Intermediate Arabic
ARBC 2050
Spring 2021

Class time	M, W	9:30 - 10:50 pm	https://unt.zoom.us/j/82368102288
	Class meets from 10:00 to 10:50, and conversations will be uploaded by Friday		
Instructor	Caroline Najour		
E-mail	Caroline.Najour@unt.edu		
Phone number	469 438 9603		
Office	Zoom ID: 469 4389603		
Office Hours	By appointment		
	Please email the instructor at least 10 minutes prior to showing up.		

Legend

Class Sessions	Canvas > zoom > https://unt.zoom.us/j/82368102288
Homework	Canvas > Assignments. Homework is posted in "schedule" under modules. Homework is due one hour before every class. The audio and video material for our textbooks are available free-of-cost through this link.
Graded conversations	Instructor's zoom personal room; ID: 469 438 9603
Quizzes	Canvas > Quizzes
Final Exam	Canvas > Quizzes

Your success in this class is extremely important to me. If any aspects of this course prevent you from learning, please reach out as soon as possible. I will do my utmost best to work with you and to develop strategies that support your success.

Communication Expectations

The best way to reach me is via email. Please avoid using canvas to email me; rather, send an email directly to Caroline.Najour@unt.edu. I respond within 24 hours on weekdays, and on Monday, when email is sent after 5 pm on Friday.

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.

Required Textbooks and Materials

1. 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.

2. Additional / Supplementary Resources: Quizlet, and links and documents provided by the instructor.

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 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 Structure

The class will be meeting synchronously via zoom twice a week for 50 minutes. Additionally, students will meet via zoom with a language partner for 30 minutes every week. The conversation must be recorded and uploaded weekly on canvas by Friday at 8 pm; the prompt (s) of the conversations will be provided in the weekly schedule. Students will work with 3 different language partners throughout the semester. In preparation for class, students are expected to spend an average of 1.5 to 2 hours learning new material, watching videos, reviewing, and writing homework prior to each class session. Homework details and class activities are posted on the weekly schedule in modules on canvas, and homework must be submitted on Canvas one hour prior to class.

Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

ARBC 2040, or equivalent, are prerequisites for this class. Alternatively, students can take the placement test and test out of the first 9 credits of Arabic.

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.

Teaching Philosophy

I am a firm believer in the importance of fostering learner agency and in creating a learning environment that encourages student autonomy. For that purpose, I encourage and expect students to assume responsibility for their learning and to view the instructor not as the source of knowledge but as a coach helping them on their learning journey. Finally, another important factor in successful learning is learner-learner interaction. Therefore, I strive to create a collaborative learning environment where students work together to accomplish tasks, drawing on each others' strengths and resources.

Course Technology & Skills

Minimum Technology Requirements

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Speakers
- Microphone
- Plug-ins
- Canvas Technical Requirements (https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements)

Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

Below is a list of course-specific technical skills learners must have to succeed in the course:
- Using Canvas
- Using email with attachments
- Downloading and installing software

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UIT Help Desk: UIT Student Help Desk site (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm

Telephone Availability:

- Sunday: noon-midnight

- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight

- Friday: 8am-8pm

- Saturday: 9am-5pm

Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help
(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.

- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.

- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates. In Arab culture, the instructor is not addressed by first name only; make sure you use "Isteeze Caroline" both in email correspondences and when addressing the instructor

- Avoid using "text-talk" unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.

See these Engagement Guidelines (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

Course Requirements and Grade Distribution

Attendance, Participation and Preparation (20%)

I look forward to you being in class on time and well-prepared. Regular attendance is crucial to keeping up with the pace of the class and your overall success. Daily attendance and participation are graded on a scale of 1 to 5, and will be posted on Canvas after every class.

- Most of class time will be devoted to doing group work. To participate actively and engage others with the material, you need to prepare well before class. During the semester, you may be unable to prepare for class adequately on one or a couple of days. If for any reason, you

have been unable to prepare for class adequately, **make sure to inform your instructor via email or the chat function on zoom, and she can arrange for you to learn by listening that day** and will avoid asking you questions in class.

● In case of an absence, please inform me before, not after, the class you will be missing. The participation grade for that day will be a "0," but the lowest two grades for attendance and participation are automatically dropped on Canvas allowing you to miss two classes without impacting your grade.

● You are responsible for any class work, homework, and for any announcements made in your absence.

● Every week, students will upload recorded zoom conversations with a classmate by Friday at 8 pm; it will count as their third participation grade for the week.

To get a full participation score, you need to:

● Join the zoom classroom on time and have you camera on
  ○ Attendance and participation points will be deducted for tardiness as follows:
    ■ Arrival during the first 5 min of class = 1 pt.
    ■ Arrival during the first 15 min of class = 2 pts.
    ■ Arrival during the first 30 min of class = 3 pts.
    ■ Arrival during the first 40 min of class = 4 pts.
    ■ If you arrive more than 40 minutes late, you will receive a "0" for that day's participation.

  ○ Camera policy: I believe that the class feels more personal if we can see each other. If, however, you feel uncomfortable having your camera on, please inform the instructor before class. There is no need to explain the reasons behind your decision.

● Be fully prepared for class activities, and participate actively in class and group activities during zoom synchronous meetings. The homework due prior to class will help prepare you for class activities. Attendance and participation points will be deducted for participation as follows:

  ○ Not actively participating in every class activities= 1 pt.
  ○ Being unable to participate in an activity because of lack of preparation for class, such as not having watched the video being discussed in class= 2 pts.

Homework Assignments (20%)

● 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 ½ hours of homework in preparation for every class session. Homework assignments must be submitted on canvas one hour before 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 will be submitted on canvas under assignments.

● 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. It is important to note that this is not a simple completion grade; rather you are required to put effort and review the necessary material to do well on the homework.

- When filling in the blanks from stories from each chapter, please write out the entire story. To receive credit for that assignment, homework must be completed in this manner. Similarly, for fill-in-the-blank exercises, please write out the full sentences as much as possible making sure to underline the word you have selected.

- The lowest two homework grades will be dropped.

Graded conversations with instructor (10%)

We will have two 15 minutes graded conversations with the instructor. The first will take place toward the middle of the semester and the other towards the end.

Quizzes (15%)

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.

Graded conversations with language partner (25 %)

At the end of each chapter, and following the quiz, you will be asked to upload your 30 minute conversation with your language partner for a grade. The daily schedule will specify which weeks' conversation is graded for fluency and accuracy. You will be given personalized audio feedback regarding your language and the areas you need to focus on in upcoming conversations. You are encouraged to write down notes from the instructor's feedback, review them before every subsequent non-graded conversation in order to focus on aspects that need improvement. Making the same mistakes in the next graded conversation will result in major loss of points.

Writing Assignments (5%)

This semester, you will have two typed writing assignments. You will be given feedback on your first draft. Only your revised second draft will be graded. As 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 you are not expected to know at this stage will result in a grade of "0" on that assignment. Please check Canvas for guidelines.

Final exam (5%)

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: 20%

Graded conversations with instructor: 10%

Graded long conversations with language partner 25%

Quizzes: 15 %

Writing Assignments 5%

Final: 5 %

Grading Scale

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

Course Evaluation

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is the student evaluation system for UNT and allows students the ability to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the quality of student experiences in the course.

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 survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (http://spot.unt.edu/) or email spot@unt.edu.

Course Policies

Late Work

Late homework assignments will not be accepted unless you received an approval from the instructor prior to the assignment's due date; however, the lowest two homework grades will be dropped automatically on Canvas. This will allow you to miss two homework assignments without impacting your grade.

Attendance Policy

I look forward to you being in class on time and well-prepared. Regular attendance is crucial to keeping up with the pace of the class and your overall success. Daily attendance and participation are graded on a scale of 1 to 5, and will be posted on Canvas after every class.

- Most of class time will be devoted to doing group work. To participate actively and engage others with the material, you need to prepare well before class. During the semester, you may be unable to prepare for class adequately on one or a couple of days, please be sure to inform me beforehand. I will arrange for you to learn by listening that day and will avoid asking you questions in class.
- In case of an absence, please inform me before, not after, the class you will be missing. The participation grade for that day will be a "0," but the lowest two grades for attendance and participation are automatically dropped on canvas allowing you to miss two classes without impacting your grade.
- You are responsible for any class work, homework, and for any announcements made in your absence.

Assignment Policy

All assignments will be indicated on the bi-weekly schedule uploaded on canvas in modules.

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324 and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

UNT Policies

Academic Integrity Policy

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

ODA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of 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 accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website (https://disability.unt.edu/).

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

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. Visit UNT's Code of Student Conduct (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence 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 where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.

2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.

3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

Academic Support & Student Services

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 euIDs 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

- Registrar (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)

- [Financial Aid](#) (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)

- [Student Legal Services](#) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)

- [Career Center](#) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)

- [Multicultural Center](#) (https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center)

- [Counseling and Testing Services](#) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)

- [Pride Alliance](#) (https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)

- [UNT Food Pantry](#) (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

Academic Support Services

- [Academic Resource Center](#) (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)

- [Academic Success Center](#) (https://success.unt.edu/asc)

- [UNT Libraries](#) (https://library.unt.edu/)

- [Writing Lab](#) (http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)