

**ARA 1131 Spring 2021** (January 11<sup>th</sup> - April 21<sup>st</sup>)  
Online (100%)  
M,T,W,R,F | Period 5 (11:45 AM - 12:35 PM)  
Face to Face Section  
M,T,W,R,F | Period 5 (11:45 AM - 12:35 PM)  
From Jan 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> will be held online

**Instructor: Salah Algabli**

**E-mail:** [Salahalgabli@ufl.edu](mailto:Salahalgabli@ufl.edu)

**Office Hours:** T/Th (10:00 AM- 11:00 AM) & by appointment

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### **Textbooks and teaching materials:**

The Arabic taught in this course is Modern Standard Arabic. However, references are made to the various dialects of Arab countries and select material will be presented in other Arabic dialect for comparison with MSA. The aim of the course is to provide a good understanding of the Arabic used in the spoken and print mass media in all Arab countries. A solid knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic would be very helpful in subsequent studies of specific Arabic dialects for those who desire to acquire them. Throughout the semester, the course will rely on a communicative approach to learning and teaching at all times. It will stress oral skills in the study of the language and use of Arabic in class.

1. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum Al-Arabiya, A Textbook for Beginning Arabic*, 3rd edition, Georgetown University Press.
2. Recommended web site: Arabic verb conjugator, <https://qutrub.arabeyes.org/>
3. Additional materials (handouts, practical activities related to the main subjects) will be added in class when needed.

### **Course Objectives**

By the end of this semester, students will be expected to perform at the Novice High to Intermediate Low level of proficiency in Arabic based on the *ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012*. This means that students will be expected to do the following:

In the “speaking” area of the language:

- Manage successfully a number of uncomplicated tasks by creating with the language in straightforward social situations.
- Handle conversation in a few predictable topics and face-to-face conversation necessary for survival in the target language culture such as information about self and family, some daily activities and preferences, and immediate needs such as ordering food and making simple purchases.
- Respond to simple, direct questions or requests for information (e.g., about biographical information, business hours).
- Ask a few basic questions.

In the “writing” area of the language:

- Meet limited, basic, practical writing needs using lists, short messages, postcards, and simple notes.
- Write about predictable topics related to personal information and daily life.
- Recombine learned vocabulary and structures to create simple sentences on very familiar topics.

In the “listening” area of the language:

- Understand information from sentence-length speech, one utterance at a time, in basic personal and social contexts with contextual or extra-linguistic support (although comprehension may be very uneven)
- Understand speech dealing with areas of practical needs such as highly standardized messages, phrases, or instructions, if the vocabulary has been learned.

In the “reading” area of the language:

- Understand some information from the simplest connected texts dealing with a limited number of personal and social needs.
- Understand predicable language and messages such as those found on train schedules, roadmaps and street signs.
- Drive meaning from short, non-complex texts that convey basic information with the help of contextual or extra-linguistic support.

## **Classroom policy**

**Canvas:** All assignments, announcements, exercises, study guides, grades and other materials will be posted on the Canvas course page. It is your responsibility to check the page regularly and keep up with all materials and announcements that will be posted.

### **Attendance:**

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies>. Attendance is mandatory and will be assessed by roll call. You may miss three sessions without any penalty. Students will lose 1% from their final grade for each unexcused absence. Absences will be excused in accordance with UF policy. Acceptable excuses include illness, religious holidays, & military obligation. These need to be documented excuses. Should you miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for informing yourself as to the material covered. Except in the case of certified illness or other UF accepted excuse, there will be no make-up option for missed exams/assignments. Where possible, make-ups should be arranged prior to absence. Alternatively, students should contact me in return to classes. Arriving late or leaving early (before class is dismissed) is considered a half absence and results in minus 0.5% from the final grade. After 15 unexcused absences, a student is not allowed to attend class anymore and s/he will receive a failing grade.

### **Late and Make-Up Work:**

No late work will be accepted or make-ups will be offered unless the student offers a legitimate documented excuse. See Attendance above.

### **Academic Integrity:**

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:

### **Students with Special Needs:**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (Disability Resources in Reid Hall). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Contact the Disability Resources Center (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) for information about available resources.

### **Counseling & Mental Health Resources:**

Students facing difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help should call the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352-392-1575; <https://drc.dso.ufl.edu/>).

### **Class Demeanor:**

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in the discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

### **Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code may be found here:**

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code>

### **Or maybe saved as The Orange Book:**

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2018/08/The-Orange-Book-Web.pdf>

### **Accommodations:**

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. For more information see <https://disability.ufl.edu>.

### **Resources Available for Students:**

#### **HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

- U Matter, We Care: [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu); 392-1575
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx> ; 392-1575
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center; 392-1161
- University Police Department: <http://www.police.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1111 (911 for emergencies)
- ACADEMIC RESOURCES
- E-learning technical support: [Learningsupport@ufl.edu](mailto:Learningsupport@ufl.edu); <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml> ; 352- 392-4357 (opt. 2)
- Career Resource Center: Reitz Union; <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1601
- Library Support: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>
- Teaching Center: Broward Hall; 392-2010 or 392-6420
- Writing Studio: 302 Tigert Hall; <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> ; 846-1138

### **Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are

open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>

**Online:**

- Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited. Both audio presence and video presence are required in this course. Face to face section is a hybrid course which means 49% will be held online and %51 will be held in person.

**Grades:**

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

Exams (1-2-3): 45 %

Homework: 15 %

Quizzes: 10 %

Final Group Project (conference): 15%

Assignments, Preparation and Oral Participation: 15%

The course letter grades 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

**30% Daily assignments, homework, preparation, presentations and participation:**

Attendance, preparation, participation, and prompt communication with your professor are crucial to your success in this course. An online course requires rigorous planning, organization, and steady, everyday participation in the assigned activities, so that you can learn constantly and avoid “cramming” for assignments. “Cramming” does not lead to good lasting results in any subject matter and even less so in a foreign language. Learning Arabic Language needs to be practiced every day for you to achieve your goals. You will have assignments to complete almost every day in preparation for this course. You are expected to spend at least 2 hours per credit hour on homework and assigned activities. In the event that no homework is assigned, you should spend that time reviewing the material. Late homework will receive zero points.

**Oral Performance:** You will be evaluated based on your oral participation in class every day. Using English in class will negatively affect your oral performance grade. Each day, you will be given an oral performance grade that ranges from 0-5, based on the following criteria:

5	Attend class, arrive on time, listen to others, volunteer to speak, engage with conversation partner, avoid English, demonstrate preparation
4	Attend class, arrive on time, listen to others, engage with conversation partner, avoid English demonstrate preparation but participate only when called on
3	Attend class but participate minimally, or be late, or use English or be unprepared
2	Attend class but participate minimally, use English, and demonstrate lack of preparation
1	Attend class but do not participate
0	Miss class

Since much of the curriculum is built around activities conducted exclusively during class time (such as the listening and speaking components of the course), active and enthusiastic participation during class in Arabic only is an absolute requirement for all students. Students should join virtual class well prepared and ready to take an active role. All four skills will be integrated into all tasks and on-line activities which will relate to basic real-life situations and culture. Students are expected to do role plays and work in pairs and groups. The instructor will mainly facilitate and monitor class activities; real learning occurs when class activities are student-led.

Note that if you miss class, regardless of the reason, you will earn a 0 for that day because I have no basis on which to evaluate your oral performance. If you miss a day here or there, you should find out what you missed from a classmate. If you miss multiple consecutive days because of another emergency, please consult with me about how you can make up your missed oral performance points. Attendance is mandatory and will be assessed by roll call every day as it is explained above.

#### **10% Quizzes:**

You will be given every other week online. Quizzes are designed to help you practice what you have learned and help me as an instructor to see where you need help.

#### **15% Group Project:**

You will work as one group or two groups to produce a conference in Arabic. You will be required to submit a bio of yourself, a presentation conference abstract and a report of your service. You will be also required to present your topic in the conference for no more than ten minutes. More detailed information and rubric will be shared with you in week 3.

#### **45% Exams:**

You will have three comprehensive written and oral exams this semester that will test your ability to put everything you've learned together to communicate in real situations. The exams will take place on the following dates: **Exam 1: February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 - Exam 2: March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 - Exam 3: April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Dates are tentative and subject to change based on different considerations. Students, however, will be consulted and advised of the new dates.

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