



GEO

Study Abroad

SYLLABUS

MODERN STANDARD ARABIC (MSA) 100 (Novice, Low Beginner Level)

Instructor Name: AFIL faculty

Contact Hrs: 120

UO Quarter Credits: 12

Language of Instruction: Arabic

FES, MOROCCO

Course Prerequisite:

No prior background in Arabic required.

Course Description:

MSA 100 is an introductory course to Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). In the first part of this course (about 2 weeks), the students will learn the Arabic alphabet (both the script and the sound system). They will learn it through some basic vocabulary and situational dialogues. In the second part of the course, the students will expand the vocabulary and use it to understand some basic structures of Arabic grammar. Students in this course 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 enable the students to develop both the linguistic and communicative competences at an early stage, which will help them pursue their Arabic study later smoothly and confidently. In this part, the students will learn some basic grammatical structures, such as masculine versus feminine, *nisba* adjectives, asking questions, subject pronouns, possessives, plurals, demonstratives, adverbs, the present tense, *masdars* (verbal nouns), etc. They will also learn some functions like talking about oneself, talking about one's family, talking about the weather, asking for reasons, and so on. In addition, they will get acquainted with Maha and Khalid, the central characters of the story in *Al-Kitaab Part I*. The course will target the mastery of the four basic skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

The students are expected to come to class prepared. They have to watch the DVD component and do the listening exercises at home. They also have to do the vocabulary and reading exercises beforehand, so that they will be able to practice and communicate in class. They are expected to spend a minimum of ten hours a week outside of class on homework and review. The students will also be required to carry out some written and visual projects.

The students will take a quiz at the end of each of the first five weeks. They will take a final (cumulative) exam (oral and written) by the end of the course. Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class. Any missed classes are not made up for, and will show on the certificate of completion and the grade sheet.

Course Objectives:

Students who successfully complete this course will:

- Recognize and reproduce Arabic sounds and letters
- Learn some basic functions, such as greetings and introducing
- Seek and provide basic general information in Arabic
- Write Arabic words and simple sentences
- Become familiar with the Arabic keyboard and type in Arabic
- Read simple Arabic sentences and short paragraphs
- Become familiar with and use basic Arabic grammar
- Discuss selected elements of Arab cultures

Method of Evaluation (Grading)

Grading is broken down as follows:

1. Quizzes: 30 %
2. Final exam (written): 30 %
3. Final exam (oral): 20 %
4. Homework: 10 %
5. Attendance & class participation: 10 %

Course Schedule

Week 1: Alif Baa 3rd edition: Units 1 – 4

Quiz # 1

Week 2: Alif Baa 3rd edition: Units 5 – 10

Quiz # 2

Week 3: Alkitab Vol. 1, 3rd edition: Units 1

Additional materials

Quiz # 3

Week 4: Alkitab Vol. 1, 3rd edition: Units 2

Additional materials

Review units 1 - 2

Quiz # 4

Week 5: Alkitab Vol. 1, 3rd edition: Units 3

Additional materials

Quiz # 5

Week 6: Alkitab 1: Unit 4

Review

Final exam

Course Readings

1. *Alif Baa with DVDs 3rd edition: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds* Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, Abbas Al-Tonsi. – All chapters

2. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta^callum al-^cArabiyya with DVD 3rd editions : A Textbook for Beginning Arabic: Part One*, Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, Abbas Al-Tonsi

MSA 100 will cover lessons 1-4 from *Al-Kitaab Part I*.

The textbooks will be supplemented by additional materials.