

صف اللغة العربية للمبتدئين
ARBC0103A
جامعة ميدلبيري
فصل الربيع الدراسي لعام 2008

المحاضرة الأولى (11 فبراير 2008)

Logistics

Class meetings
MWF 9:05-9:55am, in Ross Commons Dining B11.
TR: 9:30-10:45am, in Sunderland IL2.

Instructor

- Instructor: Usama Soltan
- Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:30am to noon, 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 I*, by Brustad, Al-Batal & Al-Tonsi. Includes DVDs.
- 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 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

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Course requirement	Percentage
Attendance & Participation	15%
Language Table	5%
Homework assignments	20%
Quizzes (10)	15%
Oral Presentation	5%
Written Essay	5%
Midterm and Final Exams	35%

Attendance and Participation (15%)

- You are expected to attend *all* classes regularly. Also, please do your best NOT to come to class late.
- An absence is only excused if it is accompanied by a note from your Commons' Dean or a physician's note.
- Excused or non-excused, 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 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 the term, 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 “almost” daily written assignments due at the beginning of class on the day designated in the syllabus. 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 (15%)

- There will be TEN 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 the last week of classes (May 6-8).
- 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 Friday April 11th**. I will send reminders as the deadline approaches.

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 cannot be the same as that of your written essay.
- Again, you need to consult with me regarding what you want to write about. **Topics for the written essay are due Friday April 4th**. I will send reminders as the deadline approaches.

Exams (35%)

Exams:

- There will be two exams: a mid-term exam (worth 15%) and a final exam (worth 20%). The format of each exam will be announced in class in due time.
- The midterm will be held in class on Thursday March 20th. The final exam is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday May 13.

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/honorcodelstatement.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.