

مادة اللغة العربية للمستوى المتقدّم الأوّل  
ARBC301A  
جامعة ميدلبيري  
فصل الخريف الدراسي لعام 2009

المحاضرة الأولى  
7 سبتمبر 2009

## Logistics

- Class meetings: MWF 10:10-11:00am.
- Room: Library 140.

## Instructor

- Instructor: Usama Soltan
- Office Hours: Mondays and Fridays from 11:15am to 12:45pm, or by appointment.
- Instructor's office: Farrell House, Room 206
- Office phone extension: x5869

## Textbooks and course materials

- *Al-Kitaab: A textbook for Arabic: Part II and Part III*, by Brustad, Al-Batal & Al-Tonsi. Includes DVDs. We will cover the last three units Part II and the first two in Part III.
- Arabic-English dictionary by Hans Wehr.
- Supplementary materials prepared by the instructor.
- Course website, accessible via Segue.

## Objectives of the course

- In this course we continue to learn Arabic at the higher-intermediate and advanced levels.
- The class has the same objectives as in Arabic 202, and will follow the same methods for learning Arabic as a second language. Here's a reminder of the objectives:

## Objectives of the course

1. Read a range of styles in Arabic, from formal to informal and from journalist to expository.
2. With economic and intelligent use of a dictionary, understand texts of general interest.
3. Use context and grammar to identify the form and guess the meaning of unfamiliar words.
4. Initiate and sustain discussion on topics of general interest.

## Objectives of the course

4. Understand simple conversations in Egyptian Arabic.
5. Understand the main points of lectures and media programs on familiar topics.
6. Be able to write essays and opinion pieces on topics you have studied.
7. Read, write, and speak with increasing grammatical accuracy.
8. Identify a range of important figures and ideas in Arabic literary and cultural history.

## Course Requirements

Course requirement	Percentage
Attendance & Participation	10%
Language Table	5%
2 Movie reports + 3 Arabic House events	5%
Homework assignments	20%
Three take-home exams	10%
Oral Presentations	5%
Written Essay + Oral Presentation	15%
Midterm and Final Exams	30%

## Attendance and Participation (10%)

- You are expected to attend classes regularly. Please do your best NOT to come to class late.
- A class absence is only excused if it is accompanied by a note from your Commons' Dean or a physician.
- Excused or unexcused, if you know you'll be missing a class, please do notify me before or after the class.

## Attendance and Participation (10%)

- This is a student-centered class, so participation is a key component of classroom activities.
- You are expected to come prepared for class activities (this means checking the syllabus page online, studying the indicated vocabulary and grammar, doing the assigned readings in the textbook, and actually participating in pair or group work). That said; please do not skip class if you are not fully prepared.
- You will also be asked to go to relevant events that take place on campus. Announcements for these will be made in due time both by e-mail and in class.

## Language Tables (5%)

- Attending language tables is another course requirement. Each student is required to go to the language table once a week. Missing one table means missing 0.5%. Students will sign up for these tables during the first week of classes, and start attending them in the second week. You will be notified by Jessamy, our TA, with your language table schedule.

## Movie screenings and Arabic House events (5%)

- There will be four movie screenings this semester. You are required to go to *TWO* of them, and write a 150-word report on each movie.
- Dates for the screenings are to be announced by Jessamy, and on the class website.

### **Movie screenings and Arabic House events (5%)**

- You are also required to go to at least *THREE* Arabic House events. Jessamy will be sending announcements about these through the semester. So, do read e-mails from her.

### **Homework Assignments (20%)**

- Homework assignments are an integral part of this class and are crucial to help you fully understand the material and improve your proficiency in the different language skills as well as in learning new vocabulary and grammar.
- Assignments include drills assigned from the textbook as well as any other work that I assign, e.g., in-class role-play activities.

### **Homework Assignments**

- There will be written assignments assigned at the end of each session and due at the beginning of the next class (unless otherwise indicated). You are expected to turn in these assignments on time.
- A late assignment will be subject to a 10% delay penalty if turned in on the next day it is due.
- Assignments turned in later than that are subject to a 20% delay penalty as long as I have not discussed the solutions in class.
- Needless to say, you cannot turn in any assignment if I already discussed the solutions in class.

### **Homework Assignments**

- You are encouraged to study and work on homework assignments together, with the stipulation that everyone must submit her/his own individual work.
- Please hand in your homework on a separate sheet of paper. Make sure to skip lines and leave some blank margins for me to write comments on your answers. Also, please turn in "neat" work. Sloppy work is easily detected and annoys your grader.
- For each assignment please include the number of the assignment as well as the number of the exercise (if it is from the textbook).

### **Take-home exams (10%)**

- There will be *THREE* take-home exams. These exams are meant to test the four language skills, as well as your understanding of the materials that we cover in class, including vocabulary and grammar.

### **Oral presentations (5%)**

- Each student is required to do a number of oral presentations during the semester. Presentations will be assigned as the semester unfolds.

### **Written essay + Oral Presentation (15%)**

- Each student is required to submit a typed essay on a topic that relates to the Arab and/or Islamic world, or the Middle East. The essay should be no less than 1000 words.
- You should notify me with your topic by October 16<sup>th</sup> so I can approve it. You should also submit a first draft of the essay on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The final version of the essay is due on the final day of classes, Dec 4<sup>th</sup>.
- You will also need to do an oral presentation of the topic of your essay in the final week of classes.
- I will send reminders as these deadlines approach.

### **Exams (30%)**

- Exams:  
There will be two three-hour in-class exams: a mid-term exam, on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, and a final exam, on Dec 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Each exam is worth 15% of your overall grade. The format of each exam will be announced in class in due time.

### **Honor Code**

- Remember that the honor code is in effect in this class. Submitting work that is not your own, or that you did not participate in doing, is a violation of that code. If you have any questions about the code, please ask me, or check the following link on the college's website:  
<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/acadinfo/honorcodelstatement.htm>

### **Grading**

- I will follow the following system in assigning your letter grades:  
95%+ is A  
from 90%+ to 95% is A-  
from 87%+ to 90% is B+  
from 83%+ to 87% is B  
from 80%+ to 83% is B-  
from 75%+ to 80% is C+  
from 70%+ to 75% is C  
from 65%+ to 70% is C-  
from 50%+ to 65% is D  
50% and under is F.