

مادة اللغة العربية للمبتدئين  
ARBC0103A  
جامعة ميدلبيري  
فصل الربيع الدراسي لعام 2007  
المحاضرة الأولى (12 فبراير 2007)

## Logistics

- Class meetings:  
MWF 9:05-9:55am, in the Library Room 140.  
TR: 9:55-10:45am, in Monroe Hall Room 407.

## Instructor

- Instructor: Usama Soltan
- Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:30am to noon, or by appointment.
- Instructor's office: Robert A. Jones '59 House, Room B03
- Office phone extension: x5869

## Textbooks and course materials

- *Al-Kitaab: A textbook for Beginning Arabic: Part I*, by Brustad, Al-Batal & Al-Tonsi. Includes DVDs.
- Arabic-English dictionary by Hans Wehr.
- Supplementary materials prepared by the instructor.

## Objectives of the course

- This is a continuation of ARBC0102, so it has the same objectives and will follow the same methods of 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 texts on familiar topics and understand the main ideas and contexts without constantly resorting to dictionaries.
  2. Speak about yourself, your family, your daily life and a number of other topics. You will also be able to initiate and sustain simple conversations.
  3. Carry out written transactions connected to daily life and simple correspondence.

## Objectives of the course

4. Form and understand almost all basic sentence structures of Arabic.
5. Grasp many aspects of Arab culture, such as customs and traditions, family life, education systems, and many dealings that take place in contemporary Arab culture.
6. Differentiate between formal and spoken Arabic, especially Egyptian dialect.

## Course Requirements

### Attendance and Participation (15%)

- You are expected to attend classes regularly. Please do your best not to be late for class. Being late more than five minutes three times constitutes an unexcused absence. Missing one class means 3 hours of extra work to catch up on. Also, it is unfair to your classmates because you will slow us all down.

### Attendance and Participation (15%)

- You are allowed two unofficial/unexcused absences. Any other absences will affect your overall percentage.
- An absence is only excused if it is accompanied by a note from your Commons' Dean or a health-care provider.
- Excused or unexcused, if you have to be absent, please try to notify me before class.

### Attendance and Participation (15%)

- Participation is a key component of this class, and its scope extends beyond the classroom itself to group homework assignments and to Arabic table. Part of participation also means knowing when to give others the chance to speak. You must come prepared for class activities (this means following the syllabus, studying vocabulary and grammar, and being ready to participate fully). That said; please do not skip class even if you are not fully prepared.

### Attendance and Participation (15%)

- You will also be asked to watch movies from the Arabic Film Series. Announcements for these will be made either by e-mail or in class.
- You are also encouraged to attend the various lectures on the Middle East and the Arab world that will be held on campus this Spring. Three of these are given on the next slide.

### **Attendance and Participation (15%)**

- 3/2, Friday, 12:15 PM, RAJ CON: International Studies Colloquium lunchtime lecture "Islam, Human Rights, and Constitutionalism" by Nathan Brown, professor of political science and international affairs, George Washington University. \*\*This is an RSVP event. Respond to Baldwin@middlebury.edu by Monday, 2/26 with ID#.
- 4/3, Tuesday, 4:30 PM, RAJ CON: Lecture "Women and Political Participation in Contemporary Iran," by Shahla Haeri, Women's Studies Program, Boston University
- 4/11, Wednesday, 4:30 PM, RAJ CON: Lecture: "Islamic Law and International Non-governmental Organizations" by Naz Modirzadeh, Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research, Harvard University

### **Language Tables (5%)**

- Attending language tables is an essential part of your participation. Each student will be required to go to the language once a week. Missing one table means missing 0.5%. Students will sign up for these tables during the first week of classes. You will be notified by Fatma, our TA, with your language table days.

### **Homework Assignments (20%)**

- I cannot sufficiently and fairly emphasize the importance of homework assignments, which means both written work and other kinds of preparation. The philosophy of this course is that material is rarely introduced to the student "cold"; in other words, the majority of class time will be devoted to practice as opposed to explanation. It is thus essential that you come to class prepared.

### **Homework Assignments**

- There will be daily written assignments due at the beginning of class on the day designated in the syllabus. You are expected to turn these assignments in on time. You are allowed three free late submissions. After that, late homework assignments will be accepted and checked but will not be given any credit. Please notice, however, that you cannot get credit for a late homework 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 homework written out on a separate sheet of paper. Be tidy and organized. For each assignment please include the date that it is due as well as the lesson, exercise and page numbers.

### **Homework Assignments**

- If "see me" or something to that effect is written on your homework, it is your responsibility either to make an appointment to see me or to come during office hours ASAP. You will not receive credit for that particular homework until we have met.
- If "revise" is written on your homework I would like you to make corrections where I have indicated in order to receive credit.
- If "redo" is written on your homework then you must completely rewrite your homework in order to receive credit.

### **Quizzes (15%)**

- There will be TEN short quizzes. These quizzes will include materials that we have covered during the week.

### **Oral presentation (5%)**

- Each student will be required to do an oral presentation during the last week of classes.
- Each student is required to present his work individually, but you can discuss it among your own study group. Also, you are required to let me know what the topic of your presentation will. **Topics are due after the Spring Break.**

### **Written Essay (5%)**

- Each student is required to submit a one-page written essay on a topic of your choice. The essay is due on the final day of classes.
- Please notice that the topic of your oral presentation should be different from that of your written essay.

### **Exams (35%)**

- Exams:  
There will be two exams: a mid-term exam (worth 15%), and a final exam (20%).

### **Honor Code**

- Remember that the honor code is in effect in 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.

### **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.