

**Non-Intensive 1st Level Modern Standard Arabic ARAB-001-10:
1st Summer Session (June 1st – July 3rd)**
&
**Non-Intensive 1st Level Modern Standard Arabic ARAB-002-20:
2nd Summer Session (July 6th-August 7th)**

Professor: Pamela Klasova
Class time: 1:00pm– 3:00 PM MTWR
Office hours: Monday, Wednesday 12:00-1:00pm or by appointment
Email address: pmk32@georgetown.edu

Credits: 3 & 3, non-intensive courses

Course Objectives:

Arabic is a fascinating language of key importance in the modern world. It is also a language that can grant you access to the rich heritage of classical Arabic and Islamic culture. This course is designed as an introduction to Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), its script, sounds, basic vocabulary and grammatical structures. It is intended for students who have not studied Arabic before.

During the first days you will quickly learn the script with the help of *Alif Baa*. After that your study will focus on the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Instruction will be initially in both English and Arabic but Arabic will gradually become the main medium of communication in the class.

By the end of the two summer sessions you will be able to:

- Read, write and understand simple vocabulary in Arabic
- Produce sentences and paragraph-long narratives in Arabic *correctly*.
- Deal with daily-life social interactions (greetings, personal introduction) - Hold a conversation on basic daily-life topics (home, family, university, friends, work, weather).
- Read basic texts on a variety of topics, both with and without a dictionary.
- Identify the main differences between MSA and Arabic dialects.
- Make a presentation on a chosen topic in speech and writing.

In addition to acquiring Arabic language skills, you will be exposed to a wide range of Arabic cultural materials and familiarize yourself with some remarkable aspects of modern and classical Arabic culture and society.

Course description:

1st summer Session:

First part - *Alif Baa*:

During the first week and a half you will learn the alphabet and phonology of Arabic with the help of *Alif Baa*. You will learn to read, write and pronounce Arabic letters, basic vocabulary, and elementary conversational expressions. There will be a quiz at the end of this section.

Second part- *Al-Kitaab*: Chapters 1-4:

After learning properly the alphabet, you will extend your vocabulary and speaking, writing, listening and reading abilities. During this time, you will complete first four chapters of *Al-Kitaab* (one chapter per three days). Class activities include pair-work, reading aloud, video viewing, presentations and grammar instruction. Last two days of the course are dedicated to reviewing all studied material for the final examination. You will submit one written project.

2nd Summer Session:

In the second summer session the course will continue in a similar fashion, with an emphasis on longer written and oral production, and more complex reading and listening exercises. You will complete chapters 4-9 in *Al-Kitaab*. Again, you will have a quiz at the end of each chapter.

Assessment:

Your progress is assessed on a daily basis. Do not be absent or late. If you miss a scheduled quiz without prior notice, you will receive a zero for without a possibility for a make-up. You can be a subject to an unannounced quiz once or twice a term. You can expect a quiz after the completion of each chapter. Most of them will be announced but you may also be subject to one unannounced quiz per term. Final examination has two parts. During the oral part you will be asked a) to talk about a topic that we have dealt with in class and b) to talk about your written project.

The written part of your final examination will assess the knowledge of grammatical structures and reading, listening and writing skills of the students.

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Grades: (The number of quizzes can change but not the relative weight.)

Homework & Attendance	20%
Oral performance (daily participation and oral presentations)	15%
Quizzes (announced or unannounced)	20%
Final Written Project	15%
Final exam – oral part	5%
Final exam – written part	15%

Grades will be assigned according to the following undergraduate grades scale and will be recorded on Blackboard grades:

- A 4.00 (93-100)
- A- 3.67 (90-92)
- B+ 3.33 (87-89) B 3.00 (83-86)
- B- 2.67 (80-82)
- C+ 2.33 (77-79)
- C 2.00 (73-76)
- C- 1.67 (70-72)
- D+ 1.33 (66-69)
- D 1.00 (60-65)
- F 0 (below 60)

Expectations and requirements:

Attendance and Participation

Class attendance and participation are required and form a large part of your grade. We will have only limited amount of time and need to use every minute of it. You will attain the course objectives only if you attend class and complete the homework *daily*. E-mail me **before** class if you are sick and cannot come to class. More than three absences will lower your final grade by half letter. **If you are absent more than 15% you are eligible for a failing grade.** Tardiness more than 20 min will be considered an absence.

All mobile phones must be switched off during class.

Homework

You are required to complete homework daily. The only time when you might not be assigned homework is before announced quizzes and final exam. Reserve no less than one hour and half for daily study. Try to read and memorize new vocabulary aloud.

Please submit homework at the time when it is due. Late homework may not be accepted and corrected.

Homework will be graded on a scale: 3-1. (3=excellent, 2=good, 1=poor or incomplete).

HW guidelines:

- Turn in homework at the beginning of class.
- Include the date, number and page number of each drill.
- When writing completing a fill-in-the-blank exercise, please underline your answers.
- When you are not sure about your answer or want the professor to pay a special attention to some part of your homework feel free to write notes or question marks.
- Make sure to read the corrections and learn from them. The best way to learn is to learn from your mistakes.

Written projects:

1st summer session: You may choose any topic that is of interest to you but you should discuss your choice with the professor. Importance is given to the precision of language over length and content. Your project will be graded mainly based on the correct use of grammar, vocabulary and connectors, but you will also get credit for coherence and content. The written project should be approx. 500 words (either in hand, or typed).

2nd summer session: Again, you will choose a topic for your written presentation, which you will discuss with the professor. In the second session's written project the coherence and style of your essay will gain on weight; however, the precision of your language will be equally important. This written project should be 500 words and typed.

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Required Course Textbooks:

Brustad, K, Al-Batal, M. and A. Al-Tonsi. 2011. *Alif Baa: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*, Third Edition. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.

--- 2004. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic*, Part One, second edition. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.

Cowan, M. J. 1974. *Hans Wehr: A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*. Beirut: Librairie du Liban. (There are no appropriate substitute to this dictionary! However, you can also use it online on ejtaal.net under the title "Arabic Almanach")

All additional materials will be posted on Blackboard (texts, songs, articles, cartoons).

Recommended references:

McCarus, Ernest N. 2007. *English Grammar for Students of Arabic*. Olivia and Hill Press.

Ryding, Karin. 2008. *A Reference Grammar of Modern Standard Arabic*. Cambridge: CUP.

Arabic on your computer:

You will to type Arabic very quickly. Please be sure to install Arabic on your computers before the beginning of the course. Students who own a Mac will have to use Google Docs or NeoOffice (Word for Mac does not type Arabic)ā.

I recommend purchasing Arabic stickers for your keyboard. You can find them on Amazon for a couple of dollars.

Special Accomodations:

If you believe that you have a disability that will affect your performance in this class, please contact the Academic Resource Center (arc@georgetown.edu, Leavey Center, Suite 335) for further information. The Academic Resource Center reviews students' documentation and determines reasonable accommodations.

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Honor Code

Both students and the professor are required to uphold academic honesty in all aspects of this course. You are expected to be familiar with the letter and spirit of the Standards of Conduct outlined in the Georgetown Honor System and on the Honor Council web site. You can find the honor code on the following website:

<http://gervaseprograms.georgetown.edu/honor/system/53516.html>

Academic Integrity

You are expected to be familiar with the code of academic integrity. A tutorial on academic integrity is provided by the library on the following website:
<http://www.library.georgetown.edu/tutorials/academic-integrity>