

## Intermediate Arabic ARBC 2050 Spring 2020

Time	M, W, F	10- 10.50 am in LANG 322
Instructor	Caroline Najour	
E-mail	Caroline.Najour@unt.edu	
Office	LANG 401 L	
Office Hours	Fridays	Fridays 8:00 am to 10:00 am & 12.00 - 2.00 pm And by appointment

Activity	Day	Time	Location
<b>Tutoring sessions</b>	Thursdays Fridays	11:00 am - 12:00pm 1:00 - 3:00 pm	LANG 108 A
<b>Conversation hours</b>	First monthly Tuesdays (2/4, 3/3, 4/7)	12:00 - 1:00 pm	LANG 410
	Third monthly Friday (1/17, 2/21, 3/20, 4/17)	1:00 - 2:00 pm	LANG 410
	Students earn 0.25 points added to the average final grade for every conversation hour you attend and participate actively in.		
<b>Dabke dance sessions</b>	Every other Thursday	5:00- 6:00 pm	Union 227
	Students earn 1 full extra credit added to the average final grade for participating in at least five dance sessions. No partial credit will be given and no prior dance experience is required. Dates are 1/23, 2/6, 2/20, 3/5, 3/19, 4/2, 4/16		
<b>Soccer Game</b>	Friday Feb 14th	1:30 - 2:30 pm	Pohl Rec Center: Indoor soccer field
	Students receive 5 extra credit on the upcoming test for wearing an Arab -themed Jersey and participating in the game. Also, the winner of the best jersey competition receives a free World Languages T-shirt. No prior soccer experience is required. Click <a href="#">here</a> for details.		
<b>A talk by Prof. Nadje Al-Ali</b>	Monday April 13th	2:00 - 3.30 pm	ART 223

	Nadje Al-Ali is Robert Family Professor of International Studies and Professor of Anthropology and Middle East Studies at Brown. Her main research interests revolve around feminist activism and gendered mobilization, mainly with reference to Iraq, Egypt, Lebanon, Turkey and the Kurdish political movement. Her talk is entitled “Reflections on the Politics of gender in the Middle East.”
Several other extra credit opportunities are available throughout the semester. To earn the extra credit, students must attend one of the events approved by the instructor and write a cultural report answering specific questions about the event in English and include a picture of themselves attending it. Guidelines are on canvas; deadline to submit a hard copy of the report is a week after the event.	

## Required Textbooks and materials

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.

Five blue or green booklets, available at the university bookstore.

## Course Description

This course is designed for students who have had the equivalent of three semesters of Arabic instruction and is a continuation of ARBC 2040. It aims at helping students reach the mid intermediate proficiency. In this course, students are expected to acquire extensive vocabulary and develop an emergent ability to think at the paragraph level. The course aims to develop students' reading, writing, listening and comprehension skills by using authentic Arabic texts. Also, students will be exposed to the Shaami 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:**
  - 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 biographical details as well as prominent details in the listening text.
- II. **Speaking:**
  - a. Initiate and sustain short conversations in shaami 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 Shaami 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 and Requirements**

### **Language:**

- You are expected to speak only in Arabic from the time you enter the classroom including 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. Abstaining from speaking in English, will create an immersion environment that is crucial for your proficiency development. You can always email your instructor in English and speak to her in English after class and during office hours.

### **Academic Honesty:**

- Do your own work. It is against the policy of this course (and will result in a grade of zero on the assignment) to use an answer key, any online translation program, 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 before the following session.

### **Class conduct:**

- 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.

### 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.

## 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. It will be on Canvas by 8 p.m. on the day the class meets, so make sure to check Canvas to see how well you are doing.
- Most of the 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; 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 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.
- To receive a grade of 5 on participation, students must:
  - come on time, having fully prepared the material to be covered in class
  - Have their textbook, abstain from checking their phones and actively engage in all class activities
  - abstain from using English from the moment they enter the classroom even before class begins.
- 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 (30%)

- It is the Arabic program's philosophy that 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 1.5 hours of learning new material, reviewing and writing homework at home for every class session. Homework assignments must be turned in **at the beginning of class**. If you miss a certain class, feel free to email the homework to your instructor by the time the class meets. **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 or green booklet.. Make sure you write your name on the cover and the homework number for each homework (from the daily schedule). 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 incorrect 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. Students are encouraged to consult with their instructor for clarification about homework grades before the next class.
- Make sure you write your homework assignment in full sentences for fill-in-the blank exercises. You will not receive credit for the exercise when you submit just a list of words rather than full sentences.

### **Homework Corrections (5%)**

- 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. Throughout the semester, you will be asked to correct certain homework assignments. Your instructor will write on your green/blue booklets which assignments must be corrected. Your instructor or class grader will underline some of your mistakes and label them with correction symbols (correction code on Canvas). Feel free to work on homework corrections alone, with a classmate or during tutoring hours. Homework corrections must be submitted **to a tutor** who will go over the corrections with you to make sure all is correct and help you with anything you are still struggling with.
- Homework corrections are due a few days before a quiz and are meant to help you review for that quiz. Due dates will be announced at least a week in advance.
- When working on homework correction, do not write the correct words on a separate piece of paper; rather, correct the mistakes using a different colored ink

next to the underlined mistake. No partial credit will be given; corrections must be complete and correct to receive credit.

### **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.

### **Writing Assignments (5%)**

This semester you will have 2 typed writing assignments. The 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 the dictionary, or enlist the help of others. **Using words or constructs students are not expected to know at this stage will result in a grade of "0" on that assignment.** Please check Canvas to guidelines.

### **Skits (5%)**

For this class, you will prepare one skit with a partner using dialect. The skit will be performed in class on the first week of April and must be 6 to 8 minutes long. If the number of students in the class is odd, there may be one skit only with 3 people. This skit must be a minimum of 9 minutes long to reflect the additional person working on it. Check Canvas 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: 30%

Homework corrections: 5%

Quizzes: 25%

Writing assignments: 5%

Skits: 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— Spring 2020 Registration Guide**

<http://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 2020 Exam Schedule**

<http://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**

<https://policy.unt.edu/policy-manual>

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](http://www.spot.unt.edu) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

#### **Disability Accommodation**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodations 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](http://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](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0). Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT's Student Advocate and she can be reached through email at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto: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.