

**ARABIC 101: Elementary Arabic**  
**M-T-W-Th-F 10:00-10:50 AM, Faculty Tech Development Center**

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***Course Description:***

Arabic 101 is an elementary course designed to introduce learners to the basic structures of Arabic and its uses in common situations of everyday communication. Arabic 101 is the first course of a two-term sequence in elementary Arabic at Oxford College of Emory University. The course will introduce you to Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and to the cultures of the Arabic-speaking world. In this course, you will be offered combined training in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and grammar. The first few weeks of the semester will be spent learning the alphabet and the spelling conventions of MSA. Every now and then, we will draw on—although not cover deeply—the “multiplicity” of the Arabic language, namely the coexistence of spoken and written Arabic in order to prepare you for the complex reality of the language. You will be provided with opportunities to practice Arabic through the use of highly-structured drills, contextualized exercises, and supplementary communicative activities. You will be expected to spend a lot of time working on the course on your own and/or with your classmates, and to participate in class. Class participation is key to your progress in learning Arabic. Remember that Arabic is the official language of more than 20 countries, some of which were the birthplaces of great ancient civilizations. Arabic is also the language of a booming music and film industry as well as the language of a significant body of literature, and a politically remarkable and vital part of the world. Learning Arabic is an exciting and challenging experience that may become a great asset to have in today’s job market.

***Course Objectives:***

By the time Arabic 101 is completed, students:

1. Will have mastered the Arabic alphabet and sound system; will be able to distinguish and pronounce correctly all Arabic sounds; and will be able to write accurately from dictation.
2. Will be able to read short texts on familiar topics and will have the confidence to guess the meaning of some new words from context.
3. Will be able to speak about themselves and their environment and carry out basic conversations related to daily life.
4. Will be able to initiate & sustain short conversations on a number of familiar topics.
5. Will be able to understand native speakers to a certain extent.
6. Will be able to compose simple paragraphs about themselves and their family & friends.
7. Will gain some knowledge with regard to the differences between formal Arabic (MSA) and the spoken dialects and the contexts in which the two registers (the written and the spoken) are used or mixed.
8. Will understand many aspects of Arab cultures.
9. Will have an active vocabulary of 250-350 Arabic words.

**Required Texts and Materials:**

1. Brustad, Kristen, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. *Alif Baa: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*. Third Edition. Washington D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2010. (This book comes with a DVD and a web companion that we will use. We will be using this textbook for the first month or so of the class.)
2. Brustad, Kristen, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic, Part One*. Third Edition. Washington D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2011. (We will switch to this textbook after completing *Alif Baa*)
3. *Canvas*: In this course *Canvas* may be used to distribute course materials, communicate online, post assignments & announcements, etc...

**Recommended:** A reliable Arabic/English dictionary such as:

1. Cowan, J.M., ed. *The Hans Wehr Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*. Fourth Edition. Urbana, IL: Spoken Language Services, 1993.

**Grade Distribution:**

• Attendance and Class Participation	15%
• Homework assignments	15%
• Quizzes	10%
• Tests	30%
• Oral presentations	10%
• Final Examination	20%

➤ **Attendance and Class Participation (15%)**

You must attend class and come prepared for class activities; this means following the syllabus, studying vocabulary and grammar, and being ready to participate. You must attend all classes throughout the semester and arrive to class on time. You are allowed to be absent for a total of four (4) class sessions. With every additional absence your final grade for this class will go down 4%. This means you will have to plan ahead with your allowance of four absences. Talk to me ahead of time if you foresee any difficulties for yourself with this policy.

My expectations of professionalism extend, of course, to classroom etiquette. This includes such behavior as arriving on time, staying in the classroom until an official break or the end of the class period, packing up only when class has finished, and using a computer only for class purposes. You must not use cellphones and other wireless devices during class. Being absent does not absolve one from homework or preparing for the following class.

➤ **Homework Assignments (15%)**

For every class meeting you should expect to spend at least 2 hours outside of class on review and preparation. There will be regular homework assignments. You will self-correct most of these assignments with the help of an answer key I will provide. Self-correcting homework benefits you in a number of ways: (1) You become more aware of why and how doing the exercises and assignments helps you learn Arabic; (2) you see exactly where you are progressing well and where you are still struggling; and (3) you obtain feedback much sooner than if your instructor collects the assignments, corrects them, and then returns them to you some days later.

Turn in assignments written out on paper at the beginning of class on the day designated by the instructor. Please hand in assignments written out clearly on a separate sheet of paper; double space your work to allow for comments and feedback; do not Xerox pages out of the book. Should you use more than one sheet of paper for your homework, please staple them before turning them in. You will be graded on the overall quality of your work, not on the number of correct or incorrect answers. It is important to follow up on my comments on your work, and it is your responsibility to come to my office hours or make an appointment to see me when needed. You can turn in late homework assignments for my feedback but late assignments cannot earn credit. You are encouraged to study and work on homework assignments together, with the stipulation that each student must participate fully in doing the work and must submit her/his own individual paper. Remember that the honor code is in effect in this class. Submitting work that is not your own, or that you did not participate fully in doing, is a violation of that code.

➤ **Quizzes (10%)**

These are 7-10 minute quizzes to test spelling, listening ability, vocabulary, grammar, and concepts learned in class and at home. They are a way to assure that students are keeping up, as well as a means to reinforce subjects covered. There will be no make-up quizzes.

➤ **Tests (30%)**

These are scheduled comprehensive tests covering the grammar and vocabulary learned. Tests will typically include an oral section and various vocabulary and grammar exercises related to the units in question.

NB: Only students with valid documented absences may take the makeup test, which will have to be taken no later than one week from the student's resumption of attendance.

➤ **Oral presentations (10%)**

These are 2 small research projects conducted with a partner. (If you prefer to work alone, let me know.) It is important in today's world to learn about other cultures, religions, histories, geographies, politics, etc. You will choose a topic related to the Arabic-speaking world, and give a 10-minute presentation to the class. While the presentation will be conducted mostly in English, you will provide the class with a list of 15-20 Arabic words relevant to your topic, with their English translation. You will also provide the class with a handout containing the most important and/or interesting information about the topic, useful websites, etc. One presentation will be scheduled half way in the semester and one towards the end of the semester.

➤ **Final Examination (20%)**

The final exam will be comprehensive and shall take place on **Wednesday, 19 Dec. 2018 @ 2-5 PM**. More info will be provided as we approach the end of the semester.

**Grading Scale:**

A = 93-100	B+ = 87-89	B- = 80-82	C = 70-74	F = 59 and below
A- = 90-92	B = 83-86	C+ = 75-79	D = 60-69	

## **Policies**

### **Academic Integrity**

All students deserve an atmosphere of fairness, honesty and maturity. All of us at Oxford College live by the standards set forth in the Honor Code, which includes the “responsibility for maintaining standards of unimpeachable honesty in all academic work.” The Honor Code also indicates that we cannot tolerate actions in others that violate this code, so we (and you) are obligated to report violations. Oxford College takes this honor code very seriously, as do I, and penalties for violations are severe. Please read the Honor Code carefully; I will trust you to conduct yourselves accordingly. See the Honor Code:

<http://oxford.emory.edu/academics/student-services/student-honor-code>

### **Accommodating Students with a Disability**

- If you have a documented disability and have anticipated barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, or presume having a disability (e.g. mental health, attention, learning, vision, hearing, physical or systemic), and are in need of accommodations for this semester, we encourage you to contact the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS) to learn more about the registration process and steps for requesting accommodations at

[oas\\_oxford@emory.edu](mailto:oas_oxford@emory.edu).

- If you are a student that is currently registered with OAS and have not requested or received a copy of your accommodation notification letter, please notify OAS immediately. Students who have accommodations in place are encouraged to coordinate sometime with your professor, during the first week of the semester, to communicate your specific needs for the course as it relates to your approved accommodations. Accommodations are not implemented until the instructor is provided an accommodation letter and discusses the accommodation plan for this course face to face with the OAS student. All discussions with OAS and faculty concerning the nature of your disability remain confidential.

For additional information regarding OA: <http://equityandinclusion.emory.edu/access>

### **Religious Holidays**

Instructors are encouraged, not required, to accommodate students' academic needs related to religious holidays. Please make every effort to negotiate your religious holiday needs within the first two weeks of the semester; waiting longer may compromise your instructor's ability to extend satisfactory arrangements. If you need guidance negotiating your needs related to a religious holiday, the College Chaplain, Rev. Lyn Pace, [ppace@emory.edu](mailto:ppace@emory.edu), Candler Hall 202, is willing and available to help.

*\*\*Please be aware that Rev. Pace is not tasked with excusing students from classes or writing excuses for students to take to their professors.*

### **Affirmative Action & Sexual Harassment**

All persons shall have equal access to programs, facilities, admission, and employment without regard to personal characteristics not related to ability, performance, or qualifications as determined by university policies. Discrimination against any person because of age, ancestry, color, disability or handicap, national origin, race, religious creed, gender, sexual orientation, or veteran status is unacceptable.

**Title IX Reporting**

Every Emory employee who is informed about an allegation of sexual misconduct involving any student is required to notify a Title IX Coordinator either directly or through their relevant reporting structure. However, employees who serve in a professional role in which communications are afforded confidential status under the law (e.g., medical providers, therapists, and professional and pastoral counselors) are not bound by this requirement but may, consistent with their ethical and legal obligations, be required to report limited information about incidents without revealing the identities of the individuals involved, to a Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. All members of the Emory community are encouraged to promptly report incidents of sexual harassment and discrimination.

For more information, visit: <http://sexualmisconductresources.emory.edu/policies/index.html>

**Course Schedule (tentative):**

Week 1	W 8/29	<b><u>In-class:</u></b> Intro to the course; going over the syllabus <b><u>Homework:</u></b> ➤ Read “Preface to the Student” pp. vii-ix ➤ Study pp. 2-9 and focus on Listening Exercise 1 p. 2
	Th. 8/30	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 1
	F 8/31	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 1
Week 2	M 9/3	<i>No class: Labor Day</i>
	T 9/4	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 2
	W 9/5	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 2
	Th. 9/6	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 2
	F 9/7	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 3
Week 3	M 9/10	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 3
	T 9/11	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 3
	W 9/12	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 4
	Th. 9/13	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 4
	F 9/14	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 4
Week 4	M 9/17	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 4
	T 9/18	Review for Test 1
	W 9/19	<b>Test 1</b>
	Th. 9/20	Correction of Test 1
	F 9/21	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 5

Week 5	M 9/24	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 5
	T 9/25	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 5
	W 9/26	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 5
	Th. 9/27	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 6
	F 9/28	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 6
Week 6	M 10/1	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 6
	T 10/2	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 6
	W 10/3	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 7
	Th. 10/4	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 7
	F 10/5	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 7
Week 7	M 10/8	No class: Fall Break
	T 10/9	No class: Fall Break
	W 10/10	Review for Test 2
	Th. 10/11	Test 2
	F 10/12	Correction of Test 2
Week 8	M 10/15	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 8
	T 10/16	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 8
	W 10/17	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 9
	Th. 10/18	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 9
	F 10/19	<i>Alif Baa</i> , Unit 10
Week 9	M 10/22	Presentations (Round 1)
	T 10/23	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 1
	W 10/24	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 1
	Th. 10/25	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 1
	R 10/26	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 1
Week 10	M 10/29	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 1
	T 10/30	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 1
	W 10/31	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 2
	Th. 11/1	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 2
	F 11/2	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 2

Week 11	M 11/5	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 2
	T 11/6	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 2
	W 11/7	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 2
	Th. 11/8	Review for Test 3
	F 11/9	Test 3
Week 12	M 11/12	Correction of Test 3
	T 11/13	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 3
	W 11/14	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 3
	Th. 11/15	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 3
	F 11/16	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 3
Week 13	M 11/19	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 3
	T 11/20	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 3
	Nov. 21-23	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>
Week 14	M 11/26	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 4
	T 11/27	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 4
	W 11/28	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 4
	Th. 11/29	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 4
	F 11/30	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 4
Week 15	M 12/3	<i>Al-Kitaab I</i> , Lesson 4
	T 12/4	Review for Test 4
	W 12/5	Test 4
	Th. 12/6	Test 4 correction
	F 12/7	Presentations (Round 2)
Week 16	M 12/10	Reviewing for Final Exam
	T 12/11	Reviewing for Final Exam & Conclusion of the Course

**NB. The Final Exam shall take place on Wednesday, 19 Dec. 2018 @ 2-5 PM.**