

Elementary Arabic

ARBC 1010

Fall 2019

Section 001	M, W, F	1:00 - 1:50 am in LANG 218
Section 002	M, W, F	11:00 - 11:50 am in LANG 217
Instructor	Caroline Najour	
E-mail	Caroline.Najour@unt.edu	
Office	LANG 401 L	
Office Hours	Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 9:00 - 10:50 am and by appointment	

Lab 301	M	12.00 - 12.50 pm in LANG 104
Lab 302	T	11.00 - 11.50 am in LANG 216

Tutoring sessions in LANG 108 A:

Mondays	3:30 - 4:30 pm
Tuesdays	2:00 - 3:00 pm
Wednesdays	1:00 - 2:00 pm
Thursdays	TBD
Fridays	TBD

Required Textbooks and materials

Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al Tonsi. *Alif Baa, Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*. Third Edition. Washington, D.C. Georgetown University Press, 2013. (The textbook comes with a DVD and a website access card, and both are required for this class.)

Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al Tonsi. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-Arabiyya with DVDs: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic*. Part One. Third Edition. Washington, D.C. Georgetown University Press, 2013.

Six to eight blue /green books (small booklets with a blue or green cover, available at the university bookstore)

For both textbooks, students need to enroll in the instructor's course at the companion website. Check canvas for the registration instructions.

Course Description

During the first six weeks of this course, we will be covering the 'Alif Baa textbook' where you will learn how to pronounce Arabic sounds and write Arabic letters in addition to some basic vocabulary and expressions. In the second part of the semester, we will move to Al Kitaab part I, and we will cover the first two chapters by the end of the semester. Students will learn both Modern Standard Arabic(MSA) and the Shaami (Levantine) dialect.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you should be able to do the following:

1. Demonstrate familiarity with certain cultural aspects of the Arab world.
2. Recognize Arabic letters and be able to write Arabic words from dictation.
3. Pronounce all the Arabic sounds properly.
4. Talk about yourself in simple sentences.
5. Initiate simple social interactions using appropriate cultural expressions.
6. Understand simple and short videos on familiar topics.
7. Write simple sentences about yourself.

Course Policies and Requirements

Language:

- By the middle of the semester, you will be expected to speak only in Arabic from the time you enter the classroom, including the time when you chat with your classmates before class officially starts and when working in groups. If you need to speak in English, please ask for permission first.

Academic Honesty:

- Do your own work. It is against the policy of this course to use an answer key or *Google Translate*, to enlist the help of a fluent Arabic speaker or to have your work checked by anyone other than your instructors before submitting it.
- Working on the homework with other classmates is allowed, but each student must submit to the instructor his or her own answers.

Homework:

- Assigned homework will be posted on Canvas and, unless otherwise noted, must be submitted by the beginning of the following session.

Class conduct:

- It is expected in Arab culture to greet others upon entering a room, so remember to greet the instructor and your classmates when you enter class.
- Eating or chewing gum is not allowed, but feel free to bring coffee, water or soft drinks to class.
- Please keep your cell phones in silent mode and in your backpacks.

Canvas and E-mail:

This class relies heavily on canvas where grades and assignments will be regularly posted. Be sure to check Canvas and your email daily as the instructor will share important information pertaining to class over the email.

Please do not email the instructor via Canvas but use the email listed on the first page of this syllabus.

Grade Distribution

Attendance, Participation and Preparation (25%)

- You are expected to attend all classes and to show up to class well prepared. Participation grades are assigned after lab sessions as well and will count toward your grade for this class. Your daily attendance and participation grade will be on a scale from 1 to 5. It will be posted on canvas after each class, so make sure to check canvas daily to see how well you are doing.
- Most of class time will be devoted to doing group or pair work. To participate actively, you need to prepare well before class. If for any reason, you have been unable to prepare for class adequately, **make sure to inform your instructor beforehand and s/he can arrange for you to learn by listening that day.**
- In case of absence, please inform your instructor **before not after the class you will be missing.** The grade for that day's participation will be "0." The lowest 4 grades for attendance and participation will not be counted when calculating the final grade at the end of the semester.
- Students are responsible for any class work, homework and for any announcement made during their absence.
- Attendance and participation grades will be deducted for tardiness as follows:
arrival during first 5 mins. of class = 1 Pt.
during first 10 mins. = 2 Pts.
during first 15 mins. = 3 Pts.
during first 20 mins. = 4 Pts.
If you arrive more than 20 mins. late for class you will receive a "0" for that day's class participation.

Homework Assignments (25%)

- Expect to spend an average of 1 ½ hours of homework in preparation for every class session. Homework assignments must be turned in at the beginning of every class, and **late homework assignments will not be accepted** unless you have received approval from the instructor prior to the assignment's due date.

- Homework must be double spaced and completed on a blue /green book. You need to have 2 booklets at a time so you can do your homework on one booklet while your instructor is correcting the previous homework submitted on the other booklet. Make sure you write your name on the cover, and the homework number for each homework. Points will be deducted when submitted work that does not follow any of those guidelines.
- Homework assignments will be graded on a scale from 1 to 5. You will be graded on the overall quality of your work, and on the effort you put into the homework and not on the number of correct answers. Feel free to redo the online drills as many times as you wish in order to improve your score. When you complete an online drill, make sure that you see the big green check mark (✓) when you are done.
- Make sure you write your homework assignment in full sentences for fill-in-the blank exercises. You will not receive credit for the exercise if you submit just a list of words rather than write full sentences.

Quizzes (20%)

You will have several short vocab and grammar quizzes covering the material learned throughout the course. Dates for quizzes will be announced at least one week in advance.

Cultural Portfolio (10%)

This semester, you will create a cultural portfolio where you are expected to write 4 entries (a minimum of a 300 word essays in English) about 4 cultural aspects of the Arab world of your choosing. In addition, you need to conduct an interview with a native speaker and write a 500 word essay about the information you have learned from the interview. At the end of the semester, you will provide a hard copy of your portfolio for assessment as well as post your portfolio on canvas for your classmates to read and comment on. Guidelines are on Canvas.

Skit (5%)

For this class, you will prepare one graded skit with a partner using dialect. It is due around the end of the semester and must be at least 4 minutes long. Check canvas for rubric and guidelines.

Reading and homework corrections (5%)

- Once we move to working with Al- kitaab textbook, at the end of every chapter, you will read a specific passage to a tutor for a grade. The reading will take place during tutoring hours. Please inform your instructor if none of the tutoring hours work with your schedule, and check the daily schedule for the reading due dates. The guidelines and rubric for the reading are on canvas.

- Making mistakes is part of the learning process. To learn from your mistakes, however, you will need to go back to those mistakes and correct them. During the last weeks of the semester, you will be asked to correct the “write out and translate” drills. Your instructor will underline some of your mistakes and label them with correction symbols (correction code is on canvas). You are required to work on the corrections before the lab session. During the lab session, you will be able to check with your classmates and your instructor to make sure all is correct before you submit your corrections. When working on homework corrections, do not write the corrected words on a separate piece of paper; rather, write the corrected word using a different colored ink on the original paper next to the underlined mistake. No partial credit will be given; corrections must be complete and correct to receive credit.

Final exam (10%)

The final exam will include listening, reading, and writing parts in addition to sections on vocabulary and grammar.

Grade distribution:

Attendance, Participation and Preparation: 25 %

Homework: 25%

Quizzes: 20 %

Cultural portfolio: 10 %

Skits: 5 %

Reading and homework corrections: 5%

Final: 10 %

Grading Scale

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
59 and below	F

Here is a list of important links:

Office of the Registrar— Fall 2019 Registration Guide

<http://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide>

This is a link to important dates for adding, dropping, withdrawing, and so forth.

Office of the Registrar— Fall 2019 Exam Schedule

<http://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall>

This is a link to the official schedule for final exams.

Undergraduate Catalog

<http://catalog.unt.edu/>

This is a link to the official catalog for all undergraduate students.

UNT Policy Manual

<http://policy.unt.edu/policy-by-number/1>

This is a link to the official policy manual for faculty and students.

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The short SPOT survey provides you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Toward the end of the semester, you will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Simply click on the link and complete your survey. Once you complete the survey you will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

Disability Accommodation

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class.

Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student.

For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Acceptable Student Behavior:

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at

https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/07.012_CodeOfStudConduct.Final8_.19.pdf

Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, & Assault

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT's Dean of Students' website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: <http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources>.

The UNT Survivor Advocates can be reached by emailing SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or calling 940-565-2648. The UNT Survivor Advocates connect students who have been impacted by violence to resources (counseling, health, safety, academics, legal, etc.), and act as their advocate. They can assist a student by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change (if needed), and connecting students to the many other resources that are available, both on and off campus. They are here to help! For more information see

<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/sexual-misconduct/reporting-sexual-misconduct>

[1] This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.