

Arabic 1030 – Arabic for Beginners
Course Outline – Fall/Winter, 2009/2010



Introduction

Apart from being the native language of over 200 million speakers dispersed across Northern Africa and throughout the Middle East, Arabic is also widely used by a billion Muslims throughout the world. It belongs to the Semitic family of languages which also includes Amharic, Hebrew and Aramaic. Many linguists make a distinction between Classical Arabic, the name of the literary language of the old era, and contemporary Arabic commonly known as Modern Standard Arabic or MSA.

MSA is the form of Arabic universally taught in schools of the Arab world; it is the language of all contemporary Arabic written publications as well as the language of the Arabic broadcast media. In addition, Modern Standard Arabic is the lingua franca used and respected by educated Arabic learners throughout the entire world and it is one of the official six languages of the United Nations.

Modern Standard Arabic is ideally suited for students of the Social Sciences, students of the Humanities, and students of Applied Sciences and Business who may consider work or research in an Arabic speaking country.

Course Objective

Arabic 1030 aims to achieve the following:

- develop students' proficiency and communication skills in Modern Standard Arabic
- offer basic grammar that enables students to understand sentence structures and verb pattern of Arabic
- bring students to a good mastery of the Arabic sounds and writing system
- make available a significant set of essential vocabulary needed for basic conversation and reading
- foster the ability to comprehend Arabic in a variety of social context and situation
- expand insights into the culture and history of the Arabic-speaking countries
- provide a strong foundation for progression to Intermediate Arabic 2250

Learning Outcomes

It is expected that, upon completion of this course, the students will have the ability to accomplish the following:

1. Read and write the Arabic alphabet, individual words and numbers, and short sentences;
2. Formulate and respond to simple questions, tell time, know days of week and months, as well as names of the seasons etc;
3. Engage in basic conversations involving greetings and introducing one's self and family;
4. Express basic ideas and emotions in simple sentences and dialogues, e.g., interacting with people, inquiring about their health, asking them about their interests etc.
5. Know general expressions and short phrases that provide important information like gender, age, grade, and nationality;
6. Comprehend simple audio/video texts on familiar topics
7. Be acquainted with the customs and traditions of Arabic speaking countries;
8. Appreciate the differences between the culture of the Arab World and that of North America.

Instructor:

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Class Schedule (Section 002):

- Tuesday: 03:30 - 05:30 pm – HSB 240
- Thursday: 03:30 - 05:30 pm – HSB 240

Prerequisites: This course is intended for students with little or no previous knowledge of Arabic. Placement test is given to students beside an oral interview to determine their eligibility for this class.

Antirequisites: Former Arabic 030, Arabic 02, grade 12U

Textbook Requirements: Alosch, M., *Ahlan wa Sahlan, Functional Modern Standard Arabic for Beginners, Second Edition 2009*. Yale University Press.
Alosch, M. and Allen Clark. *Ahlan wa Sahlan Workbook*. Yale University Press, 2009.
The textbook and the workbook are accompanied by DVD and mp3 CD, the student workbook,
Supplementary materials and exercises provided by the instructor.

Notes: Students must bring the textbook and the workbook to every class, and carry, binder, and pen or pencil with them. Please remember that all the exercises available in the workbook and textbook are required homework. Their content will be reflected on the quizzes and tests.
Students need to make sure their UWO e-mail account is operational. We use e-mail all the time!

Student Evaluation:

The following is the distribution of marks:

Tests	30%
Assignments	10%
Dictation	10%
Participation & attendance	10%
Pop Quizzes	05%
Final exam	35%

Attendance and Participation:

Attendance is mandatory. There will be sign-up sheets for each class to record attendance. Students are expected to participate in classroom discussions; students' participation is taken into consideration. The major aim of student's participation is to answer questions posed by the instructor and to express your views on the points explained in class. Student is responsible for any material she or he missed, and handing in assignment on time. Please turn off cellular phones, ipod, and other electronic gadgets before coming to class.

Tests, Assignments, and Dictation:

There will be five tests, five dictations, five pop quizzes, and five assignments during the course. Students must read the course outline to know the date of every one. There will be NO second chance if you miss any one of them. However, if there is a compelling reason why you are unable to finish the assignment, write the dictation, or take the test, please speak to the instructor in advance.

Important notes:

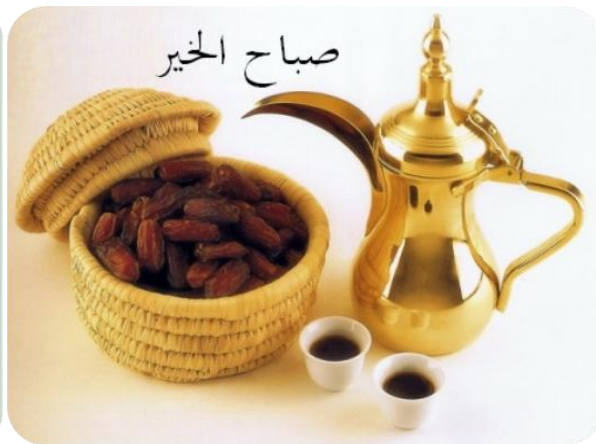
In order to become proficient in Arabic and to obtain maximum benefit from class time and score a good mark in this course, students should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absence or tardiness. Being excessively absent or tardy from the class will negatively affect your progress and grades

Pop quizzes are given to all students without prior announcement. They aim at keeping up with the recently covered linguistic skills related to grammar and vocabulary. They also reward students having high attendance and punish those who don't. Please note that pop quizzes can be administered at the beginning or at the end of the class.

It is so important to read the assigned lesson ahead of class time in order to familiarize yourself with the specific content of the lesson and thus be able to follow class discussions and rehearse your acquired vocabulary.

Student Responsibilities:

Attending and participating in class activities. Most of the language skills to be developed cannot be acquired without effective participation and interaction with other students and with the instructor. Doing homework assignments. This out-of-class practice is essential for reinforcement of classroom learning of Arabic script. Language learning is incremental, so it is very important to keep up with the daily homework drills and to spend at least one to two hours a day, outside of class.



Lecture Topics *(tentative)*

Month	day	TOPIC	NOTES
September	10	Introduction to the Course	
	15	Unit One in the Workbook	
	17	Unit One (Cont.)	
	22	Unit Two in the Workbook	
	24	Unit Two (Cont.)	
	29	Unit Three in the Workbook	
October	01	Unit Three (Cont.)	
	06	Unit Four in the Workbook	
	08	THANKSGIVING	
	13	Unit Four (Cont.)	
	15	Unit Five in the Workbook	
	20	Unit Five (Cont.)	Dictation #1
	22	Unit Six in the Workbook	Assignment #1 due
	27	Unit Six (Cont.)	TEST #1
November	29	Lesson One	
	03	Lesson One (Cont.)	
	05	Lesson Two	
	10	Lesson Two (Cont.)	
	12	Lesson Three	
17	Lesson Three (Cont.)		

November	19	Lesson Four	Dictation #2
	24	Lesson Four (Cont.)	Assignment #2 due
	26	Lesson Five	TEST #2
December	01	Lesson Five (Cont.)	
	03	Lesson Six	
	08	Lesson Six (Cont.)	
January	05	Lesson Seven	
	07	Lesson Seven (Cont.)	
	12	Lesson Eight	
	14	Lesson Eight (Cont.)	
	19	Lesson Nine	
	21	Lesson Nine (Cont.)	Dictation #3
	26	Lesson Ten	Assignment #3 due
	28	Lesson Ten (Cont.)	TEST #3
February	02	Lesson Eleven	
	04	Lesson Eleven (Cont.)	
	09	Lesson Twelve	
	11	Lesson Twelve (Cont.)	
	16	CONFERENCE WEEK	
	18		
	23	Lesson Thirteen	
	25	Lesson Thirteen (Cont.)	Dictation #4

March	02	Lesson Fourteen	Assignment #4 due
	04	Lesson Fourteen (Cont.)	TEST #4
	09	Lesson Fifteen	
	11	Lesson Fifteen (Cont.)	
	16	Lesson Sixteen	
	18	Lesson Sixteen (Cont.)	TEST #5
	23	Lesson Seventeen	Dictation #5
	25	Lesson Seventeen (Cont.)	Assignment #5 due
	30	Lesson Eighteen	
April	01	Lesson Eighteen (Cont.)	
	06	Review for the final	
	08	Review for the final	

Policies and Procedures:

Please Note: You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites (or have special permission from your Dean to waive the prerequisite) and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. If you are not eligible for the course, you may be removed from it at any time, and it will be deleted from your record. In addition, you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offense Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). Plagiarism is the inclusion of someone else's **verbatim** or **paraphrased** text in one's own written work without immediate reference. Verbatim text must be surrounded by quotation marks or indented if it is longer than four lines. A reference must follow right after borrowed material (usually the author's name and page number). Without immediate reference to borrowed material, a list of sources at the end of a written assignment does not protect a writer against the possible charge of plagiarism. The University of Western Ontario uses a plagiarism-checking site called Turnitin.com.

Absenteeism: Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

UWO's Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness (<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>)
Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading