

## SYLLABUS

*Arabic 100*  
*Moravian College*  
*Foreign Languages Department*  
*Fall 2014*

**Instructor: Nada Hamouch**

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**Office Hours: W 3:10-4:10 or by appointment**

### **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 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 the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. 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 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.

Note: The Department sponsors a **tutoring program** which provides help to you free of charge. You will hear more about this during the early weeks of the semester.

**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 : 15%**

<b>Homework :</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Test (3):</b>	<b>45%</b>
<b>Final Exam:</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**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

**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.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### August

- Monday 25 : Introduction  
Wednesday 27 : Unit 1 - the letters alif , baa and taa  
Friday 29 : Unit 1 - the letter thaa  
- long vowels

### September

- Monday 01 : Unit 1-  
Wednesday 03 : Unit 1 - short vowels,culture, dictation  
Friday 05 : Unit 2  
  
Monday 08 : Unit 2 - the letters jiim and haa  
Wednesday 10 : Unit 2 - the letter khaa  
- sukuun as the absence of a short vowel  
Friday 12 : Unit 2 - waw and yaa as consonants “w” and “y”  
- culture and dialogues  
  
Monday 15 : Unit 2 - dictation and review  
Wednesday 17 : **Test 1** on units 1-2  
Friday 19 : Review of quiz on units 1-2  
Unit 3 - the letter hamza  
  
Monday 22 : Unit 3 - the letters daal and dhal  
Wednesday 24 : Unit 3 - the letters raa and zaa  
Friday 27 : Unit 3 - culture, dictation and review  
  
Monday 29 : Unit 4 - doubling of consonants “shadda”  
- The letter seen

### October

- Wednesday 01 : Unit 4 - the letters sheen and saad  
Friday 03 : Unit 4 - the letter daad  
  
Monday 06 : **FALL RECESS**  
Wednesday 08 : Unit 4 - culture  
- grammatical gender  
- dictation  
Friday 10 : Unit 5 - taa marbouta  
- the letter taa

- Monday 13 : Unit 5 - the letters dhaa and ayn  
 Wednesday 15 : Unit 5 - the letter ghayn
- Friday 17 : Unit 5 - dictation and review
- Monday 20 : Review of units 3-5  
 Wednesday 22 : **Test 2** on units 3-5  
 Friday 24 : Review of quiz on units 3-5  
 Unit 6 - the letters faa and qaaf
- Monday 27 : Unit 6 - the letters kaaf and laam  
 Wednesday 29 : Unit 6 - the writing of laam-alif  
 - culture  
 Friday 31 : Unit 6 - dictation and review
- November** :
- Monday 03 : Unit 7 - the letters miim and nuun  
 Wednesday 05 : Unit 7 - the letter haa  
 - exercises  
 Friday 07 : Unit 7 - Arabic numerals and numbers (1-10)  
 - culture : Coffee Time !
- Monday 10 : Unit 8 - - the definite article (alif laam)  
 Wednesday 12 : Unit 8 - hamzat al wasl and dagger alif  
 - culture  
 Friday 14 : Unit 8 - dictation, culture and review
- Monday 17 : Test on units unit 6-8  
 Wednesday 19 : **Unit 9**  
 Friday 21 : Unit 9 - alif maqsura and alif madda
- Monday 24 : Thanksgiving Recess  
 Wednesday 26 : **Thanksgiving**  
 Friday 28 : **Thanks giving**
- December**
- Monday 01 : Unit 9 – hamza on yaa and waw seat  
 Wednesday 03 : Unit 10 - tanween  
 Friday 05 : Unit 10 - handwriting styles  
 Revisions