alif Baa with DVDs: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds. Third 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 26 : Introduction
Wednesday 28 : Unit 1 - the letters alif , baa and taa
Friday 30 : Unit 1 - the letter thaa
- long vowels

September

- Monday 02 : **LABOR DAY**
Wednesday 05 : Unit 1 - short vowels
Friday 06 : Unit 1 - culture, dictation and review

Monday 09 : Unit 2 - the letters jiim and haa
Wednesday 11 : Unit 2 - the letter khaa
- sukuun as the absence of a short vowel
Friday 13 : Unit 2 - waw and yaa as consonants “w” and “y”
- culture and dialogues

Monday 16 : Unit 2 - dictation and review
Wednesday 18 : **Test 1** on units 1-2
Friday 20 : Review of quiz on units 1-2
Unit 3 - the letter hamza

Monday 23 : Unit 3 - the letters daal and dhal
Wednesday 25 : Unit 3 - the letters raa and zaa
Friday 27 : Unit 3 - culture, dictation and review

Monday 30 : Unit 4 - doubling of consonants “shadda”
- The letter seen

October

- Wednesday 02 : Unit 4 - the letters sheen and saad
Friday 04 : Unit 4 - the letter daad

Monday 07 : **FALL RECESS**
Wednesday 09 : Unit 4 - culture
- grammatical gender
- dictation
Friday 11 : Unit 5 - taa marbouta
- the letter taa

Monday 14 : Unit 5 - the letters dhaa and ayn
Wednesday 16 : Unit 5 - the letter ghayn

Friday 18 : Unit 5 - dictation and review

Monday 21 : Review of units 3-5
Wednesday 23 : **Test 2** on units 3-5
Friday 25 : Review of quiz on units 3-5
Unit 6 - the letters faa and qaaf

Monday 28 : Unit 6 - the letters kaaf and laam
Wednesday 30 : Unit 6 - the writing of laam-alif
- culture

November

Friday 01 : Unit 6 - dictation and review

Monday 04 : Unit 7 - the letters miim and nuun
Wednesday 06 : Unit 7 - the letter haa
- exercises

Friday 08 : Unit 7 - Arabic numerals and numbers (1-10)
- culture : Coffee Time !

Monday 11 : Unit 8 - the definite article (alif laam)
Wednesday 13 : Unit 8 - hamzat al wasl and dagger alif
- culture

Friday 15 : Unit 8 - dictation, culture and review

Monday 18 : Test on units unit 6-8
Wednesday 20 : **Unit 9**
Friday 22 : Unit 9 - alif maqsura and alif madda

Monday 25 : Thanksgiving Recess
Wednesday 27 : **Thanksgiving**
Friday 29 : **Thanks giving**

December

Monday 02 : Unit 9 – hamza on yaa and waw seat
Wednesday 04 : Unit 10 - tanween
Friday 06 : Unit 10 - handwriting styles

Wednesday 11 : **Arabic Exam** at 8:30 a.m