

Georgetown University
Arabic and Islamic Studies Department
Intensive First Level Modern Standard Arabic (MSA)
Arabic 011-10 - Summer 2018
Academic Year 2018-2019



Schedule and Location:

Credit hours: 6

Class hours: MTWRF

Class location:

Professor: Muhammad Habib

Office : Poulton Hall North : 206

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 2:00 pm -3:00 pm, or by appointment

Email: Muhammad.Habib@georgetown.edu

011-Course Description (from the Course Catalog):

This intensive video-based course focuses on developing proficiency in the standard written Arabic language, as well as formal spoken Arabic. It begins with learning of script and phonology, and works rapidly into a wide range of situation-based texts and topics that build vocabulary, grammar, and general communicative competence.

Course Materials:

- 1) Alif Baa: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds,(Third Edition) by Kristen Brustad,Al-Batal&Al- Tonsi. Georgetown University Press. This book comes with DVDS and web companion and we will be using it. We use this text for first couple of weeks of class.
- 2) Al-Kitaab fii Ta'alum al-Arabiyya: Part 1(second Edition), by Kristen Brustad, Al-Batal&Al- Tonsi. Georgetown University Press.
- 3) A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic, by Hans Wehr, edited by J. Cowan.
- 4) Blackboard: to post Announcements, assignments and Emails, so check frequently.
- 5) Handouts.

Course Objective of Arabic 011:

By the end of 011 you will, in-shaa'a-llaah:

- 1) Have mastered the Arabic alphabet and Sound System, be able to distinguish and pronounce all Arabic sound, and write accurately from dictation.
- 2) Initiate social interactions, ask for basic information, and be aware of basic cultural aspects of social interactions in the Arab World.
- 3) Be able to talk about yourself, your education, your family, weather, student plans, friends, and to interact with native speakers of Arabic accustomed to interacting with learners.
- 4) Comprehend simple written texts on familiar topics.
- 5) Comprehend simple audio/video texts of familiar topics.
- 6) Be able to compose simple paragraphs about yourself and your family and friends.
- 7) Know about differences between formal and spoken Arabic, recognize both registers.
- 8) Have an active vocabulary of about 300 Arabic words.

We will finish Alif-Baa book in approximately 4 weeks, and al-kitaab chapters 1-7 by the end of the Fall Semester, you will learn essential language features (definiteness, questions, present and past-tense verbs with negations, and numbers).

Grade Distribution:

Daily homework	15%
<u>Attendance & Participation</u>	10%
(10+quizzes)	10% (announced and unannounced)
4 tests announced	20%
4-5 Oral interviews	10%
Writing	10%
Final Exam	25%

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

- 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)

Your grades will be recorded on Blackboard site for this course. You should regularly review the grade section to monitor the grades that have been recorded to see your current standing. Notify the TA or me if discrepancy is suspected.

1- Attendance and Participation (10%)

Class time will be devoted to **activating** the vocabulary and structures that you have prepared at home through your homework. You should expect to spend 75% of class time doing activities in pairs and small groups. Thus, attendance and active participating in class is essential to your making good language proficiency gains and doing well in class. **This part of your grade will be based on daily "attendance and participation "**grade assigned by your instructor and TA according to the following criteria:

5- You are **actively** engaged in developing your Arabic proficiency and communicating in Arabic **as much as possible** with your partner /classmates /teacher from the moment you walk into the class until you leave it.

Full credit will be given when you,

- i. arrive to class on time.
- ii. are well prepared for class, which means that you have listened to recorded materials on the accompanying web site/ DVD, learned the new vocabulary, read grammar explanations carefully and done the homework drills based on these explanations before coming to class.
- iii. You submit fully completed homework at the beginning of class.
- iv. are alert
- v. participate actively when we are working together in class.
- vi. Make maximum use of pair/group work time.

4- You are present but lacking in one of the above criteria for full credit in participation.

3- You are present but lacking in two of the above criteria.

2- You are present but lacking in three of the above criteria.

1- You are present but lacking in more than three of the above criteria, for instance, you come late to class, submit incomplete homework, and are not focused on the assigned task during pair/group work.

0- Absent.

Attendance policies

If you are absent from class you will receive a "0" for that day's attendance and participation.

I may excuse up to three hours/absence at the end of the semester. If you are sick please bring a signed doctor's slip, coach, or dean note. More than three unexcused absences will result in a lowered grade for the course More than 10 absences-whatever the reason-

will result in an "F" for the course.

Please inform me by email of absence as soon as possible *before-not after-* the class you will miss.

2- Homework Assignments & corrections (15 %)

Expect to spend about 2 hours on homework for every class session. **Expect to spend up to an extra hour per day on homework during the first month of the course.** To prepare for the learning that takes place through practice in class, you will listen, read and study new material at home. There will be designated homework in the schedule. **Daily written assignments due at the beginning of class.**

Homework assignments will be rated on a scale of 1 to 5 (5 = excellent; 4=good but not your best effort; 3= mediocre; 2= poor; 1= very poor work) .You will be rated on the overall quality of your work, not merely on the number of correct or incorrect answers. Note that you do not have to have everything 100% correct on your homework in order to get "5"as long as you have made your best effort.

On each homework assignment:

- 1- Write your name in Arabic as soon as you are able to.
- 2- Write the **drill # and page.**
- 3- Staple **pages together.**
- 4- **Write every other line in order** to leave room for feedback from your instructor or TA.

Homework correction You will be asked to make corrections on your written homework-on the same sheet- using a different color ink. Your instructor will use a simple code to mark errors in writing/ spelling, and grammar.

Honor System:

Both student and instructor of the course are to abide by Georgetown University Honor System.
<http://www.library.georgetown.edu/resource/tutorials.htm>

Keep in Mind:

Maintain a folder for all completed homework and grammar handouts for reference.

Taking responsibility for Learning:

Let me or the TA know about the problems you have as you encounter them. Waiting will not help. Since language learning will be cumulative through both semesters and later in your future Arabic studies, it is critical that you address any challenge immediately

Blackboard:

Course Syllabus and homework assignments are made available on Blackboard.

Arabic on Your Computer:

Do you know that you can type in Arabic for Windows?

Visit this site <http://www.aktub.com> or Arabic keyboard.com for step-by-step instruction on how to display and type in Arabic characters as well as attend free on line Arabic typing lessons.

The final exam 25%:

The Final is a unified test and will cover the four language skills: speaking, reading, writing and listening.

The Final : will be announced later

Happy learning