

مادة اللغة العربية للمستوى المتقدم الأول  
ARBC301A  
جامعة ميدلبيري  
فصل الخريف الدراسي لعام 2007

المحاضرة الأولى  
10 سبتمبر 2007

## Logistics

- Class meetings:  
MWF 11:15am-12:05pm. LaForce 121.

## Instructor

- Instructor: Usama Soltan
- Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays from 1:30pm to 3:00pm, or by appointment.
- Instructor's office: Farrel House, Room 206
- Office phone extension: x5869

## Textbooks and course materials

- *Al-Kitaab: A textbook for Beginning Arabic: Part II*, by Brustad, Al-Batal & Al-Tonsi. Includes DVDs. We will cover the last six units in the book.
- Arabic-English dictionary by Hans Wehr.
- Supplementary materials prepared by the instructor.
- Course website, accessible via Segue.

## Objectives of the course

- This is a continuation of your second-year Arabic course sequence ARBC201-ARBC202, so it has the same objectives and will follow the same methods for learning Arabic as a second language. Here's a reminder of the objectives as they are stated in the introduction to your textbook:

## Objectives of the course

- By the end of this course, you should be able to:
  1. Read a range of styles in Arabic, from formal to informal and from journalist to expository.
  2. With economic and intelligent use of a dictionary, understand texts of general interest.
  3. Use context and grammar to identify the form and guess the meaning of unfamiliar words.
  4. Initiate and sustain discussion on topics of general interest.

## Objectives of the course

4. Understand simple conversations in Egyptian Arabic.
5. Understand the main points of lectures and media programs on familiar topics.
6. Be able to write essays and opinion pieces on topics you have studied.
7. Read, write, and speak with increasing grammatical accuracy.
8. Identify a range of important figures and ideas in Arabic literary and cultural history.

## Course Requirements

Course requirement	Percentage
Attendance & Participation	15%
Language Table	5%
Homework assignments	20%
Quizzes	10%
Oral Presentation	5%
Written Essay + Oral Presentation	15%
Midterm and Final Exams	30%

### Attendance and Participation (15%)

- You are expected to attend classes regularly. Please do your best NOT to come to class late.
- You are allowed two unofficial/unexcused absences. You will be penalized for any other unexcused absences.
- An absence is only excused if it is accompanied by a note from your Commons' Dean or a physician's note.
- Excused or unexcused, if you know you'll be missing a class, please do notify me before or after the class.

### Attendance and Participation (15%)

- This is a student-centered class, so participation is a key component of classroom activities.
- You are expected to come prepared for class activities (this means checking the syllabus page online, studying the indicated vocabulary and grammar, doing the assigned readings in the textbook, and actually participating in pair or group work). That said; please do not skip class if you are not fully prepared.
- You will also be asked to go to relevant events that take place on campus. Announcements for these will be made in due time both by e-mail and in class.

### Language Tables (5%)

- Attending language tables is another course requirement. Each student is required to go to the language table once a week. Missing one table means missing 0.5%. Students will sign up for these tables during the first week of classes, and start attending them in the second week. You will be notified by Adriana, our TA, with your language table schedule.

### Homework Assignments (20%)

- Homework assignments are an integral part of this class and are crucial to help you fully understand the material and improve your proficiency in the different language skills as well as in learning new vocabulary and grammar.
- Assignments include drills assigned from the textbook as well as any other work that I assign, e.g., in-class role-play activities.

## Homework Assignments

- There will be written assignments assigned at the end of each session and due at the beginning of the next class (unless otherwise indicated). You are expected to turn in these assignments on time.
- A late assignment will be subject to a 10% delay penalty if turned in on the next day it is due, though crucially before I discuss the solutions in class.
- Assignments turned in later than that are subject to a 20% delay penalty as long as I have not discussed the solutions in class.
- Needless to say, you cannot turn in any assignment if I already discussed the solutions in class.

## Homework Assignments

- You are encouraged to study and work on homework assignments together, with the stipulation that everyone must submit her/his own individual paper.
- Please hand in your homework on a separate sheet of paper. Make sure to skip lines and leave some blank margins for me to write comments on your answers. Also, please turn in “neat” work. Sloppy work is easily detected and annoys your grader.
- For each assignment please include the number of the assignment as well as the number of the exercise (if it is from the textbook).

## Quizzes (10%)

- There will be FIVE quizzes. These quizzes are meant to test your understanding of the materials that we cover during the week, particularly vocabulary and grammar.

## Oral presentation (5%)

- Each student is required to do an oral presentation during halfway through the semester. Your presentation could relate to a topic covered in class or to any other topic that interests you.
- Presentations are expected to be done individually. I am open, however, to collaborative presentations if you can convince me that it is an interesting idea for you to present with someone else. No presentation, however, can involve more than two students.
- Also, you are required to let me know what the topic of your presentation will be. **Topics are due in the first week of October.** I will send reminders as the deadline approaches.

## Research paper + Oral Presentation (15%)

- Each student is required to submit a five-page paper on a topic of your choice. The written paper is due on the final day of classes.
- You will also need to do an oral presentation of your paper in class in the final week of classes.
- Again, you need to consult with me regarding what you want to write about. **Topics for the written paper are due in the second week of November.** I will send reminders as the deadline approaches.

## Exams (30%)

- Exams:  
There will be two exams: a mid-term exam and a final exam (each worth 15%). The format of each exam will be announced in class in due time.

## Honor Code

- Remember that the honor code is in effect in this class. Submitting work that is not your own, or that you did not participate in doing, is a violation of that code. If you have any questions about the code, please ask me, or check the following link on the college's website:

<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/acadinfo/honorcode/statement.htm>

## Grading

- I will follow the following system in assigning your letter grades:
  - 95%+ is A
  - from 90%+ to 95% is A-
  - from 87%+ to 90% is B+
  - from 83%+ to 87% is B
  - from 80%+ to 83% is B-
  - from 75%+ to 80% is C+
  - from 70%+ to 75% is C
  - from 65%+ to 70% is C-
  - from 50%+ to 65% is D
  - 50% and under is F.