

University of Florida
Department of Languages, Literatures, & Cultures
Arabic Program
ARA 3240
Spoken Arabic
Spring 2021

Instructor: Youssef A. Haddad
Meeting Time: MWRF 3rd Period (9:35-10:25 a.m.)
Room: MWF: TUR 2342; R: On your own at home
Zoom: MWF: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/97895987451>; R: On your own at home
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 1:00-2:00 p.m. OR by appointment
Office: 357 PUGH or via Zoom: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/97383156101>
Tel: 273-2958
E-Mail: yah@ufl.edu

Prerequisite: ARA 2221

Important:

- This course counts toward the Foreign Languages and Literatures - Arabic Major.
- It does NOT count toward the Minor in Arabic Language and Literature.

Textbooks and other sources:

- Required Textbook:
Liddicoat, Mary-Jane, Richard Lennane, and Iman Abdul Rahim. 2008. *Syrian Colloquial Arabic*.
- YouTube Channel
Our Family Life *حياة عيلتنا*
<https://www.youtube.com/c/OurFamilyLifeJO/videos>
- Other audio and audio-visual material that will be made available on reserve in Library West and on Canvas.
- Recommended: The following books and audio files from Lingualism
<http://www.lingualism.com/> :
 - Haki Kill Yoom 1
 - Haki Kill Yoom 2
 - Syrian Arabic Voices
- Recommended: <https://podcast.aljazeera.net/> - my favorites:

لحظة	بعد أمس
رموز	من الآخر

Save them on your Podcasts app and listen while exercising, walking across campus, etc.

Course description:

The course helps students develop listening/speaking and conversational skills at the intermediate level of proficiency. The focus is on a middle variety of Arabic known as Educated Spoken Arabic that allows them to communicate successfully with educated Arab speakers from virtually any country in the Arab world.

The course includes a mixture of Standard Arabic and Levantine Arabic (mainly Syrian Arabic of Damascus and Jordanian Arabic of Amman). The course mimics the diglossic situation in the Arab

world, whereby every country has a formal variety (Standard Arabic) and an informal variety (colloquial Arabic).

- Keywords: REPETITION and REINFORCEMENT
- Prerequisite: MOTIVATION and DISCIPLINE
- Implication: lots of WORK both at HOME and in CLASS

Course Objectives:

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

1. In the “speaking” area of the language:
 - a. Manage to converse with confidence about informal topics related to school, home, and recreation, as well as some formal topics related to current events and matters of public interest.
 - b. Handle conversation about a substantial number of topics related to daily life.
 - c. Narrate and describe using connected discourse and present, past, and future time frames.
 - d. Ask and respond to a variety of questions or requests for information.

2. In the “listening” area of the language:
 - a. Understand main facts and some supporting details in short conventional narrative and descriptive texts.
 - b. Manage to derive substantial meaning from connected texts dealing with familiar and predictable topics.

Course requirements:

- 1) Repetition Assignments: (10 assignments; 20 points each; 20%)
Due on Wednesdays.

For each assignment, you are expected to work alone and/or with a partner to record your performance of audio and printed material that we have worked on in class. The recorded performance is expected to sound native-like ... or at least easy to understand by a native speaker of Arabic who is used to communicating with non-native Arabic speakers. This level of performance requires listening and repeating until your pronunciation and intonation sound like the native speakers in the audio files.

- 2) Controlled Speaking Assignments: (10 assignments; 20 points each; 20%)
Due on Fridays.

For each assignment, you are expected to work alone and/or with a partner to produce and record structures similar to structures we learnt in class but with different content, using familiar and new vocabulary.

- 3) Free Speaking Assignments: (5 assignments; 40 points each; 20%)
Due on Mondays.

For each assignment, you are expected to work alone and/or with a partner to produce and video-record new monologues and dialogues about topics covered in class. Total time expected of each student is 5 minutes of recorded material.

- 4) **Thursday Listening Assignments:** (10 assignments; 20 points each; 20%)
Available on Canvas during class time – more specifically, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. – on Thursdays.

For each assignment, you are expected to work alone to answer questions about a 3-to-6-minute video from the series *Our Family Life* **حياة عيالتنا**
<https://www.youtube.com/c/OurFamilyLifeJO/videos>

Throughout the semester, you will watch 5 videos. You will work on each video for two sessions (two assignments per video). The first assignment involves writing the dialog (using the closed captioning) and writing down any questions you have about the video. The second assignment involves more focused comprehension questions.

- 5) **Exams:** *All exams are oral exams performed by two or three students. All exams will be graded based on a rubric provided on Canvas. There will be two types of exams:*

- a. **Two Recorded Oral Exams:** (150 points each – 30%)

These are oral performances based on prompts and road maps that will be available on Canvas a week in advance. Each pair of students is expected to carry out an evenly distributed 10-minute conversation and record it as an MP3 file; the file can then be uploaded to Canvas.

- i. Recorded Oral Exam 1: Monday, February 3rd
- ii. Recorded Oral Exam 2: Monday, March 30th

- 6) **Two Face-to-Face Oral Exams:** (150 points each – 30%)

These are oral performances based on prompts and road maps that will be available on Canvas a week in advance. Students are expected meet with me individually for a 20-minute interview.

- i. Face-to-Face Oral Exam 1: Thursday & Friday, February 25-26
- ii. Face-to-Face Oral Exam 2: Monday & Wednesday, April 19 & 21

Grading Scale (& GPA equivalent):

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
100-93	92-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-67	63-66	62-60	59-
(4.0)	(3.67)	(3.33)	(3.0)	(2.67)	(2.33)	(2.0)	(1.67)	(1.33)	(1.0)	(0.67)	(0)

Students will need to earn a C or higher to use this course toward a major or minor and/or earn General Education Credit.

To receive writing requirement credit, a student must receive a grade of C or higher and a satisfactory completion of the writing component of the course.

For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Canvas

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

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 2 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 on 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.

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 to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in 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 may be 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/>.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- U Matter, We Care: umatter@ufl.edu; 392-1575
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/> ; 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; <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/> .

Check out the following document on the course homepage on Canvas for suggestions and expectations about online courses:

[Netiquette Guide for Online Courses](#)

SCHEDULE

This schedule is tentative and subject to change. Check Canvas for announcements.

Weeks	Topics	Textbook Chapter
1 -3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- At the airport- Describing your country- Reporting and claiming lost luggage- Telling the time- Song 1- Our Family Life: ترى شغل البيت بس للبنات؟	Liddicoat et al. – ch. 1
4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Catching a cab- Asking for and giving directions- Numbers and currency- Song 2- Our Family Life: ست الحبايب	Liddicoat et al. – ch. 2
7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Renting a room or an apartment- Talking about hotel facilities- Paying for accommodation- Counting floors in a building- Around the house- Song 3- Our Family Life: التمر وسند	Liddicoat et al. – ch. 3
10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- At the restaurant- Food: fruit and vegetables- Ordering and paying at a restaurant- Song 4- Our Family Life: ماما وبابا اسمعونا	Liddicoat et al. – ch. 4
13-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Shopping and bargaining- Shopping for clothes- Shopping for grocery- Comparing things- Song 5- Our Family Life: الإساءة للأطفال	Liddicoat et al. – ch. 5