

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURAL STUDIES  
<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2016 ARAB 112- LEC X50 (Winter Term):  
Beginners's Arabic II

Instructor: Iman Mersal  
Office: Arts 242 C

Time: Tues & Thurs,  
5:00 – 7:25 pm  
Place: H C 2-26

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

E-mail: imersal@ualberta.ca

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**Course Prerequisites:** *Arabic 111 (or department consent)*

ARAB 112 is a continuation of Beginners' Arabic I. Students will continue to learn **pronunciation, reading, writing, and conversation**. Section X50 is intended for “**non-heritage**” students who took the “**non-heritage**” Arab 111 last fall. Students who did not take the “**non-heritage**” Arab 111 at university of Alberta are encouraged to write a placement test so they can join the course that suits their skills.

**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, and speaking. There will be five hours of instruction per week.

During this term, we will cover lessons 6-13 from *Al-Kitaab fii Ta`alum al`Arabiyya: A Textbook for Arabic, Part one*. Each lesson includes vocabulary, grammar, drills, and video examples of conversation situations.

These lessons aim to create a bridge between classroom and real life situations. By the end of this semester, you should be able to talk about your hobbies, extended family members, and studies, and to narrate events in all verb tenses. The vocabulary you will gain will allow you to create more elaborated conversations and situations. You will be able to produce longer compositions and understand longer paragraphs.

Students who did not take Arabic 111 last Fall should make sure they possess a firm understanding and practical mastery of lessons 1-5 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).

### **Textbooks:**

1. Kristen Brustad, et al. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta`alum al`Arabiyya: A Textbook for Arabic, Part one*. (third edition) Georgetown University Press, 2011.
2. Hans Wehr. *A Dictionary for Modern Written Arabic*. Spoken Languages Services, various editions (Arabic-English dictionary) (*optional*).
3. Additional handouts will be distributed from time to time to provide additional examples and explanations of textbook materials.

### **Course Schedule(\*):**

	<b>Tues</b>	<b>Thurs</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Week 1	January 05	January 07	Introduction & Lesson 6
Week 2	January 12	January 14	Lesson 6
Week 3	January 19	January 21	Lesson 7
Week 4	January 26	January 28	Review / <b>Test 1 on January 28</b>
Week 5	February 02	February 04	Lesson 8
Week 6	February 09	February 11	Lesson 9
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>February 16</b>	<b>February 18</b>	<b>Reading Week</b>
Week 8	February 23	February 25	Lesson 10
Week 9	March 01	March 03	Review / <b>Midterm on March 03</b>
Week 10	March 08	March 10	Lesson 11
Week 11	March 15	March 17	Lesson 12
Week 12	March 22	March 24	<b>Oral quiz on March 22 and 24</b>
Week 13	March 29	March 31	Lesson 13 & Review
Week 14	<b>April 05</b>	<b>April 07</b>	<b>Class skit on April 05</b> <b>Final exam on April 07**</b>

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

(\*\*) *All evening courses have the final exam scheduled in the last class. The exam does not appear on students' final exam schedule available through Bear Tracks.*

**Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>%</b>
Homework assignments (due every Thursday)	10%
Attendance, participation, and oral activities	10%
Test One (January 28)	10%
Midterm (March 03)	20%
Oral quiz (March 22/24)	10%
Class skit (April 05)	5%
Final Exam (April 07)	35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Final Exam Information:**

**April 07, 2016 @5:00 pm, H C 2-26.**

**Deferred Final Exam:** Saturday, April 09<sup>th</sup> 2016 (2:00 – 4:00 pm) in the instructor’s office (242 C, Old Arts Building).

**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.
- A quick review will be conducted prior to each quiz/test/exam.
- **Class skit** : preparation and delivery of a 4 - 5 minutes presentation for each student (in groups TBA in class) based on proposed topics (discussed in class before the skit). This is a group project, however, grades will be given according to each student’s exhibited skills (a grading rubric will be provided on e-class prior to the presentations).
- **Oral quiz** : individually and/or pair work partly prepared before the quiz (dialogue, reading response pre-prepared at home, etc) and the rest is based on general topics from the course including (reading, comprehension questions, grammar questions, dictation, etc). (Details about topics proposed will be provided in class before the quiz).
- Grading of the oral component is based on the student’s level in comprehension, self expression with MSA, use of formal structures, avoiding slang/colloquial language, near-fluency or fluency of the oral based on a prior background.

- **Note: additional , very short written or oral tests and quizzes may be given in class (with or without previous notice) for evaluation/assessment purpose, and may count towards class activities.**

### ***Policy for Late Assignments:***

#### ***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 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](mailto:sasrec@ualberta.ca); Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB [www.ssds.ualberta.ca](http://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 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”**

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