

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**
www.mlcs.ualberta.ca

ARAB 211 A1 - Intermediate Arabic I
2015-2016 (Fall Term)

Instructor: Iman Mersal

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

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

Place: T1 104

Place: T1 105

Office: Arts 242C

Fax: 492-9106

E-mail: imersal@ualberta.ca

Office Hours: Mon 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

or by appointment

Course Prerequisite: Arabic 112 or consent of department

ARAB 211 is a course in intermediate level Arabic, aiming to develop students' skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, as well as introducing them to modern Arab culture.

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

Yes x No, not needed, no such projects approved

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional x None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material

X Exam registry – Students' Union

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

See explanations below

Document distributed in class

Other (*please specify*)

NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes X 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, and speaking. There will be four hours of instruction per week.

During this term, we will cover lessons 1- 6 from *Al-Kitaab fii Ta`alum al`Arabiyya: A Textbook for Arabic, Part Two*. Selected readings in modern Arabic literature and culture topics will be provided for reading, discussion, and translation. Students will be introduced to Arabic poetry, narrative prose, and proverbs, as a means of building vocabulary and in order to become familiar with Arab culture.

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 your perusal in the SUB bookstore).

Texts:

Required books:

1. Kristen Brustad, et al. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta`alum al`Arabiyya: A Textbook for Arabic, Part Two*. Georgetown University Press, Third Edition, 2013.
2. Hans Wehr. *A Dictionary for Modern Written Arabic*. Spoken Languages Services, various editions (Arabic-English dictionary).

Course Schedule:

	Mon	Tues	Thurs	Lessons
Week 1		September 1	September 3	Introduction & Language activities
Week 2	September 7	September 8	September 10	Lesson 1
Week 3	September 14	September 15 Arab film	September 17 Language activities	Lesson 1 &2
Week 4	September 21	September 22	September 24	Lesson 2
Week 5	September 28	September 29	October 1 Arab Film	Lesson 3 & Arab Film
Week 6	October 5	October 6	October 8	Lesson 3
Week 7	October 12 No Class	October 13 Review	October 15 Midterm, (20%)	October 15 Midterm, (20%)
Week 8	October 19 Lesson 4	October 20 Lesson 4	October 22 Arabic Proverbs	Arabic Proverbs Lesson 4
Week 9	October 26	October 27	October 29	Lesson 4 & 5
Week 10	November 2	November 3	November 5 Introduction to Arabic Poetry	Lesson 5
Week 11	November 9 No Class	November 10 No Class	November 12 No Class	No Classes

Week 12	November 16	November 17	November 19	Lesson 6
Week 13	November 23 Lesson 6	November 24 Class presentations	November 26 Class presentations	Lesson 6 & Class presentations
Week 14	November 30	December 1	December 3	Review

(*) Instructor may readjust this schedule if needed according to class situation and level.

Final exam: (Dec 17-2015 (Thursday) @ 2:00 p.m.)

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Fall / Winter Exam Planner for the 2015-2016 academic year can be found at the following site: <http://www.registrarsoffice.ualberta.ca/en/Examinations/Fall-2015-Winter-2016-Exam-Planner.aspx>

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Activity	%
One midterm (October 15)	20%
Homework assignments (due every Thursday)	15%
Attendance, participation, and oral activities	10%
Three writing assignments (Arab Film review due Oct 8 - Arabic - Proverbs translation due Oct 29 - Arabic Poet biography due Nov 19)	15%
Class presentations (November 24 and 26)	5%
Final Exam (Thursday, Dec 17-2015 @ 2:00 pm)	35%
Total	100%

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

Wednesday, January 13 - 2016 in the instructor’s office.

Explanatory Notes on Textbook Assignments:

- Homework is given each class but 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.

Writing assignments:

- **Arab Film review due Oct 8.**
- **Arabic Proverbs translation due Oct 29.**
- **Arabic Poet biography due Nov 19.**

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 directs 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, students are expected to attend class regularly, hand in assignments on time, participate actively in the 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, students should inform the instructor **before** the beginning of class (even by e-mail).

Tardiness or early leaving the class is counted as an unexcused absence.

No excuse will be accepted if the instructor is not informed before class, unless in case of emergency. The instructor may accept a reasonable excuse for absence with no penalty **twice** throughout the course, otherwise frequent excused/unexcused 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.

- Please check your emails regularly for any update regarding class (assignments, test dates, cancellation, etc.)

- In case of unforeseen circumstances that may lead to class cancellation, students will be notified in advance during previous classes or by e-mail (in case of an emergency).

So please do NOT leave class before consulting your emails.

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.ssds.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 Undergraduate 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%	4.0	Outstanding: Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of the subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94%	4.0	Excellent: Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	86-89%	3.7	Very good: Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	Very good
B	75-81%	3.0	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%	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	58-60%	1.7	Satisfactory
D+	55-57%	1.3	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.

D	50-54%	1.0	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49%	0.0	Fail: Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.