

## Arabic 203

### Beginners' Arabic as a Foreign Language I

#### **Course Learning Outcome:**

This course introduces students to the Arabic Alphabet. It enables students to write and conduct very basic conversation about themselves, their family and their environment. Short selections of authentic Arabic material addressed to Arabs, such as announcements, advertisements etc..., will be introduced. Being largely proficiency based, this course will address various language-related skills such as reading, writing, speaking and listening. The students' active use and production of the language, both in class and in homework, are therefore encouraged to enhance comprehension and communicative writing and speaking skills. Vocabulary will be introduced thematically to impart a basic mastery of Arabic for a variety of social settings. Selections of readings materials will enable the students to distinguish the rudiments of Arabic grammar and syntax. In addition to reading materials, audio and audio visual materials are essential components of this class. All these components will be incorporated for assignments and preparations for upcoming class sessions. Short oral presentations and group discussion are regular activities in this class.

#### **Resources:**

*Alif Baa*, by Brustad, Al-Batal and Al-Tonsi.

*Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-ʿArabiyya*; A Textbook for Beginning Arabic, Part I, by Brustad, Al Batal and Al-Tonsi, Georgetown University Press, 1995;

Copies of both books are available in Jafet Library, the audio-visual room. Students who do not wish to purchase the books may zerox required chapters from the library copy. Listening material which accompanies both *Alif Baa* and *al-Kitaab I* will also be required for homework. This material is available on audio and audio visual cassettes in Jafet Library, the audio-visual room. The same above mentioned material is also available on the web. Go to the CAMES site, click on the language resources which will guide you through the listening material of all chapters of *al-Kitaab* series.

#### **Grading:**

Grades will be computed on the following basis:

1. **Homework and class participation 20%:** Students should expect written homework assignments for each session. Students will get credit for all homework that is completed satisfactorily and turned in on time. Language instruction in class will take the format of extensive oral drills. Students should have the readiness to participate in these drills. It is therefore **mandatory** for students to prepare the relevant language material **before** they come to class. Any laxity in preparing for class will seriously jeopardize the final grade.
2. **Attendance 5%:** "Students are expected to attend all classes.. Absence of a student, whether excused or not, from any class...does not excuse the student from his/her responsibility for the work done or for any announcements made during his/her absence". Any student who misses more than one fifth of the class will receive a W for the course. Even though university policy may permit one fifth absence from class time, students are strongly discouraged from missing out on any classes.
3. **Quizzes 45%:** All quizzes will be announced in advance. Students should expect 3 to 4 quizzes during the semester.
4. **Final exam 30%**

## **Schedule**

### **Week one:**

General description of the course  
Introduction to the history of the Arabic Language  
"Alif Ba" Chapter :1

### **Week two:**

"Alif Ba" Chapters: 2-4  
Feminine and masculine

### **Week three:**

"Alif Ba" Chapters: 5-7  
singular and plural

### **Week four:**

"Alif Ba" Chapters: 8-10  
sun and moon letters, the definite article:

### **Week five:**

Quiz in alphabet  
"al-Kitaab" Chapter 1:  
vocabulary and basic reading text, pp. 1-4  
exercises 1-3  
map of Arab countries

### **Week six:**

Quiz in spelling, reading  
Masculine and feminine,  
The definite article, ال التعريف

### **Week seven:**

النسبة  
السؤال

### **Week eight:**

Review exercises  
Reading passages pp. 16-19  
Writing exercises p. 20

### **Week Nine:**

Chapter 2, basic vocabulary and text  
pronouns, الضمائر  
singular-plural, المفرد والجمع

### **Week ten:**

review singular and plural, المفرد والجمع

the nominal sentence, الجملة الإسمية  
reading passages p. 49, 51  
composition exercise p. 54

**Week thirteen:**

Chapter 4, vocabulary and basic text  
Conjugation of the present verb, الفعل المضارع

**Week fourteen:**

The verbal sentence, الجملة الفعلية  
Interrogative particles  
Reading passages p. 56, 69

**Week fifteen:**

General revision for the final