

Elementary Arabic ARBC 1010 Fall 2017

Section 001	M, W, F	10.00 - 10.50 am in LANG 215
Section 002	M, W, F	11.00 - 11.50 am in LANG 216
Instructor	Caroline Najour	
E-mail	Caroline.Najour@unt.edu	
Office	LANG 401 L	
Office Hours	Mondays and Wednesdays	9:00 - 9:50 am and 1:00 - 1:50 pm
	Fridays	9:00 - 9:50 am and by appointment

Lab 301	M	12.00 - 12.50 pm	in LANG 109
Lab 302	T	11.00 - 11.50 am	in LANG 109
Lab 303	T	01.00 - 01.50 pm	in LANG 107

Tutoring sessions in LANG 108 A			
Mondays and Wednesdays		12.30 - 1.30 pm	
Tuesdays		02.00 - 3.00 pm	
Thursdays		3.30 - 4.30 pm	
Fridays		02.00 - 3.00 pm	

Required Textbooks

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.

For both textbooks, students need to enroll in the instructor's course at the companion website. Check blackboard 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 will be able to do the following:

1. Demonstrate familiarity with certain cultural aspects of the Arab world.
2. Speak about yourself, your family, and your environment and initiate and sustain short conversations in dialect on a number of topics such as weather and hobbies.
3. Perform tasks such as ordering food at restaurant and shopping at the market.
4. Understand the main ideas of texts on familiar topics.
5. Understand simple and short videos on familiar topics.
6. Write simple paragraphs about yourself, using the present tense.

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 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 blackboard 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 instructors 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.

Blackboard and E-mail:

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

Grade Distribution

Attendance, Participation and Preparation (20%)

- You are expected to attend all classes and to show up to class well prepared. Participation grades are assigned after lab session 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 blackboard after each class, so make sure to check blackboard 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 to 2 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 an approval from the instructor prior to the assignment's due date.
- Homework must be double spaced, and **sheets of papers must be stapled**. Make sure you write your name and the **homework number**. Points will be deducted when submitted work 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 and incorrect answers. Also, feel free to redo the drills from the website in order to improve your score.
- 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 (25%)

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 essay 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 blackboard for your classmates to read and comment on. Guidelines are on blackboard.

Skits (10%)

For this class, you will prepare two skits with a partner using dialect. The first one is around the middle of the semester and will be at 3 minutes long, and the second is due around the end of the semester and must be at least 5 minutes long.

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: 20 %

Homework: 25%

Quizzes: 25 %

Cultural portfolio 10 %

Skits: 10 %

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 2017 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 2017 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 will be provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. 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 www.deanofstudents.unt.edu

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_0. Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT's Student Advocate and she can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

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

