

صف اللغة العربية الابتدائي
ARBC 103
جامعة ميدلبري
فصل الربيع الدراسي لسنة ٢٠١٩

المحاضرة الأولى
١١ فبراير ٢٠١٩

Logistics

- Class meetings:
MWF 10:10-11:00am, in Munroe 222.
TR: 9:30-10:45am, in Munroe 222.

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Instructor

- **Instructor:** Usama Soltan
- **Office:** Voter lower level, Room 016.
- **Office phone extension:** x5869.
- **E-mail address:** usoltan@middlebury.edu
- **Office Hours:**
 - Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3:30pm.
 - Thursdays from 11:00am to 12:00noon.
 - And by appointment.

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Textbooks and course materials

- *Al-Kitaab: A textbook for Beginning Arabic: Part I (third edition)*, by Brustad, Al-Batal, and Al-Tonsi. Includes DVDs and a Companion Website Access Key. We will cover the remaining five units in this book (Units 9-13).
- *Al-Kitaab: A Textbook for Intermediate Arabic: Part II (third edition)*, by Brustad, Al-Batal, and Al-Tonsi. Includes DVD and a Companion Website Access Key. We will cover Units 1-2.
- The textbook's online companion website (instructions are on [the handout](#) given in class: Use code **FHMC668**): <https://www.alkitaabtextbook.com/books/>
- Supplementary materials prepared by the instructor.

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Note for Arabic School students

- If you plan to study Arabic at the Middlebury summer program at Mills, you do not need to buy Part II of the Al-Kitaab, since the Arabic School uses a different edition. Talk to me in person about alternatives for access to the first two units of Part II.

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Class website on WordPress

- The class has a website:
<http://sites.middlebury.edu/arabic103spring19/>
- The website has all the information relevant to the class, including the syllabus document.
- The most important link on the website is that for the **class schedule** for each unit.
- I will occasionally make minor changes to the daily schedule, so do visit the website daily for the most updated information on homework.

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Objectives of the course

- This is a continuation of ARBC 0102, so it has the same objectives and will follow the same methods of learning Arabic as a foreign language.
- Here's a general summary of these objectives:

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Objectives of the course

1. Initiate and sustain conversations in Arabic on a wide variety of topics related to daily life and general interest.
2. Read authentic Arabic texts on a variety of topics and understand the main ideas as well as some details in each text.
3. Use context and your knowledge of the Arabic grammatical system (particularly الجذر والوزن) to know the meanings of new vocabulary.
4. Use a dictionary economically, but effectively.

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Objectives of the course

4. Carry out written transactions at the paragraph-level and the essay-level.
5. Form and understand almost all basic sentence structures of Arabic.
6. Continue to familiarize yourself with some of the differences between formal and spoken Arabic.

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Objectives of the course

7. Give oral presentations in Arabic about a variety of topics.
8. Learn about more aspects of Arab culture, such as customs and traditions, family life, education systems, and many dealings that take place in contemporary Arab culture.

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Course Requirements

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Course requirement	Percentage
Attendance & Participation	15%
Cultural component: Arabic House activities, movie screenings, and Arabic Department lectures/events	10%
Language tables	3%
Homework assignments	17%
6 periodic exams	30%
Final group skit	4%
150-word written essay	4%
Final Exam	17%

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Attendance and Participation (15%)

- You are expected to attend EVERY class. Also, you are expected to be in class on time. Arriving late to class disrupts class activities and inconveniences your instructor and classmates.
- While one or two unexcused absences may not affect your grade greatly, more than two unexcused absences definitely will.
- Excused or unexcused, if you know you'll be missing a class, please do notify me before or right after the class.

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Attendance and Participation (15%)

- English is not allowed in class, and is typically permitted only when we talk about grammar or administrative announcements.
- Speaking in English during pair or group work will considerably lower your attendance and participation percentage.

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Attendance and Participation (15%)

- 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 out the class schedule online, studying the indicated vocabulary and grammar sections, doing the assigned readings in the textbook, and actively participating in pair or group work). That said; please do not skip class if you are not fully prepared.

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Cultural component (10%)

- You are required to attend and participate in the following Arabic-related co-curricular activities:
 - Three Arabic House activities.
 - Two Arabic movie screenings.
 - Three Arabic Department's guest lectures/events.

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Three Arabic House activities (3%)

- Announcements for these Arabic House activities will be made by Youssef El Berrichi via e-mail.

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Two movie screenings (4%)

- Writing options: Write either a 250-word report in English or a 100-word report in Arabic on each movie.
- The first report is due no later than the **fifth** week of classes, the second report no later than the **tenth** week of classes. Please hand in the reports to me in class.
- Announcements for the movie screenings will be sent by Youssef El Berrichi via e-mail throughout the semester.

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Three Guest lectures and events of the Arabic Department (3%)

- Attend **THREE** guest lectures/events organized or co-sponsored by the Arabic Department.
- **Note:** You do not need to submit written reports on these events.
- Our first lecture is on **Wed Feb 20 @ 7-8:15pm** in Robert A. Jones conference room (RAJ). Details will be announced via email and posted on the class schedule.

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Language Table attendance (3%)

- Each student is required to go to the language table at least **SIX** times over the semester.
- As in the J-term, use the Language Table App to reserve a seat.

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Homework assignments (17%)

- 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 and in learning new vocabulary and grammar.
- Assignments include exercises from the textbook and the companion website, as well as other types of assigned activities as well.

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Homework assignments (17%)

- There will be daily homework assignments.
- Readings and class preparation must be done **before** coming to class.
- Online exercises must be done on the textbook's companion website.
- Written homework is due in class on the date indicated on the class schedule.
- You are expected to turn in the assignments on time. Late assignments will **NOT** be accepted, unless the delay is due to an academically legitimate reason.

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Homework Assignments (17%)

- You are allowed to study and discuss questions (but not the answers) on homework assignments together, with the stipulation that everyone must submit their own individual answers.
- Please hand in your homework on a separate sheet of paper. Make sure to **skip lines** and leave some wide margins for me to write comments/corrections on your answers.

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Homework Assignments (17%)

- Also, please turn in 'neat' work 😊. Sloppy work is easily detected and annoys your grader 😞.
- For each assignment, make sure to write your name and include the number of the exercise (if it is from the textbook). If you are turning in multiple pages, please make sure they are **stapled** together.

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Homework Assignments (17%)

- Please notice that for fill-in-the-blank exercises, you cannot simply provide 'single words' as answers. You have to write **full sentences** and underline the answers.
- You also cannot photocopy an exercise and write the answers in the blanks.
- I expect you to need about 1.5 hours on average per homework assignment.

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Periodic exams (30%)

- There will be **SIX** periodic exams. These are meant to test your understanding of the materials that we cover in each unit, including vocabulary and grammar, as well as your proficiency in reading, writing, and listening skills.
- We will typically have a test at the conclusion of each unit. Dates for tests will be provided on the class schedule.
- The format of each test will be announced in class the day before it is taken.

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Final group skit (4%)

- Each student will take part in a final in-class group skit during the last week of classes (**week of May 6th**) on a topic of your choice to be approved by the instructor.
- Skits are expected to be done in groups of 3 students.
- You do need to get my approval for the topic of your skit. Skit topics are due on **April 15th**. Please write the topic on the homework due that day.

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Written Essay (4%)

- Each student is required to submit a **150-word written essay in Arabic** on a topic of your choice to be approved by the instructor.
- **Topics for the written essay are due on April 10th**. Please write the topic on the homework due that day.
- The first draft of the essay is due on **April 26th**. The final draft is due on **May 13th**, after I return it back to you for revisions and corrections.

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Final exam (17%)

- There will be a final exam (worth 17% of your overall grade).
- The final exam, which is comprehensive, is tentatively scheduled for **Thursday May 16th**. Time and location TBA.
- The format of the exam will be announced in class in due time.

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Sources of Arabic help on campus

- There are multiple sources available on campus for help with your Arabic study.
- First, there are my office hours. These are always available for you to ask me questions.
- Second, Youssef El Berrichi will have weekly office hours.
- Third, we have Arabic tutors at CTRL. You should take advantage of this great opportunity to work with them on your Arabic language skills.

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Class rules

- Cell phones have to be turned off before you come in to the class.
- You cannot use your laptop/iPad/etc., during the class.
- Eating is generally not allowed during class time. Beverages are fine, though.
- Coming to class late is disruptive, so please do show up to class on time.

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Class rules

- Pair work and group work is **NOT** optional. You have to engage in it. This is the key to using language in conversation and to the practice of new vocabulary and grammatical structures.
- **Lack of active participation in class activities will lower your participation percentage significantly.**

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E-mail etiquette

- Not trying to be a stickler to formality here, but it does make sense, when corresponding with me, that you follow standard e-mail etiquette. Remember: You're e-mailing (not texting) me.
- Your message should have a meaningful phrase in the subject line. You have to start with an appropriate salutation (e.g., *Ahlan Prof. Soltan*). Your message should be well written and clear. You should end it with one of the usual closing expressions (e.g., *Shukran or Tahiyati*, etc.), and your name.

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E-mail correspondence

- I do check my e-mail regularly on weekdays, and I respond to e-mails as soon as I can.
- While you can e-mail me at any time on any day, please understand that e-mails received over the weekend may not receive an immediate answer since I may be away from my email. But do not let that discourage you from e-mailing since I answer e-mails once I access my account.

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Office hours and appointments

- You do not need an appointment for office hours. Simply stop by during the office hours. If I'm busy with another student, please do wait on the sofa just outside my office until I'm finished with the person ahead of you.
- If requesting an appointment outside office hours, you do need to give me at least a 24-hour notice. If something is really urgent, do e-mail me, but there's no guarantee that I'll be able to meet with you at a notice shorter than 24 hours.

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Student Accessibility Services

- Students who have Letters of Accommodation for this class are encouraged to contact me as early in the semester as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.
- For those without Letters of Accommodation, assistance is available to eligible students through Student Accessibility Services. Please contact one of the two ADA Coordinators for information:
 - Jodi Litchfield at litchfie@middlebury.edu, or 802-443-5936.
 - Michelle Audette at maudette@middlebury.edu, or 802-443-2169.

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Student Accessibility Services

- Also, more information is available here:
<http://www.middlebury.edu/studentlife/doc/ada>
- All discussions in this regard remain strictly confidential.

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The 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/administration/newfaculty/handbook/honorcode>

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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 77%+ to 80% is C+
from 73%+ to 77% is C
from 70%+ to 73% is C-
from 65%+ to 70% is D
from 60%+ to 65% is D-
60% and under is F.

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