



Instructor information:

Instructor: Sarra Tlili

Office hours: Thursday 10-12

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meeting times and places

T | Period 9 (4:05 PM - 4:55 PM) MAT 0102

R | Period 8 - 9 (3:00 PM - 4:55 PM) MAT 0102

Course description and objectives

This course is designed to help students reach advanced low level in speaking, listening, reading-comprehension, and writing using the ACTFEL Guidelines:

Speaking:

- Speakers at the Advanced Low sublevel are able to handle a variety of communicative tasks. They are able to participate in most informal and some formal conversations on topics related to school, home, and leisure activities. They can also speak about some topics related to employment, current events, and matters of public and community interest.
- Advanced Low speakers demonstrate the ability to narrate and describe in the major time frames of past, present, and future in paragraph-length discourse with some control of aspect. In these narrations and descriptions, Advanced Low speakers combine and link sentences into connected discourse of paragraph length, although these narrations and descriptions tend to be handled separately rather than interwoven. They can handle appropriately the essential linguistic challenges presented by a complication or an unexpected turn of events.
- Responses produced by Advanced Low speakers are typically not longer than a single paragraph. The speaker's dominant language may be evident in the use of false cognates, literal translations, or the oral paragraph structure of that language. At times their discourse may be minimal for the level, marked by an irregular flow, and containing noticeable self-correction. More generally, the performance of Advanced Low speakers tends to be uneven.
- Advanced Low speech is typically marked by a certain grammatical roughness (e.g., inconsistent control of verb endings), but the overall performance of the Advanced-level tasks is sustained, albeit minimally. The vocabulary of Advanced



Low speakers often lack specificity. Nevertheless, Advanced Low speakers are able to use communicative strategies such as rephrasing and circumlocution.

- Advanced Low speakers contribute to the conversation with sufficient accuracy, clarity, and precision to convey their intended message without misrepresentation or confusion. Their speech can be understood by native speakers unaccustomed to dealing with non-natives, even though this may require some repetition or restatement. When attempting to perform functions or handle topics associated with the Superior level, the linguistic quality and quantity of their speech will deteriorate significantly.

Listening:

- At the Advanced Low sublevel, listeners are able to understand short conventional narrative and descriptive texts with a clear underlying structure though their comprehension may be uneven. The listener understands the main facts and some supporting details. Comprehension may often derive primarily from situational and subject-matter knowledge.

Reading:

- At the Advanced Low sublevel, readers are able to understand conventional narrative and descriptive texts with a clear underlying structure though their comprehension may be uneven. These texts predominantly contain high-frequency vocabulary and structures. Readers understand the main ideas and some supporting details. Comprehension may often derive primarily from situational and subject-matter knowledge. Readers at this level will be challenged to comprehend more complex texts.
- At the Advanced Low sublevel, listeners are able to understand short conventional narrative and descriptive texts with a clear underlying structure though their comprehension may be uneven. The listener understands the main facts and some supporting details. Comprehension may often derive primarily from situational and subject-matter knowledge

Writing:

- Writers at the Advanced Low sublevel are able to meet basic work and/or academic writing needs. They demonstrate the ability to narrate and describe in major time frames with some control of aspect. They are able to compose simple summaries on familiar topics. Advanced Low writers are able to combine and link sentences into texts of paragraph length and structure. Their writing, while adequate to satisfy the criteria of the Advanced level, may not be substantive. Writers at the Advanced Low sublevel demonstrate the ability to incorporate a limited number of cohesive devices, and may resort to some redundancy and awkward repetition. They rely on patterns of oral discourse and the writing style of their first language. These writers demonstrate minimal control of common



structures and vocabulary associated with the Advanced level. Their writing is understood by natives not accustomed to the writing of non-natives, although some additional effort may be required in the reading of the text. When attempting to perform functions at the Superior level, their writing will deteriorate significantly.

How to prepare for this course:

Vocabulary:

Study your vocabulary before coming to class. You'll need more than one skill to **memorize** and **activate** your vocabulary:

- Complete your homework carefully.
- Repeat while you listen, try to write the word over and over again while saying it aloud, or write the word as you listen to it.
- Pay attention to grammatical information given in the vocabulary lists. The dictionary form of a word is usually not the one you need, so play with various forms of new words: past, present, future, different persons, singular, and plural.
- Learning vocabulary actively means combining **mechanical** practice, **personalization**, and **play**.
 - Mechanical practice involves listening to, repeating aloud, and writing out the words and their contextualizing sentences.
 - Personalization involves using the word in a context **meaningful to you**.
 - Playtime, having fun with words and sentences, may be the most important of these three.

Grammar

First, **memorize your awzān** (root and pattern system). Your knowledge of them is essential to working at an advanced level of Arabic.

For each lesson, study the theoretical part **before** coming to class. Typically, class time will not be used to discuss and explain grammatical rules.

Required Course Materials

• الكتاب في تعلّم اللغة العربيّة – الجزء الثاني

- Companion Website <https://www.alkitaabtextbook.com>
- Useful links:

http://readarabic.nflc.umd.edu/?page=home	اقرأ/أقرأ العربية
https://www.laits.utexas.edu/aswaat/about0.php	أصوات عربية



http://conjugator.reverso.net/conjugation-arabic.html	تصريف الأفعال
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCveWF_pYtoVJqrPCqk3D1nQ	حقائق في دقائق
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM_eRAW1Ia92NxZu-aKM-kw	موضوع Mawdoo3

Course Requirements

Attendance: You may miss three 50-minute sessions. Beyond this, any unexcused absence will cost you **half** a point of your **COURSE** grade (If your course grade is A, with one unexcused absence it becomes A-, etc.). If you are absent for a valid reason, please inform me as soon as you can and bring supporting documentation (for example: doctor's note). Please note: if you ask for permission to miss class for a personal reason I will interpret this as a sign of courtesy and respect on your part only, but I will not allow you more additional absences. Try to save your absences for the times when you will need them the most!

Late arrivals. Arriving to class after the first five minutes for three times will be the equivalent of one absence. Note also that pop quizzes are usually given in the first five minutes of class. If you fail to take or finish your quiz you will **NOT** be given a second chance to take it.

Participation: Class participation is crucial to language learning. In order to earn full credit for your participation you need to be fully present (body and soul!) Your participation needs also to reflect your familiarity with the course material (new vocabulary, grammar, themes of discussion, etc.).

Homework: Homework will be assigned on most days. Your homework needs to be submitted through course website (I will provide you with a course code) before you come to class.

Handwritten homework must be neat and legible: If I cannot read your handwriting I will not grade your assignment (this means an "F"). English assignments must be typed. With both Arabic and English assignments pay close attention to stylistic and grammatical details. Failure to do so will affect your grades.

Quizzes: There will be many pop quizzes over the semester.

Tests: There will be 2 midterms and one final. The following are tentative dates:

- First midterm: September 19th

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- Second midterm: October 17th
- Final: December 3rd

Audio visual project

- In groups of two or three, prepare and record a talk show in Arabic. More instructions will be provided in class.

Grading:

Attendance and homework: 20%

First midterm: 20%

Second midterm: 20%

Final: 25%

Quizzes: 5%

Audio visual project: 10%

Grade distribution

93-100	A	73-76	C
90-92	A-	70-72	C-
87-89	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	63-66	D
80-82	B-	60-62	D-
77-79	C+	LESS THAN 60	E

General administrative issues

A C- grade will not be sufficient for Majors or Minors or count towards a GE or Gordon Rule Credit or College Basic Distribution Credit. See UF website on grading policy:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Canvas and course website

All assignments, announcements, exercises, study guides, grades, etc. will be posted to the course website and Canvas. It is your responsibility to check the website regularly and keep up to date with the class.

Cell Phones and other electronic devices:

Students are expected to turn off - or put on silent + no vibration - and put away all cell phones during class sessions. Please do not use your phones to look up the meaning of words during class time as this will interfere with your ability to develop important language skills. Phones and other electronic devices may be used only when they are needed for certain class activities.



Academic Honesty

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. Violations of the honor code include, but are not limited to: plagiarism, cheating, bribery, misrepresentation, fabrication, and conspiracy. Such violations may result in the following: lowering of grades, mandatory 0 on assignments, redoing assignments, a final failing grade in the course, expulsion from the course, referral to the student-run Honor Court. The Honor Code states: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment. For more information, refer to: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/Academic_Honesty.html

Students with Special Needs

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. More information can be found at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

Letters of recommendation:

If you wish me to write a letter of recommendation on your behalf, before you approach me with a request, please make sure that:

- You will earn / have earned at least B+ in all classes you had with me.
- You had regular attendance.
- You did all required work, including ungraded work.
- You never behaved in a disrespectful way - tacitly or otherwise - with me or your classmates.

Final Points:

- When you email me allow 24 hours to receive a reply.
- Feel free to address me as يا أستاذة
- I look forward to an exciting and fulfilling semester!

Course Plan

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In this semester we plan to cover chapters **6 to 8** from *Al-Kitāb: Part Two*. We will spend an average of five weeks on each chapter. You should expect to spend six hours per week on the preparation of your homework, and more (informal) time on the memorization of the new vocabulary (Repeat your new words when you shower, exercise, drive - even when you dream during your sleep :)). Homework assignments will be posted on Canvas on a weekly basis.

Please Note: There are no classes on Thursday, November 21st and Tuesday, November 26th.