

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Arabic, Persian, and Turkish Language Immersion Institute

Elementary Immersion Arabic – African 327
MTWRF 8:15am-12:45pm

أهلاً وسهلاً بكم!

Elementary Immersion Arabic is a component of the APTLII summer immersion program. It introduces students to the basic Modern Standard Arabic skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking with the incorporation of the Arabic cultural knowledge necessary for efficient and real-life communication in the Arabic language in different situations.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students are expected to have learned the fundamental grammatical structures of the Arabic language. They should be able to internalize the principles of sentence formation, recognize roots, and use the dictionary. They should be also able to greet people politely, introduce themselves, talk about family relations, express their feelings, count in Arabic, and finally understand and hopefully appreciate the Arab culture(s). Although this course will make use of *Alif Baa*^o and *al-Kitaab Part I* (with their audio-visual material), the instructors will also make use of the Web, excerpts from other textbooks, and any other instructional materials that they will design themselves in order to meet their teaching goals as well as the students' goals.

Course Materials

Kristen Brustad and Mahmoud Al-Batal, *Alif Baa: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*, 2nd edition, Washington D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2004.

Al-Tonsi, A., Al-Batal, M., Brustad, K., *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-ʿArabiyya: A Textbook for Arabic, Part I*, 3rd edition, Washington D.C.: Georgetown University Press.

J M. Cowan, Ed. *The Hans Wehr Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*. (Fourth Edition)

Handouts and recommended websites by the instructor from various sources.

Tentative Class Schedule

Week 1: Chapters 1-6 in *Alif Baa* in addition to survival vocabulary
→ Quiz 1: Friday

Week 2: Chapters 6-10 in *Alif Baa* – Begin Chapter 1 in *Al-Kitaab*
→ Quiz 2: Friday

Week 3: Chapters 1 and 2 – Begin Chapter 3 in *Al-Kitaab*

→ Quiz 3: Friday

Week 4: Chapters 3 and 4; Review for Midterm

→ Midterm: Friday

Week 5: Chapters 5 and 6 – Begin Chapter 7

→ **Submit plan of the topic for your Final Presentation.**

→ Quiz 4: Friday

Week 6: Chapters 7 and 8 – Begin Chapter 9

→ Quiz 5: Friday

Week 7: Chapters 9 and 10– Begin Chapter 11

→ Quiz 6: Friday

Week 8: Chapters 11 and 12; Review for Final

→ **Oral Presentations: Thursday**

→ Final Exam: Friday

Evaluation

30% Class attendance, homework assignments, class participation, regular attendance in one mini-course, movies, and field trips.

20% 6 periodic quizzes; 5 of them will be counted and the lowest will be dropped.

15% Midterm. Students will practice reading, listening comprehension, dictation, and composition before taking the exam.

10 % In-class 10 minute oral presentation.

10% 8 journal entries.

15% **Final Exam** will cover grammar, reading and listening comprehension, as well as vocabulary.

Letter Grading Scale:

A: 92%-100%

AB: 88%-91%

B: 80%-87%

BC: 76%-79%

C: 70%-75%

D: 65%-69%

F: 0%-64%

Journals: Each student will be required to write 8 journal entries throughout the summer in order to assess the student's language progress. The content of each entry should derive from the student's subjects of interest, with the guidelines given by the instructor on a weekly basis. They will vary from images with short written comments to longer inputted texts. Electronic files and multi-media use are also encouraged. Students are expected to incorporate into their personal entries the new vocabulary and grammatical structures learned in class. By the end of the

summer, students should be able to see the progress that they have made in their language ability.

Oral Presentation: Each student will be required to give a 10 minute in-class oral presentation on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor. These presentations should be well planned. Students will be allowed to make use of two 3x5 index cards to write main points, which will be turned in as well, but should not write out the presentation. Students are encouraged to make use of visual aids in the presentation. Other students who are not presenting are expected to ask questions of the presenters. More information will be provided during the second week of class.

Websites: Each student will be required to use the web in the variety of assignments, the details of which are going to be provided by the instructor. Some of the websites that will be used throughout the course are:

<http://www.akhbarelyom.org.eg/>

<http://www.ahram.org.eg/>

<http://www.aljazeera.net/portal>

<http://www.alhurra.com/>

<http://www.laits.utexas.edu/aswaat/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/arabic/index.shtml>

Course Policies

Attendance: Regular class attendance and active participation are required. Attendance will be taken every day. Absences will be excused only in case of illness, family or other emergencies, upon the student's presentation of a written explanation establishing the reason for the absence, or with prior approval of the APTLII office and Arabic Director. Four unexcused absences will automatically take the grade to an F.

Daily Preparation: Students are expected to be fully prepared for class; this will be part of the final grade. Preparation entails completing homework and actively participating in class. Students are encouraged to spend at least 4 hours per day on homework and required activities. Assignments must be completed by the beginning of class. As a rule, late assignments will not be accepted, except for a reason approved by the instructor.

Homework: Please follow these guidelines for preparing written homework assignments.

- 1) Hand in a separate piece of paper with your name and the page exercise number.
- 2) Copy the sentence you are being drilled on.
- 3) Write neatly. Arabic script should be beautiful. Messy, scrawled homework will be penalized.
- 4) Skip lines, leaving enough room so that we can write legible corrections for your assistance.

Use of Arabic: Since this is an immersion program and students will sign a language agreement, students are only allowed to use Arabic in the classroom as well as on campus, unless the instructor permits otherwise.

Mini-courses, movies, and field trips: These components of the APTLII program are essential in understanding the Arab culture beyond what will be presented in the classroom. The diversity of the topics that will be covered in such extracurricular activities will provide students with an opportunity to expand their cultural knowledge and understanding. **Students are required to attend all the mandatory activities.** The students are required, but not limited, to attend one mini-course per week. They are required to watch the movies that will be shown to all Arabic students one evening per week. They are required to go to the field trips that are organized as mandatory; the administration will provide a schedule of the field trips on a regular basis. Participation in these activities is part of the course final grade. If a student is not able to participate in a given activity due to an emergency or for religious observance, they have to discuss that with their instructor in advance.

In class: Cell phones and laptops are not allowed in the classroom.

OPI: Students will have an OPI interview on the phone with a licensed OPI assessor at the end of the program to measure their spoken Arabic progress.

On Academic Integrity: Students in this class have the right to expect that their fellow students are upholding the academic integrity of this University. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense at the University because it undermines the bonds of trust and honesty between members of the community and defrauds those who may eventually depend upon our knowledge and integrity. Such dishonesty consists of cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has established a range of penalties for students guilty of plagiarism or academic dishonesty. Appropriate penalties include suspension or expulsion from the university, a failing grade for a course, a failing grade for the assignment, or a reduced grade on a redone assignment. All instances of serious plagiarism are reported to the Dean of Students.

On disability accommodations: Your success in this class is important. If you have a disability or particular circumstance that may have an impact upon your work in this class, please contact me immediately so that we can work together to adapt assignments to meet your needs and the requirements of the course. The McBurney Disability Resource Center (263-2741) is located at 702 W Johnson St, the corner of Lake and Johnson. Students need to provide documentation of a disability to this office in order to receive official university services and accommodations.