



Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Arizona

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Section hours (in NES cubicles)	Day/Time	Instructor (email)	Office
1	MWF 9:00-10:20*	Ben Adams (wbadams)	MWF 10:30-11:30
2	MWF 10:30-11:50*	Scott Brown (sgb)	T 11-12:30 & W 1-2:30
3	MWF 1:00-2:20*	Sally Abed (sabed)	TBA
4	MWF 2:30-3:50*	Ahmed Muhamed (ahmedm)	M 11-12 & F 11-1
Course supervisor:		Adel Gamal (gamal)	MWF 10-11

*All sections meet in Marshall 479.

Course Description

Elementary Arabic I is the first semester of the year-long sequence in first-year Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), with some exposure to Arabic dialects. The student will develop a strong foundation in understanding MSA in both its written and spoken forms, and in producing the language in writing and speech. Active vocabulary learning, proper grammatical usage and developing the ability to use the language in diverse real-world situations will be emphasized both in class and in homework assignments.

Required Textbooks

1. Brustad, Kristen, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. *Alif Baa with DVDs: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*, 2nd edition. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2004.
2. Brustad, Kristen, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic, Part One*, 2nd edition. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2004.
3. Wehr, Hans. *A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*. Ed. J. Milton Cowan.

Course Requirements

- 1. **Communications.** Every student will be subscribed to class and section email distribution lists in order to facilitate the dissemination of course-related information. Be sure to check your U of A email daily.
- 2. **Class Attendance** is mandatory at all class meetings. Attendance will be taken daily at the beginning of class. According to the University policy (Curriculum Bulletin, Vol. 8, No. 13, p. 21): "Excessive absence from class is sufficient reason for the instructor to recommend to the Dean of Students that he or she be dropped from the course and awarded the grade of 'E'." Five (5) absences are considered to be excessive in this course and will result in a reduction in the final course grade of 1 pt. per class missed beyond 4 classes. Only absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students or those resulting from observance of religious holidays will be excused. Other absences will be evaluated at the instructor's discretion. Please notify the instructor via email if you expect to be absent from class.
- 3. **In-class Participation (15%).** All students are expected to actively contribute to their learning in class, whether by participation in small group exercises or by volunteering answers. Speaking Arabic as much as possible during class activities will positively affect the participation grade. In-class oral reading drills will also make up a portion of the participation grade.

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- **Homework (30%)** is due at the beginning of each class unless noted otherwise. Some homework drills can be completed in the textbook, and other drills must be turned in for correction by the instructor; a distinction that will be noted for each assignment. Not all assignments will come from the textbooks, however, so be sure to pay attention to the posted assignment schedules. Late homework will be accepted for half credit only if it is turned in within 1 class period of the original due date.

Essays. Each unit, beginning later in the semester, a brief essay will be required of each student. This essay will be graded in detail to assess writing skills, including correct grammar and proper usage of vocabulary.

Oral Conversations. Each student will meet with the instructor during office hours on a rotating basis for open-ended oral conversations to assess listening comprehension and speaking skills. Students can expect to have at least 2 such oral conversations during the semester. Missed appointments may not be made.

- **Quizzes (20%)** will be given often to test the successful acquisition of vocabulary and specific grammatical concepts. Unannounced pop quizzes may be given as well. Scheduled quizzes may be made up only in the case of a *bona fide* emergency; pop quizzes cannot be made up.
- **Exams (35%).** There will be three major exams during the course of the semester: a comprehensive exam following *Alif-Baa*, a second midway through *Al-Kitaab*, and the final exam. These exams may be made up only in the case of a *bona fide* emergency, if the instructor is notified within 24 hours.

Grading

Grades will be determined as follows:

Participation	15%	
Homework	30%	
Quizzes		20%
<i>Alif Baa</i> Exam	10%	
<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Midterm Exam		10%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>15%</u>	
Total		100%

Grades will be posted on D2L periodically throughout the semester.

Classroom Etiquette

University policy prohibits the consumption of food and all beverages except water while in the classroom. Cell phones must be turned off before class begins, and laptops may not be used in class. Threatening behavior in class is prohibited (<http://policy.web.arizona.edu/~policy/threaten.shtml>).

Academic Integrity

All students are expected to comply with the university's Student Code of Academic Integrity, available at: <http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies>. Within the context of a language-learning course, breaches of academic integrity include (but are not limited to) cheating on exams, submitting homework that is not your own work and using an answer key on the homework. This instructor has a zero-tolerance policy for violations of academic integrity.

Students with Disabilities

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with me. I would like to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-

Comment [1]:
Breeze system

Comment [2]:
2-4 conversations

Comment [3]:
At least 2/unit: vocab, grammar.
Peer grading.

Comment [4]:
Peer grading.

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related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Resources (621-3268 or <http://drc.arizona.edu>) and notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

Tentative Course Schedule

	MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
Week 1 (Aug 25-29)	Introduction to Arabic	<i>Alif-Baa</i> Unit 1	<i>Alif-Baa</i> Unit 2
Week 2 (Sep 1-5)	NO CLASS: Labor Day	<i>Alif-Baa</i> Unit 3	Quiz 1, <i>Alif-Baa</i> Unit 4
Week 3 (Sep 8-12)	<i>Alif-Baa</i> Unit 5	<i>Alif-Baa</i> Unit 6	<i>Alif-Baa</i> Unit 7
Week 4 (Sep 15-19)	Quiz 2, <i>Alif-Baa</i> Unit 8	<i>Alif-Baa</i> Unit 9	<i>Alif-Baa</i> Unit 10 SEP 19: LAST DAY TO DROP
Week 5 (Sep 22-26)	Test #1 on <i>Alif-Baa</i>	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 1	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 1
Week 6 (Sep 29-Oct 3)	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 1	Quiz 3, <i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 2	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 2
Week 7 (Oct 6-10)	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 2	Quiz 4, <i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 3	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 3
Week 8 (Oct 13-17)	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 3	Quiz 5, <i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 4	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 4 OCT 17: LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW
Week 9 (Oct 20-24)	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 4	Quiz 6, make-up day	Review day
Week 10 (Oct 27-31)	Test #2 on <i>Al-Kitaab</i> 1-4	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 5	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 5
Week 11 (Nov 3-7)	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 5	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 5	Quiz 7, <i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 6
Week 12 (Nov 10-14)	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 6	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 6	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 6
Week 13 (Nov 17-21)	Quiz 8, <i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 7	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 7	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 7
Week 14 (Nov 24-28)	Quiz 9, <i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 7	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 8	NO CLASS: Thanksgiving
Week 15 (Dec 1-5)	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 8	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 8	<i>Al-Kitaab</i> Unit 8
Week 16 (Dec 8-12)	Quiz 10, make-up day	Review day	
FINAL EXAMS:	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3
	Dec 19, 8-10am	Dec 12, 11-1	Dec 19, 11-1
			Dec 12 2-4pm

The information contained in this course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice as deemed appropriate by the instructor.