

# Special Problems: Advanced Topics in Arabic: Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Spring 2024

## Course Description

This course is designed to shed light on the complex origins, history, and perceptions of the conflict between Israel and Palestine while simultaneously honing language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) and core competencies (vocabulary and grammar) essential for engaging in discussions on this topic. Students will evaluate key historical milestones and investigate their modern consequences. Throughout the semester, the student is expected to work on a lengthy research project and on building the required vocabulary to be able to discuss the researched topic.

## Homework (10%)

Students will submit homework on Canvas during the first three weeks of the semester. Check the list of assignments for details.

## Vocabulary lists (20%)

Throughout the semester, the student will be compiling a vocabulary list on a quizlet set shared with the instructor (password: 3040) where new words or expressions are added throughout the semester. As of week 5, a list of a minimum of 12 words must be uploaded on Canvas bi-weekly by Sunday at midnight. Please share a link of your first list by the 5th Saturday of the semester.

- Vocabulary lists must include words or expressions that are important to know for your research paper or that you came across in your readings.
  - For nouns, please provide singular and plural forms.
  - For verbs, please list past, the present and gerund (MaSdar) forms and the preposition when necessary. Pay attention to MaSdar patterns as you will need to list the verb in the past and the present along with the MaSdar.

To discuss	ناقش, يناقش, المناقشة
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- You are encouraged to consult the Hans Wehr dictionary when compiling your list. [Here](#) is a link to the website
- Your instructor will provide feedback on your list. You must make any required changes along with your next list. Vocabulary lists will be graded on a scale of 1 to 12. Students will be graded on:
  - Choice of words included on the list. Students will need to judiciously include words that are relevant for their topic and necessary to express their ideas. Students are

encouraged to express their ideas using previously learnt vocabulary. Only include on your list vocabulary words you absolutely need to learn for your topic and avoid including words you could have expressed with vocabulary you have previously learnt.

- Corrections made to the previous list.
- accuracy of the words listed and the forms required.

#### **Drafts of research paper (15%)**

- The research paper is approximately 1200 words long and will explore the complex origins, history, and perceptions of the conflict between Israel and Palestine. It will require research and a bibliography.
- The writing is not a one-step process; rather, it will be based on several drafts which will be edited and polished up until the submission of the final version. Students are expected to email the instructor four progressive writing drafts throughout the semester.
  - First draft (minimum of 300 words): due by Saturday midnight of week 4.
  - Second draft (minimum of 600 words): due by Saturday midnight of week 6.
  - Third draft (minimum of 900 words): due by Saturday midnight of week 8.
  - Fourth draft (minimum of 1200 words): due by Saturday midnight of week 10.
- Check the rubric on canvas, under “assignments”

#### **Vocabulary quizzes (15%)**

- You are expected to study and use the words and expressions compiled in your vocabulary list
- Two vocabulary quizzes will take place during the semester. The first quiz is during week 9 and the second one is during week 12. Contact your instructor to schedule the quiz at a convenient time.

#### **Presentation (20%)**

- During week 14, students are expected to deliver a 10 minute presentation about their research paper. Students are expected to incorporate a majority of the vocabulary learned throughout the semester (from their personal vocabulary list) in the presentation.
- [Here](#) is the rubric for the presentation

#### **Research paper (15%)**

- The revised final draft of the research paper is due on Canvas by May 11 at midnight

#### **Grade distribution:**

Homework 10%

Vocabulary lists: 20 %

Drafts of research paper: 15%

Vocabulary quizzes: 20 %

Presentation 20 %

Research paper: 15 %

## List of assignments:

### → Week 1

Get started on homework of week 2

### → Week 2

- ◆ Share on canvas (week 2 homework) a preliminary bibliography for your paper; with hyperlinks to the references.
  - Two references must be in English and must be scholarly.
  - Two of your sources must be in Arabic. The Arabic references should NOT be scholarly; rather, choose texts that are not too difficult to understand (check week 3).
- ◆ Get started on homework for week 3

### → Week 3

- ◆ Print out your two Arabic references. Identify words that you consider central to your topic, circle them, and write their English translation on the margins.
- ◆ Type an outline of each of your two Arabic references in Arabic and staple it to the print out and submit to the instructor (the hard copy will be submitted to instructor a few days after the deadline to upload it on canvas)
- ◆ Upload the printout with circled vocabulary and outline on canvas under hmw 3.

### → Week 4

- ◆ First draft (minimum 300 words) due on Canvas
- ◆ Do not forget to check last week's homework for help with vocabulary you might need.

### → Week 5

- ◆ First list of vocabulary; share quizlet link on canvas.
- ◆ Check "vocabulary lists" on the first page of the syllabus for instructions about the format and expectations
- ◆ Please be sure your instructor has permission to edit your quizlet set (password: 3040)

### → Week 6

- ◆ Second draft (minimum 600 words)

→ **Week 7**

- ◆ Second list of vocabulary due

→ **Week 8**

- ◆ Third draft (minimum 900 words)

→ **Week 9**

- ◆ Quiz 1 (Vocabulary of first and second lists)
- ◆ third list of vocabulary due but not included in the quiz

→ **Week 10**

- ◆ Fourth draft of the paper due (minimum 1200 words; this draft must include your concluding paragraph/s)

→ **Week 11**

- ◆ Fourth list of vocabulary due

→ **Week 12**

- ◆ Quiz 2 (All the vocabulary covered in all 4 lists)

→ **Week 13**

- ◆ Presentation

→ **Week 14**

- ◆ Nothing is assigned

→ **Week 15**

- ◆ May 11: Revised final paper due on Canvas by midnight

**Grading Scale**

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

## Academic Support & Student Services

Here is a list of important links:

### Office of the Registrar— Spring 2024 Registration Guide

<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/spring-registration-guide>

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

### Office of the Registrar— Spring 2024 Exam Schedule

<https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/spring>

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 Support Services

### Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)  
(<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)  
(<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)  
(<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)
- [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)  
(<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

### Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- [UNT Records](#)
- [UNT ID Card](#)
- [UNT Email Address](#)
- [Legal Name](#)

\*UNT eulDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.

## Pronouns

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns.

You can [add your pronouns to your Canvas account](#) so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:

- [What are pronouns and why are they important?](#)
- [How do I use pronouns?](#)
- [How do I share my pronouns?](#)
- [How do I ask for another person's pronouns?](#)
- [How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?](#)

## Additional Student Support Services

- [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
- [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)
- [Career Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
- [Multicultural Center](https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center) (<https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [Pride Alliance](https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance) (<https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance>)
- [UNT Food Pantry](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)

## Academic Support Services

- [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/Canvas/student-resources) (<https://clear.unt.edu/Canvas/student-resources>)
- [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
- [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
- [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)

حظاً سعيداً وبالتوفيق!

*\*\*This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified of all updates; then it becomes their responsibility to adhere to the changes.*