

Intermediate Arabic ARBC 2040 Fall 2017

Class	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	12.00 - 12.50 am in LANG 215
Instructor	Caroline Najour	
E-mail	Caroline.Najour@unt.edu	
Office	LANG 401 L	
Office Hours	Monday, Wednesday Friday	9:00 - 9:50 am and 1:00 - 1:50 pm 9:00 - 9:50 am and by appointment

Tutoring sessions in LANG 108 A	
Monday and Wednesday	12.30 - 1.30 pm
Tuesday	2.00 - 3.00 pm
Thursday	3.30 - 4.30 pm
Friday	2.00 - 3.00 pm

Required Textbook

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.

Students need to enroll in the instructor's course at the companion website. Check blackboard for the registration instructions.

Course Description

This course is designed for students who have had the equivalent of two semesters of Arabic instruction and will begin with chapter 8 of the required textbook. It aims at helping students reach intermediate proficiency in all skills. In this course, students are expected to acquire extensive vocabulary, work on sentence structure, grammar and pronunciation and develop an emergent ability to think at the paragraph level. Also, students will continue to be exposed to the Shami dialect, which will be integrated with Modern Standard Arabic in the course.

Course Objectives

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

I. Listening:

- a. Listen to 2- 5 minute authentic and created texts delivered in clear speech and normal speed about familiar topics. You will also be able to extract specific biographic details as well as prominent details in the listening text.

II. Speaking:

- a. Initiate and sustain short conversations with other learners and sympathetic native speakers on a number of personal and familiar topics.
- b. Communicate your basic needs and converse with locals on general topics using the Shami colloquial dialect.
- c. Narrate events using the past, present, and future tenses.

III. Reading:

- a. Read and understand page-long authentic texts on familiar and general topics and understand the main idea without referring to the dictionary.
- b. Employ your reading strategies and your knowledge of grammar and the root and pattern system along with the context to construct meaning.

IV. Writing:

- a. Write coherent paragraphs and short essays about personal and familiar topics using complex sentences.

Course Policies

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.

Language

Please use only Arabic from the moment you enter class. English might be used sometimes to explain some grammar concepts, during translation exercises, or for a quick translation of a word. In all other instances, only Arabic should be used in class including when chatting with classmates before class starts. If you think you need to use English, ask for permission first. English could be used, however, during office hours

and in communication via email. Points from class participation grades will be deducted for speaking in English in class.

Homework

Assigned homework will be posted on blackboard and, unless otherwise noted, must be submitted before the following session.

Class conduct

- Remember to greet the instructors and your classmates when you enter class and to engage in small talk with your classmates while waiting for class to start.
- Eating or chewing gum is not allowed, but feel free to bring coffee, water or soft drinks to class.
- Please keep you 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. For your success in this class be sure to check blackboard and your unt email daily as the instructor will share important information pertaining to class over email.

Grade Distribution

Attendance, Participation and Preparation (20%)

- You are expected to attend all classes and to show up to class well prepared. Your grade for participation in class will account for 20 % of your final grade. Your daily attendance and participation grade will be on a scale from 1 to 5, and will be posted on blackboard by the end of every class.
- Most of class time will be devoted to doing group or pair work. To participate actively and engage others with the material, **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 she can arrange for you to learn by listening that day. Also, make sure you refrain from using English during group activities (and the entire class) as this will impact your participation grade; just raise your hand when you need help.
- 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 3 grades for attendance and participation are automatically dropped on blackboard.

- 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%)

- New material will not be presented in class; rather, you will prepare for it at home. Class time is reserved for the activation and practice of what you have studied and prepared at home. Expect to spend an average of 2 hours of learning new material, reviewing and writing homework at home for every class session. Homework assignments must be turned in before the beginning of class. **Late homework assignments will not be accepted** unless you have received an approval from the instructor prior to the assignment’s due date. The lowest 3 grades for homework are automatically dropped on blackboard.
- Homework must be double spaced, and **sheets of papers must be stapled**. Make sure you write the homework number. Points will be deducted when submitted work does not follow these 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 have put into the homework and not on the number of correct or incorrect answers.

Writing Assignments (10%)

This semester you will have 2 typed writing assignments. Your instructor will give you feedback on your first draft. You will revise your writing accordingly, and only your second draft will be graded. Because the purpose is to practice the vocabulary and grammatical structures we are learning this semester, you are not allowed to use any new words, look up words in dictionary, or enlist the help of others. **Using words or constructs the student is not expected to know at this stage will result in a grade of “0” on that assignment.** Please check blackboard to guidelines.

Quizzes (20%)

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

Skits (15%)

For this class, you will prepare two skits with a partner using dialect. The first one is due around the middle of the semester and the second around the end of the semester.

They each must be at least five minutes long. You have the option to perform the skits in class or to videotape them and share the video with your classmates via blackboard. Check Blackboard for rubric and guidelines.

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: 20 %

Writing Assignments: 10%

skits: 15 %

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 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.

