

ARA 1130 Fall 2016

Section	Room	Days
05A6	MAT 051	M-F (2 nd period)

Instructor: Esam Alhadi

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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday 5th period (11: 35 – 12: 40)

If you are unable to come during my office hours, you may call or send an email to arrange for another meeting time. Email is the quickest and most reliable way to reach me.

Textbooks and teaching materials

- Mahdi Alesh, **Ahlan Wa Sahlan**, Functional Modern Standard Arabic for beginners. Workbook Yale University Press, Second edition, 2010.
 - Mahdi Alesh, **Ahlan Wa Sahlan**, Functional Modern Standard Arabic for beginners, Yale University Press, Second edition, 2010.
 - Additional materials (Handouts, practical activities related to the main subjects) will be added in class when needed.
 - Materials related to Arabic culture and movies will be added and provided during the course.
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Course Description

The Arabic taught in this course is Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). No dialect is taught in this course, but references will be made to the various dialects of Arab countries for comparison with MSA. The aim of the course is to provide a well-founded understanding of the standard Arabic used in the spoken and printed mass media in the Arab region. A solid knowledge of MSA will be very helpful in subsequent studies of specific Arabic dialects for those who plan to acquire them. The course will intensively rely on language communicative approach learning techniques such as role-play, peer-interviews, group-work, games and spontaneous conversations. It will stress oral skills in the study of the language and use of Arabic in class.

Course Objectives

By the end of this semester, students are expected to:

- Be familiar with the Arabic alphabet, its writing systems, features, sounds and pronunciation system.
 - Master the short and long vowels
 - Conjugate present and past tense verbs with all subject pronouns
 - Use possessive pronouns and object pronouns
 - Know the basic rules of masculine and feminine nouns and adjectives
 - Know the basic rules of using nouns in their singular, dual and plural forms.
 - Be familiar with using the definitive article
 - Use “Al-idaafa” structure.
 - Memorize the first 100 numbers and days of the week.
 - Know basic cultural subjects relating to the Arab world.
 - Initiate and carry on some basic conversations such as social interactions, introducing oneself, family and asking basic questions.
 - Read, write and comprehend simple, short sentences.
 - **Also, students will be introduced to basic cultural and social Arabic topics such as greetings, family members and methods of socialization.**
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Classroom policy

- **Absences:** Becoming fluent in a language requires constant exposure to that language. For this reason, attendance is essential and mandatory in this course. **6 unexcused absences will result in a grade of “F”.** Students need to inform the instructor of the religious observances of their faith that may conflict with class attendance.
- **Preparation: students are expected to come to class fully prepared.** Class time should not be used to memorize vocabulary and grammar rules, but rather on practicing and using them. Failure to do so will result in lowering your participation grade for the day/week.
- Make sure to get the name and phone number of a classmate, as you are responsible for finding out about any changes in the syllabus, any additional assignments, handouts or activities that may be assigned in your absence.
- **Assignments** are due on their due date, regardless of whether or not you are in class that day. If you have to miss a class, arrange for your assignments to get to your instructor’s box before the time they are due. **There are no make-ups and no late work will be accepted. MAKE-UPS for homework assignments will only be allowed when supported by official and certified medical reports. In-class assignments have to be done and submitted in class. These are timed assignments and will not be allowed to be taken and done at home.**
- Use of cell phones and other electronic devices is prohibited. Make sure that your cell phone or any other electronic device you have are turned off by the time the class begins.
- **Students are responsible to honor the University of Florida Honor Code and Classroom Behavior Code** (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>)

Exams and quizzes

There will be first, mid-term and final exams. There will also be a weekly short quiz. Exams are cumulative and quizzes are subject-specific. MAKE-UPS for exams and quizzes will only be allowed when supported by official and certified medical reports.

Grades

The final course grade will be based on the following percentages:

1st Exam	15%
Mid-Term	20%
Final exam	25%
Homework:	15%
Class participation and classwork	10%
Quizzes	15%

The course grading and grade points will be as follows:

A	93-100	4.0
A-	90-92.99	3.67
B+	87-89.99	3.33
B	83-86.99	3.0
B-	80-82.99	2.67
C+	77-79.99	2.33
C	73-76.99	2.0
C-	70-72.99	1.67
D+	67-69.99	1.33
D	63-66.99	1.0
D-	60-62.99	0.67
E	less than 60%	0
WF, I, NG, S-U		0

Class schedule

Week1 08/24-28 أهلا و سهلاً workbook	Introduction to the Arabic Alphabet Greetings Introducing yourself and friends Unit 1 in the workbook
Week2 08/31-09/04 أهلا و سهلاً workbook	Unit 2 in the workbook Identifying place of origin Understanding singular possessive pronouns Long & short vowels Basics of Arabic verb conjugation (using singular pronouns) Quiz 1
Week3 09/07-11 أهلا و سهلاً workbook	Unit 03 in the workbook Adjectives Identifying masculine and feminine Arabic nouns Quiz 3
Week4 09/14-18 أهلا و سهلاً workbook	Unit 04 Basics of Arabic verb conjugation (using plural pronouns) Prepositions Test 1
Week5 09/21-25 أهلا و سهلاً workbook	Unit 05 Class activity (5) Understanding singular possessive pronouns Quiz 4
Week6 09/28-10/02 أهلا و سهلاً workbook	Unit 06 Professions Family members and other close relatives Quiz 5
Week7 10/05-09 أهلا و سهلاً workbook	Unit 07 The <i>Nisba</i> Adjective Reading short sentences Negating present tense Quiz 6

Week 8 10/12-16 اهلا و سهلا Textbook	Unit 01 Prepositions Demonstratives: Gender Agreement Quiz 7
Week9 10/19-23 اهلا و سهلا Textbook	Unit 01 Negating adjectives and nouns Using the conjunction article لكن The definite Article Mid-term Test
Week10 10/26-30 اهلا و سهلا Textbook	Unit 02 Quiz 8
Week11 11/2-06 اهلا و سهلا Textbook	Unit 02 Quiz 9
Week 12 11/09-13 اهلا و سهلا Textbook	Unit 03 Quiz 10
Week13 11/16-20 اهلا و سهلا Textbook	Unit 03 Quiz 11
Week14 11/23-27 اهلا و سهلا Textbook	Unit 04 Presentations
Week15 11/30- 12/04 اهلا و سهلا Textbook	Unit 04 Presentations
Week 16 12/07-09 اهلا و سهلا Textbook	Review for the final exam Presentations Final Test

The instructor reserves the right to change the content of the syllabus at any time throughout the term to respond to pedagogical imperatives.

Holidays No classes	September 5: Labor Day October 14 - 15: Homecoming November 11: Veterans Day November 23 - 26: Thanksgiving break
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