

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

**2016 ARABIC 212 B1 (Winter Term):
Intermediate Arabic II**

Instructor: Iman Mersal

Time: Mondays, 1:00PM -1:50PM

Tues & Thurs, 12:30-1:50 PM

Office: Arts 242C

Fax: 492-9106

Place: CAB 369

Office Hours: Mondays 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
or by appointment

E-mail: imersal@ualberta.ca

Course Prerequisites: *Arabic 211 (or department consent)*

Students who have not taken Arabic 112 should make sure they possess a firm understanding and practical mastery of lessons 1-13 in *Al-Kitaab fii Ta`alum al`Arabiyya: A Textbook for Arabic, Part One* (as well as all material in the introductory book *Alif Baa*, available for perusal in the SUB bookstore).

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed, no such projects approved

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material available

X Exam registry – Students' Union

<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>

- See explanations below
 Document distributed in class
 Other (*please specify*)
 NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

This course aims to develop your skills in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), the language read and understood by educated Arabs from Iraq to Morocco, through systematic instruction and drills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and translating. There will be four hours of instruction per week.

During this term, we will cover lessons 6 - 10 from *Al-Kitaab fii Ta`allum al`Arabiyya: A Textbook for Intermediate Arabic, Part Two*. In each lesson you will be introduced to new

grammatical and structural concepts, as well as vocabulary lists, in order to be able to read and understand content. After reading this content, you will read, understand, summarize and discuss the ideas in each studied lesson. You will be asked to select a theme related to each lesson and write a short article about it. Selected readings in modern Arabic literature and cultural topics will be provided for reading, discussion, and translation. The course will include three lectures on Arabic cinema, modern narrative, and translation, based on watching an Arab film online, reading a 15 page story, “Al- Khoutoba”, by Baha Taher, and translating 750 words from English to Arabic from a selected article. These materials will be available on eClass.

By the end of this course, you are expected to be able to discuss different experiences, including travel, migration, and dreams for future, as well as to be able to present simple topics concerning Arab culture, such as Islam, women’s social positions, poverty, and wars. Based on lectures, discussions, and the writing assignments that follow them, you will be able to articulate your ideas clearly in writing, using a variety of structures and expressions.

Textbooks:

1. Kristen Brustad, et al. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta`alum al`Arabiyya: A Textbook for Arabic, Part Two*. (Third edition) Georgetown University Press, 2013.

2. Hans Wehr. *A Dictionary for Modern Written Arabic*. Spoken Languages Services, various editions (Arabic-English dictionary).

Selected literary readings available in eClass:

- Various articles and poems.
- “Al – Khoutouba”, by Baha Taher (15 pages)

Course Schedule(*):

	Mon	Tues	Thurs	Topic
Week 1	Jan 04	Jan 05	Jan 07	Introduction & Review
Week 2	Jan 11	Jan 12	Jan 14	Lesson 7
Week 3	Jan 18	Jan 19	Jan 21	Lesson 7 & 8
Week 4	Jan 25	Jan 26	Jan 28	Lesson 8
Week 5	Feb 01	Feb 02	Feb 04	Arab film on Feb 2nd and Lesson 9
Week 6	Feb 08	Feb 09	Feb 11	Lesson 9
Week 7	Feb 15	Feb 16	Feb 18	Reading Week
Week 8	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 25	Review for midterm on Feb 22nd and Midterm on Feb 25 (20%)
Week 9	Feb 29	Mar 01	Mar 03	Translation on March 1 st & Lesson 10
Week 10	Mar 07	Mar 08	Mar 10	Lesson 10
Week 11	Mar 14 (no class)	Mar 15	Mar 17	Introduction to Modern Arabic Literature & Baha Taher (“Al-Khoutouba”)
Week 12	Mar 21	Mar 22	Mar 24	Cultural activities
Week 13	Mar 28 (no class)	Mar 29	Mar 31	Student presentations (5%)
Week 14	Apr 04	Apr 05	Apr 07	Review for the final exam.

(*) **Instructor may readjust details of this schedule as needed according to class level and pace**

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Activity	%
Homework assignments (due every Thursday)	10%
Attendance, participation, and oral activities	15%
Midterm (February 25)	20%
Two writing assignments and one translation.	15%
Class presentation (March 29, 31 & April 05)	5%
Final Exam (April 15 at 2pm)	35%
Total	100%

Final Exam Information:

April 15, 2016 @2:00 pm.

Deferred Final Exam: April 23d @12:00.

Explanatory Notes on Assignments/homework and grade distribution:

Explanatory Notes on Textbook Assignments:

- Homework is given each class and is due every Thursday.
- Homework is marked regarding the completion and self-correction of assigned drills.
- It is the student’s responsibility to recover missed assignments in case of absence.

An absence is not an excuse for not being tested on what you have missed.

Excused absence does not mean an automatic "excused h.w. extension": if the absence is on a Thursday (day of h.w. submission) the student should find a way to submit the h.w. by e-mail, or leaving it under the instructor’s door.

Participation in class includes taking part in class/group activities and discussions, answering the instructor’s questions, **preparing** for the assigned class material prior to the lesson (listening to DVD, reading vocabulary, etc), and exhibiting a positive attitude in class with respect to material, time, peers, instructor, etc.

Writing assignments:

- Arab film review, (600 words), due February 11. (5%)
- Translation, (750 words), due March 10. (5%)
- Modern Arabic Literature, (800 words), due March 24. (5%)

Class presentation: 12 - 15 minute oral presentation in Arabic Fusha on a topic of students’ choice, March 29 &31. (5%)

- Grading of the presentation is based on the student’s self expression with MSA, use of formal structures, avoiding slang/colloquial language.

Policy for Late Assignments:

- Students who consult **in advance** with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension **just two times** throughout the course with no penalty.
- Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline. Any assignment not handed-in in time, **unexcused** late assignments will not be given any marks. No third excuse will be granted.

- Late excuses will **not** be accepted for any reason.

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University calendar.”

Academic Integrity:

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment safe and free of discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels this policy has been or is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that the discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the student ombudservice (<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/>).

Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at <https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110>.

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Office of Judicial Affairs](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” **Students in languages courses** should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

In this course, “attendance and participation” means attending each class, from the beginning to the end, paying attention to the instructor, and participating fully in all class activities.

In this course: Students are expected to attend class regularly, hand in assignments on time, participate actively in written and oral drills in the classroom and do homework conscientiously.

Regular attendance is mandatory; unexcused absences and lateness will negatively impact your grade.

If absence is due to severe illness or any other considerable reason, student should inform the instructor **before** the beginning of class (even by e-mail).

Unexcused Tardiness or early leaving the class is counted as attending only half of the class. No excuse will be accepted if the instructor is not informed before class, unless in case of emergency. The instructor may accept reasonable excuses (travel, illness, other exam conflicts, etc.) for absence with no penalty **twice** throughout the course, otherwise frequent excused absences (with no emergency reasons) will impact your grade.

In case of unexcused and unjustified absence from test and/or exam, the instructor may not accept to reschedule this particular exam.

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB www.sds.ualberta.ca).

Grading:

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below (“**MLCS Grading Scale**”). The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Letter	%	Pts	Descriptor
A+	95-100%	4	Excellent: Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of the subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94%	4	Excellent: Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	86-89%	3.7	Excellent : Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	Good
B	75-81%	3	Good: average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	70-74%	2.7	Good
C+	66-69%	2.3	Satisfactory: Basic understanding of the subject matter
C	61-65%	2	Satisfactory
C-	58-60%	1.7	Satisfactory
D+	55-57%	1.3	Poor : Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
D	50-54%	1	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49%	0	Failure: Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.