

ARAB 200 - Sections 2 & 3

Class Information and Syllabus

Instructor Information	Office # Office Hours	Meeting Time/ Room # Section 2	Meeting Time/ Room # Section 3
Alla Hassan 434-863-3926 aohassan2@gmail.com	CLS (195 Angell) Room 206 M/W: 1:00 - 2:00pm	MWF: 2:00-2:50 TR: 2:30 - 3:50 JWW 202 ROC A9	MW: 11:00 – 11:50 TR: 10:30 – 11:50 JWW 202 JWW 303

أهلاً وسهلاً!

Course Overview

ARAB 0200 is the second part of a year-long introductory course designed to build listening, speaking, writing, and reading skills in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). In order to be credited for the course, you must complete ARAB 0100 and ARAB 0200.

- All students who did not take ARAB 100 at Brown University or those who have prior knowledge of Arabic must take a placement test to determine whether ARAB 200 is the appropriate Arabic course to enroll in.

In ARAB 200, students continue to learn the modern standard form of the language, utilizing the same text book (as ARAB 100), Al-Kitaab. Units 6 through 13 are covered in this course. The study of the eight lessons will expand your knowledge of the grammar and expose you to a variety of cultural and daily life themes and situations, while building on your previously studied vocabulary.

Course Goals and Objectives

Welcome to Arabic 200. This class aims at developing and advancing four language skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The Objectives of each skill are as follows:

1. To be able to read texts on familiar topics and understand the main ideas without using the dictionary, and be able to guess the meaning of new words from context.
2. To be able to speak about yourself and your environment, carry out basic transactions related to daily life (orally and in writing), and initiate and sustain conversations on a number of topics.
3. To try to understand native speakers-- especially if they are communicating in modern standard Arabic.
4. To be able to form and understand almost all basic sentence structures of Arabic.
5. To become familiar with some of the differences between formal and spoken Arabic and learn some aspects of Arab culture.

Approach and Method

This course is based on the communicative approach in language teaching and learning. It focuses on the functional usage of the language and on communication in context. All language skills are important and they reinforce each other. Instructions will be increasingly in Arabic, and then gradually Arabic will be used as the main medium of communication in the classroom.

Tips for making your preparation for class more productive:

- Listen to the DVD and read the story in each unit several times;
- Read aloud;
- Study in groups;
- Keep a weekly journal of new words and use them in paragraphs;
- Prepare and turn in homework **on time**;
- Review constantly

Asking for help:

Learning a foreign language like Arabic can be a demanding task. When you are faced with a difficulty, don't hesitate to ask for clarifications, check for confirmation, and express a need for elaboration on a vague detail. It is best to have a question answered during the class period, since the entire class will benefit from hearing the question and answer. You may also bring questions to office hours, or send questions by email. In any case, it is always better to get questions answered early on in order to avoid confusion or misunderstanding.

Required Texts and Material:

- 1- Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud al-Batal, and Abbas al-Tonsi. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic, Part One*. Third edition. Washington D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2011.
- 2- Cowan, J.M., ed. *The Hans Wehr Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*. Fourth edition. Urbana, IL: Spoken Language Services, 1993.

Grading Policies

4 Cumulative Exams (40%): Each is a 80-minute written exam designed to assess listening, reading, and writing skills, as well as grammar competency. They are scheduled in advance and taken in class. Details about the course material and units covered on each exam will be offered in class.

Final Comprehensive Cumulative Exam (15%): A 3-hour written exam designed to assess listening, reading, and writing skills, as well as grammar competency. It will cover all the materials studied during the year.

Blogs (10%): Blogs entries and revisions will be submitted weekly. Topics will be assigned each week in class.

Homework (15%): Homework is assigned daily and the detailed assignment will be sent to the class by email.

Please observe the following guidelines:

1. Hand in the homework **on time**, on a separate piece of paper (do not rip sheets out of the book; you may, however, photocopy pages). Write neatly, and skip lines, leaving **enough room for comments and corrections**.
2. **Always copy all the sentences on which you are being drilled.** In a fill-in the blanks exercise for example, don't hand in simply the word(s) that should go in the blank, but write down the entire sentence and underline the word that you put in the blank.

Arabic Projects (10%): Arabic projects will be presented in groups, and you will have a choice between creating an Arabic comic book and working on a travel guide book/website. More information and detailed instructions will be sent out later this semester.

Attendance and Participation (10%): Regular attendance in this class is crucial to keeping up with the pace of the class and your overall success. Therefore, it is expected that you will exert every effort to attend all classes on time. Absences will not be tolerated-- this includes Friday discussion sessions. If a student has a medical, legal or otherwise valid excuse for missing class (the validity of the excuse is at the discretion of the instructor), then this student is not excused for the homework due during the missed period, and must turn it in when they come back. Students are also responsible for material covered in class while they are away. This means that they should get notes from fellow students, study the material on their own first, and then ask the instructor during office hours about any questions that they may have about it.

-Participation will be graded throughout the semester; based on preparation for class, contribution to a cooperative classroom atmosphere, willingness to take part in activities, making use of the instructor's office hours, and in-class interaction in Arabic.

Grading Scale:

Year Courses: A tentative grade is given at the end of the first semester in year courses; at the end of the second semester, examinations in such courses cover the work of the two semesters; and a final grade for both is assigned at that time.

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A = 90 - 100	B = 80 - 89	C = 70 - 79	NC = 0-69
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*If your grade option is S/NC, your cumulative average must be 70% or above.