

أهلاً وسهلاً!

Welcome to Arabic 302: Advanced Arabic II
Spring, 2013
Middlebury College

MWF 2:50pm - 3:40pm, Pearson Max Kade Seminar Room
Professor: Samuel Liebhaber, 205 Farrell House
Email: slieb@middlebury.edu
Office Hours: Monday, 10:00-11:30 and Thursday, 1:30-3:00

Course Objectives:

This course is a continuation of ARBC301 (Advanced Arabic I) and will follow the same educational methodologies and learning trajectory established for your previous courses in the Arabic sequence at Middlebury College. Enrollment in the course assumes that you have successfully completed the previous six terms of the Arabic sequence - ARBC101-103, ARBC201-202 and ARBC301 - or the equivalent thereof. In this course, you will work to achieve an ACTFL proficiency rating of Advanced-Low/Medium in the four areas of language performance. In practical terms, this means:

- Speaking - You will be able to participate actively in most informal and some formal exchanges on a variety of concrete topics relating to work, school, home, and leisure activities, as well as to events of current, public, and personal interest. You will be able to narrate and describe in all major time frames (past, present, and future) and flexibly adapt to the demands of the conversation.
- Writing - You will be able to meet a range of work and/or academic writing needs with good organization and cohesiveness. You will be able to write straightforward summaries and write about familiar topics that relate to your interests and events of current, public, and personal relevance. You will be able to narrate and describe with detail in all major time frames.
- Reading: You will be able to read somewhat longer prose of several paragraphs in length. Even if you miss some details, you will get the main ideas and facts. Your comprehension will derive not only from situational and subject matter knowledge, but from increasing control of the language. Texts at this level include descriptions and narratives such as simple short stories, news items, bibliographical information, social notices, personal correspondence, routine business letters and simple technical material written for the general reader.
- Listening - You will be able to understand main ideas and most details of connected

discourse on a variety of topics beyond the immediacy of the situation. Listening comprehension will extend to descriptive and narrative texts in different time frames or aspects, such as present, non-past, habitual, or imperfective. Texts may include interviews, short lectures on familiar topics, and news items and reports primarily dealing with factual information.

(adapted from ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines, 1985)

Textbook:

- *al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya with DVD and MP3 CD: Part Three*, by K. Brustad, M. al-Batal & A. al-Tonsi. The textbook is available at the College Bookstore. Purchase the 2007, 2nd edition.
- *A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*, Hans Wehr
- Supplementary material prepared by the instructor

Grading:

- Exams (4) **40%**
- Blog Posts (3) **15%**
- Papers (2) **25%**
- Participation: active, thoughtful participation is factored into grade **10%**
- Homework: consistent, careful work is factored into grade **10%**

Exams:

- Exam dates: Mar. 1, Mar. 22, Apr. 26, May 20
- All exams are weighted equally

Blog Posts:

- You will be asked to post three written reflections (two paragraph minimum) onto the course website on a topic chosen by the professor. The blog-post assignments will be coordinated with the Arabic School Abroad in Amman, Jordan so that you will have a chance to engage colleagues who are currently studying there in a written dialogue.
- You must post your written reflection by 11:59pm on the following Thursdays: Mar. 7, Apr. 4 and May 2.

Papers:

- Topics for the papers will be assigned to you by the professor. Revisions to your papers will almost certainly be required.
- Both papers must be a minimum of two typed pages.
- Due date for papers: Wednesday, Apr. 17 and Monday, May 13

Homework, Preparation & Attendance:

- Homework assignments are due in class on the day for which they were assigned; no

late homework will be accepted.

- Participation is a function of attendance, which is noted daily. Consistent absenteeism and lackluster participation will be factored into the final grade.

Arabic Language Tables & Cultural Events:

- Once-a-week attendance at the Arabic language tables is mandatory and attendance will be factored into your participation grade. However, you'll find the language tables to be a fun and collegial opportunity to connect with your colleagues in the Arabic program. Language table assignments will be made during the first week of classes.
- Attending and participating in extracurricular Arabic cultural events is strongly encouraged. I'll do my best to remind the class of college-sponsored lectures as they are scheduled but please don't hesitate to share this information with your colleagues at the beginning or end of class.