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# Intensive Low Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic

## (Modern Standard Arabic - Upper Beginner)

**COURSE DESIGNATOR** MRCO 2801

**Language of Instruction** Arabic

**NUMBER OF CREDITS** 10 credits

**Contact Hours** 180 hours

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

MRCo 2801 aims at expanding vocabulary and introducing some complex grammatical structures. This course will allow the students to further develop the four skills: Listening, reading, writing and speaking. More focus will be placed on reading comprehension and structure recognition. In this course, the students will learn the next seven chapters of *Al-Kitaab Part I*. They will learn vocabulary related to the weather hobbies, studies, jobs, telling the time, daily schedules, and so on. They will expand their grammar by learning the definite and indefinite, adverbs, the dual, the comparative, the superlative, conditionals, adjective phrases, the fronted predicate, cardinal and ordinal numbers, word families (roots and patterns), the past tense, the negation, quantifiers, object pronouns, relative clauses type 1, expressions of location, case endings, etc. The students will learn how to use the Arabic dictionary. This skill will enable them not only to expand their morphological competence, but to be independent learners as well.

By the end of this course, students are expected to construct grammatically correct sentences. They are also expected to be able to talk about their daily activities, what they did or did not yesterday, last weekend, and so on, what they will or won't do the future. They will also be able to talk about food, hobbies, friendships, places, etc.

Since this course emphasizes authentic reading skills, students will learn how to develop their guessing skills. They will learn how to guess the meaning of words from context and how to understand implied information in a passage. They are expected to do the reading tasks at home and come to class prepared to check their understanding and share their information with their classmates.

### INSTRUCTOR

ALIF faculty

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students will be able to

1. Activate the learned vocabulary through a number of interactive activities
2. Grasp basic grammatical structures in Arabic
3. Read simple, short passages and understand their content with the help of a dictionary
4. Read and understand the main ideas of any non-technical text
5. Recognize and use formal and informal register in appropriate situations
6. Understand how to use and exploit skimming techniques in both reading and listening comprehension
7. Give short and concise oral presentations on topics of interest
8. Research and discuss easy topics pertaining to Arab cultures and history

### COURSE PREREQUISITES

MSA 100 (MRCO 3701), Placement test, or Program/Language Coordinator approval

### METHODOLOGY

The students are expected to come to class prepared. They have to watch the DVD component and do the listening exercises at home. They also have to do the vocabulary and reading exercises beforehand, so that they will be able to practice and communicate in class. They are expected to spend a minimum of ten hours a week outside of class on homework and review. The students will also be required to carry out some written and visual projects.

The students will take a quiz at the end of each of the first five weeks. They will take an (cumulative) exam (oral and

written) by the end of the first six weeks.

The students will take a quiz at the end of each of the following two weeks. They will take a final (cumulative) exam (oral and written) by the end of the course.

## REQUIRED READING/MATERIALS

1. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya with DVD 3<sup>rd</sup> edition: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic: Part One*, Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, Abbas Al-Tonsi
2. *A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*, Hans Wehr

MRCO 2801 will cover lessons 5-11 from *Al-Kitaab Part I*.

The textbook will be supplemented by additional materials.

## GRADING

### CRITERIA FOR GRADING AND GRADING STANDARDS

Grading Rubric		
A	93+	Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
A-	90-92	Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.
B+	87-89	
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.
C+	77-79	
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.
D+	67-69	
D	60-66	
F	0-59	Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.

Summary of how grades are weighted:

Quizzes	30%
Final Exam (written)	30%
Final Exam (oral)	20%
Homework	10%
Attendance & Class Participation	10%

**CLASS SCHEDULE****WEEK 1**

- Al-Kitaab Part I 3rd edition: Review exercises
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 1

**WEEK 2**

- Al-Kitaab Part I 3rd edition: Lesson 5
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 2

**WEEK 3**

- Al-Kitaab Part I 3rd edition: Lesson 6
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 3

**WEEK 4**

- Al-Kitaab Part I 3rd edition: Lesson 7
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 4

**WEEK 5**

- Al-Kitaab Part I 3rd edition: Lesson 8
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 5

**WEEK 6**

- Al-Kitaab Part I 3rd edition: Lesson 9
- Review
- Exam

**WEEK 7**

- Al-Kitaab Part I 3rd edition: Review
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 6

## WEEK 8

- Al-Kitaab Part I 3rd edition: Lesson 10
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 7

## WEEK 9

- Al-Kitaab Part I 3rd edition: Lesson 11
- Additional materials
- Review
- Final exam

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular attendance and punctuality are mandatory in order to earn full marks. The final grade will take into consideration preparation required for class (i.e. readings) and participation in class discussions. If you need to miss class for medical reasons, please let the on-site director know in advance of meetings so plans can be made accordingly. If you miss any meetings without an excused absence from the Director, your final grade will be dropped accordingly. In the case of absences, it is the student's responsibility to find out what information was given in class including any announcements made.

### UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own, can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

#### SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:

Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" or "N" for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

#### STUDENT CONDUCT

The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct and student needs. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.