



Arabic Classes for Adults

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This course has no prerequisites.

Course Description

Arabic 101 is the first in a series of Arabic courses presented by Aldeen Foundation to support the community in learning Arabic as a foreign language. Students will be taught the basic skills needed to communicate in Arabic including comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Basic grammar will be introduced to facilitate communication. The course will be taught mainly in Arabic using Modern Standard Arabic. *Ahlan Wasahlan: Functional modern Standard Arabic for Beginners* textbook and CDs will be used. In addition to the textbook, students will be exposed to authentic Arabic materials from different Arab countries according to the students' language skills and interests.

Course Rational & Approach

Knowledge of Arabic language and culture is becoming increasingly important to domestic and foreign affairs, with a significant number of career options in research, education, government, and business. In addition to the career opportunities, learning Arabic will expose the students to a rich and intriguing language and culture and provide them the skills needed to more effectively interact with Arabic speakers and understand their perspectives and culture.

Teacher and student activities during the course are geared toward introducing the students to the Arabic language and developing their communicative skills and their ability to *use* Arabic accurately and functionally in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It further provides the students with an understanding of selected aspects of Arab culture through examining its practices, products, and the perspectives of its people. Students acquired abilities and skills in Arabic will be assessed through classroom interactions, activities, quizzes, exams, and out-of-class assignments.

The instruction will be provided mainly in Arabic using Modern Standard communicative Arabic as the mean of instruction. Students are expected to speak and response to questions in Arabic. This is an effective approach to language learning that emphasizes communicative abilities, and helps to successfully practice and implement what is learned in the classroom. Attendance and participation in class activities are essential for acquiring the necessary communicative skills.



Learning Objectives

1. Recognize and reproduce Arabic sounds and letters
2. Provide personal information using relevant structure, vocabulary, and cultural clues
3. Seek and provide basic general information in Arabic
4. Describe activities, places, and things
5. Write Arabic words and simple sentences
6. Read simple Arabic sentences and short paragraphs
7. Become familiar with and use basic Arabic grammar
8. Discuss selected elements of Arab cultures
9. Recognize some differences between modern standard, and colloquial Arabic

Required Text

The following text is the required text for **ARB 101: Basic Arabic 1** course:

- *Ahlan wa Sahlan: Functional Modern Standard Arabic for Beginners*, by Mahdi Alish. Yale University Press. *The audio CDs are also available to purchase.*

Responsibilities

Participation & Attendance: Most of the language skills to be developed cannot be acquired without effective participation and interaction with other students and with the instructor. Participation and attendance are required. The participation grade is dependent on attending the class, being alert and attentive, and actively participating. Students are responsible for the material covered in each class they were absent. Absence is not a legitimate excuse for coming unprepared to class or for not turning an assignment in on time.

Homework Assignments: Out-of-class practice is essential for reinforcement of classroom learning of Arabic language. Once a given lesson is covered, exercises and drills in the lesson completed are due within one week of that date (due dates will be announced by the instructor).

Notebook: Students are required to record a list of vocabulary and phrases assigned by the instructor in a designated notebook and keep the notebook up-to-date and available in class.



*This calendar is subject to change.
Additional and/or substitute material may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.*

Week 1

Lesson 1

- ◆ Introduction—Arabic language & the cultures of the Arab world
- ◆ Your name in Arabic
- ◆ Introduction to the Arabic Alphabet

Week 2

Lesson 2

- ◆ Arabic Alphabet - One-way connectors
- ◆ Arabic numbers
- ◆ Basic greetings & leave taking
- ◆ Introducing yourself

Week 3

Lesson 2-3

- ◆ Arabic Alphabet - Two-way connectors (5 letters)
- ◆ Long and short vowels
- ◆ Separate personal pronouns
- ◆ Identifying yourself and others
- ◆ Common greetings and their social context

Week 4

Lesson 3/4

- ◆ Arabic Alphabet - Two-way connectors (8 letters)
- ◆ Additional greetings, and inquiring about well-being
- ◆ Simple Conversation

Week 5

Lesson 4/5

- ◆ Arabic Alphabet - Two-way connectors (6 letters)
- ◆ Separate pronouns
- ◆ Subject and predicate
- ◆ Inquiring about places (courtiers, capitals, cities), and nationality
- ◆ The difference between Modern Standard Arabic and Colloquial Arabic

Week 6

Lesson 5/6

- ◆ Arabic Alphabet - Two-way connectors (4 letters)
- ◆ Attached pronouns
- ◆ Expressing possession
- ◆ The relative noun (nisba)
- ◆ Gender in Arabic nouns
- ◆ Names of common objects (13 words)
- ◆ Describing national and regional affiliation

Week 7

Lesson 6/7

- ◆ The letter *Alif Maqsura* and *Hamza*
- ◆ Diacritical Marks (short vowels)
- ◆ Identifying objects in the school environment (12 words)
- ◆ Presentation of foreign sounds
- ◆ Family structure and ties in the Arab world

Week 8

Lesson 7/8

- ◆ Identifying objects in the classroom.
- ◆ Prepositions, demonstratives, contrast, negation (ليس).
- ◆ Definite with "ال" with assimilating and non-assimilating sounds
- ◆ Basic reading – short sentences (3-5 words each)
- ◆ The educational system in the Arab World

Week 9

Lesson 8/9

- ◆ Simple Nisba & Idafa
- ◆ Demonstratives
- ◆ Reading short paragraphs (6-8 short sentences)
- ◆ Describing school surrounding and facilities
- ◆ Providing personal information (completing information card)
- ◆ Arab societies (cities, towns, and the desert)

Week 10

Lesson 9/10

- ◆ Particles (يا & كم)
- ◆ Question words
- ◆ The Arabic verb
- ◆ Cardinal numbers 1-10
- ◆ Seeking and providing information (oral, in writing)
- ◆ Gender role in the Arab world