

Syllabus

ARBC 2150

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Class Hours: MW 2:00-3:15. Class Location: HH 2402

“There can be no real learning of a language without understanding something of the patterns and values of the culture of which it is a part” Robert Lado.

Course Description

Arabic 2150 is a continuation of your previous Arabic courses, specifically Elementary Arabic II. In this course you will continue to build your proficiency in the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing). The course will stress on active use of the language. To accomplish this, we will take a communicative approach to Arabic, covering not only communicating in Modern standard but also in colloquial Arabic (Levantine dialect). Thus, the course curriculum will be based on the textbook and additional material that will be provided throughout the semester. This will include handouts, dictations, music, educational games and so forth. We will spend this semester engaging in multiple tasks associated with our lives in various Arab communities. Our focus will be on responding effectively to some situations that we might encounter in everyday life. In addition, we will engage in cultural activities to learn the language rather than learn about it.

Goals

By the end of the semester, you should be able to:

- ✓ Read and understand passages within the range of vocabulary and structures covered in this course and in previous courses.
- ✓ Write short compositions in Arabic.
- ✓ Carry out conversations on a range of topics,
- ✓ Understand contextualized speech on a range of subjects.

Text

Aboud et al. (1999). *Elementary modern standard Arabic I*. Cambridge University Press.

Aboud et al. (1999). *Elementary modern standard Arabic II*. Cambridge University Press.

Alosh, M. (2000). *Ahlan Wa Sahlan*. Yale University Press. (optional).

Aids to Success

Following are some keys that you need in order to succeed in learning a foreign language (Arabic in this case):

- ✓ *Motivation:* You need an incentive—a reason to pursue your goal. Students with high motivation generally do best. So, whatever your motivation might be, talking to your grandparents, traveling, making friends, or getting a date with an Arabic speaker individual ☺, Please keep that in mind.
- ✓ *Humility:* Don't expect too much of yourself—mistakes are inevitable, especially at first. In this class we are going to laugh at our mistakes. So, keep your sense of humor! Remember when you are learning a language you're like a child learning to walk, often you stumble, but you just have to get up and try again.
- ✓ *Patience:* the language gets easier with time. You will not think you've made progress unless when you look back.
- ✓ *Practice.* A regular routine will help you to become fluent. Try to practice every day, even if for just a few minutes. Remember, "a little and often' is preferable to 'a lot but seldom.'"

Helpful Tools

Each person has his/her own learning style. Whatever yours is, you may find it helpful to use a combination of the following tools to enhance your progress:

- ✓ *Flash cards.*
- ✓ *Audiocassettes and videocassettes:* We have some audiovisual material at the language lab located at the fifth floor of UH.
- ✓ *Interactive computer programs / Internet sites:* Some of these allow you to record your voice and compare your pronunciation with that of native speakers of the language. A suggestive list will be provided.
- ✓ *Radio and television:* If you have access to Arabic radio or television programs, tune in and see how much you can understand.
- ✓ *Magazines, books and e sites:* Try reading printed material in Arabic, making sure that the comprehension level is neither too high nor too low.

Grading & Evaluation

- ✓ **Quizzes:** 20 %
Expect two quizzes over the period of the semester. These would be short quizzes that would take only a portion (10-15 min) of the class meeting periods. Quizzes may or may not be announced in advance.

- ✓ **Midterm:** 15 %
Only in extremely grave circumstances will students be able to make up the midterm. Under such circumstances, students are expected to contact me in advance and let me know. Only in an emergency situation will this be unnecessary. If you miss the midterm, you have to retake it at the testing center located at GH.
- ✓ **Final:** 20 %
The final exam will be take place at the scheduled exam time for the course during the final exams week.
- ✓ **Individual performance/ Group performance:** 10 % each
For both projects, you will choose your own performance and present it in class. Additional instructions will be provided in class.
- ✓ **Attendance and participation:** 15 %
This should be self-explanatory. However, if you think you need clarification about this, see me 😊
- ✓ **Oral conversation:** 5 %
This activity involves a face to face conversation with your instructor or someone designated by him. Dates for appointments TBA.
- ✓ **Reading test:** 5 %
Like the oral conversation, all students are to take this test sometime by the end of the semester. More details will be provided later.

General Policies:

Attendance: This is not a correspondence course; your attendance and active participation are required at every single session. This will help you achieve the goals of this course and accomplish your personal academic goals. Thus, your regular attendance and informed active participation are expected. It is your responsibility to check with your instructor or classmates in case you missed a class to know what assignments or quizzes were assigned during that class. Missing classes without a legitimate excuse will lower your grade. Anyone who gets in a habit of arriving late will be considered absent if he/she is not in class when attendance is taken.

Assignments: Assignments are due on the day specified. Late work, if accepted, might lower your grade. All homework will be graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis unless otherwise announced. Arrangements will be made that everybody will have access to assignments from the optional text.

Cell phones and Pagers: These are annoying in the classroom; please turn them **OFF** for the duration of the class.

Students with Special Needs

Students with disabilities or who may need special accommodations and wish to discuss their eligibility for such accommodations are encouraged to contact the DSS office.

Course Calendar

The provided course calendar is a tentative one that may change based on the needs of the class. Please remember that the assignments assigned on the calendar are not the only ones that you will have to do. Additional work will be assigned and announced in class. Please remember as well that every time we have colloquial Arabic you should come to class ready to participate in the conversations agreed upon and announced in class based a booklet that you'll will get.

Date	Activity/ Text	Assignments **
1/10	Syllabus/introduction to course	Drills 9, 10, & 12 p. 319
1/12	Revision (Abboud et al. Lessons 11-15)	
1/17	Break (Martin Luther King Holiday)	
1/19	Lesson 16 / musical dictation	Drill 7 p. 317 & Drill 8 P. 318
1/24	Lesson 16 continued / CA */	
1/31	Lesson 17/ CA /	Questions p. 321; D 2 p. 326
2/2	Lesson 17 cont / CA /	Drill 10 p. 336
2/7	Lesson 18 / CA /	Questions P. 338; D 1 p. 345 D 3 p. 346
2/9	Lesson 18 cont / / CA / watching video	Drill 9 p. 353; Drill 11 p. 355
2/14	Lesson 19	Drill 9 p. 370; drill 10 p. 371
2/16	Lesson 19 cont / CA /	
2/21	Lesson 20 / CA /	Drill 1 p. 377; Drill 6 p. 383
2/23	Lesson 20 cont / News cast	Drill 16 p. 389; Drill 18 p. 392
2/28	Midterm revision / CA /	
3/2	Midterm	
3/7-3/11	Spring Break	Have fun
3/9	Spring Break	Have fun
3/14	Lesson 21 / CA / Individual performance	Drill 5 p. 404; Drill 6 p. 406
3/16	Lesson 21 cont / CA / Individual performance	Drill 11 p. 421
3/21	Lesson 22 / CA /	Drill 1 p. 434; Drill 9 p. 443
3/23	Lesson 22 cont / CA /	
3/28	Lesson 23 / CA /	Drill 4 p. 455; Drill 8 p. 460
3/30	Lesson 23 cont/ CA /	Drill 12 p. 462

4/4	Lesson 24 / CA /	Questions p. 463; D 4 p. 475
4/6	Lesson 24 cont / CA /	Drill 12 p. 481
4/11	Lesson 25	Drill 5 p. 490
4/13	Lesson 25 cont / CA /	Drill 9 p. 493; Drill 13 p. 495
4/18	Lesson 26 / CA /	Drill 5 p. 506; Drill 12 p. 509; Drill 15 p. 510
4/20	Lesson 26 cont / CA /	
4/25	Groups Performances	
4/27	Final's Revision	

* CA: Colloquial Arabic. Every time we have CA you should come to class ready to converse on the topic previously agreed upon.

** These are not the only assignments additional work will be assigned and announced in class.