

Course: ARA 1130 Beginning Arabic 1 - Section: 0770  
Summer A- 2016

Instructor: Esameddin Alhadi  
Office: Pugh 346  
Phone: (352) 392 8428  
Email: [eahadi@ufl.edu](mailto:eahadi@ufl.edu)

Monday-Thursday 2nd – 3<sup>rd</sup> periods (9:30AM- 12:15PM)  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> period (11:00AM -12:15PM)  
Room: LIT 219

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 08:30-9:30 AM  
Friday 10:00AM - 11:00AM

### **Textbooks**

Alosh, Mahdi  
Ahlan wa Sahlan: Letters and Sounds of the Arabic Language. Yale University Press  
(2009). ISBN: 0300140487

Alosh, Mahdi  
Ahlan Wa Sahlan: Functional Modern Standard Arabic for Beginners. Yale university  
press. (2009) ISBN: 0300122721

In this semester, we will cover the entire “Letters and Sounds of the Arabic Language”  
book and the first 4 units in the “Functional Modern Standard Arabic for Beginners”  
book.

### **Course Description**

This course aims to make students acquire the basic skills of speaking, listening, reading,  
and writing of modern standard Arabic language. Arabic is a language with very deep  
and rich cultural and historical traditions that go back to thousands of years. It is the  
language used by almost 300 million speakers from the Gulf region in the east to the  
Atlantic Ocean in the West. It is also used in vast areas in east, central and west Africa.  
Arabic is the language of Islamic faith, and for this reason, more than one billion  
Muslims use it in their religious practices.

Standard Arabic language is used in formal situations, printed mass media and books in  
the Arabic speaking countries. It is very important to make the distinction that standard  
Arabic is not exactly the language spoken on the street in the Arabic speaking countries.  
The vocabulary remains largely the same, but the colloquial language cares less about the  
rigid sentence structure and grammatical rules. However, a solid knowledge of Modern  
Standard Arabic will be very helpful in the future for those who choose to study any of  
the regional Arabic dialects.

The course is communicative proficiency-based, implying that all activities are aimed at placing the student in the context of the native-speaking environment from the very beginning. This approach stresses the importance of developing the oral skills and using them in the study of the language in class context.

### **Course Objectives:**

By the end of this semester, students are expected to: be familiar with the following topics:

- Be familiar with the Arabic alphabet, its writing systems, features, sounds and pronunciation system.
- Have mastered the short and long vowels
- Conjugate present tense verbs with all subject pronouns
- Know how to 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 formats.
- The basics of forming nouns into dual and plural formats
- Be familiar with using the definitive article
- Memorize the first 10 numbers and days of the week.
- Be aware of basic cultural subjects relating to the Arab world.
- Be able to initiate and carry on some basic conversations such as social interactions, introducing oneself, family and asking basic questions.
- Read, write and comprehend simple and short sentences.

Also, students will be introduced to basic cultural and social Arabic topics such as greetings, family members and socialization. Documentary and movies will be shown in support of these topics.

### **Academic Standards**

Students are responsible to honor the University of Florida Honor Code and Classroom Behavior Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>).

### **Attendance Policy:**

Students are also required to be physically present in the class. Auditing, recording and videotaping will not substitute your presence. You are allowed a total of six excused and unexcused absences. Exceeding the allowed number of excused and unexcused absences will result in an "F" grade for the entire course. Students are also required to prepare for class and participate. Students are required to take scheduled tests and quizzes on their specific dates. Failing to show up for scheduled quizzes or exams will result in an "F" grade for that specific exam or quiz. Make-ups will only be allowed in case an exam or quiz excused absence is supported by official and certified medical reports and certificates.

### **Quizzes and Exams**

There will be a mid-term and final exams. In addition, there will be a weekly short quiz including an oral quiz. Friday class of every week is reserved for, revision, practice, quizzes and exams. Exams will be cumulative and quizzes are subject(s)-specific.

### **Skits**

Class will be divided into smaller groups. Each group has to prepare one skit of 4-6 minutes and present it to class. This is your opportunity to create a suitable context to use the language you learn in class. This will be a group work and I will make sure that everyone does his/ her part in this assignment.

### **Homework Assignments**

Homework should be submitted on time. Late submission of homework **will not be accepted**. There will be a minimum of 3 homework assignments every week. Hardcopies of all homework assignments will be handed out in class. They will also be posted on Sakai.

### **In-class assignments, bookwork, and class participation**

In-class assignments and bookwork will be done and submitted in class. These are timed-assignments and you will not be allowed to take and do them at home or to make them up if you miss class. The lowest 3 assignments grades will be dropped when your final grade is calculated. Some of the behaviors that may negatively impact your class participation grade include entering class late and leaving early, repeatedly going in and out during class, not paying attention, working on materials for other classes, using electronic devices including your phone for a purpose other than for the class, talking to neighbors, making inappropriate comments, using foul language, getting involved in any sort of disruptive behavior and coming to class unprepared.

### **Grades Breakdown**

Midterm exams: 20%

Final Exam. 30%

Homework and skit: 20%

Quizzes: 20%

In-class assignments, bookwork, attendance and participation: 10%

The course grading and grade points will be as follows:

A	93-100	4.0
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	67-69	1.33
D	63-66	1.0
D-	60-62	0.67
E	less than 60%	0
WF, I, NG, S-U		0

## Semester Schedule

<b>Week One</b>	
Grammar	1/ possessive pronouns (singular pronouns) 2/ Present tense conjugation (with singular pronouns)
Bookwork	Units 1, 2 and 3 in the workbook
Class activities	1/ test your knowledge of Arabic countries 2/Greeting each other. 3/ introducing yourself. 4/ practice sheets.
Assignments	Daily homework assignments (1-5) Daily in-class assignments (1-5)
Quiz/ Test	Quiz 1
<b>Week Two</b>	
Grammar	1/ possessive pronouns (Plural pronouns) 2/ Present tense conjugation (with Plural pronouns)
Bookwork	Units 4, 5 and 6 in the workbook
Class activities	1/ Vocabulary Review 2/ practice sheets.
Assignments	Daily homework assignments (6-10) Daily in-class assignments (6-10)
Quiz/ Test	Quiz 2
<b>Week Three</b>	
Grammar	1/ feminine and masculine nouns and adjectives 2/ demonstrative pronouns
Bookwork	Unit1 in Ahlan wa Sahlan book
Class activities	1/ Listening practice 2/ Practice sheets.
Assignments	Daily homework assignments (11-15) Daily in-class assignments (11-15)
Quiz/ Test	Midterm
<b>Week Four</b>	
Grammar	1/ the definitive article. 2/ Adjectives conjugation
Bookwork	Unit 2 in Ahlan wa Sahlan book
Class activities	1/ Family members 2/ Speaking practice 3/ Practice sheets.
Assignments	1/ Daily homework assignments (16-20) 2/ Daily in-class assignments (16-20) 3/ Reading practice
Quiz/ Test	Quiz 3

<b>Week Five</b>	
Grammar	Past tense
Bookwork	Unit 3 in Ahlan wa Sahlan book
Class activities	1/ Hobbies 2/ Reading practice 3/ In-class conversation 4/ practice sheets.
Assignments	1/ Daily homework assignments (21-25) 2/ Daily in-class assignments (21-25)
Quiz/ Test	Quiz 4
<b>Week Six</b>	
Grammar	Paste tense negation
Bookwork	Unit 4 in Ahlan wa Sahlan book
Class activities	1/ School-related subjects 2/ Reading practice 3/ Practice sheets. 4/ Final Test Review
Assignments	Daily homework assignments (26-28) Daily in-class assignments (26-28)
Quiz/ Test	Final Test

### **Holidays**

May 30: Memorial Day