

Media Arabic

COURSE DESIGNATOR MRCO 3006/MSA 350

Language of Instruction Arabic

NUMBER OF CREDITS 5 credits

Contact Hours 90 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course aims at introducing the language of newspapers, magazines, and Internet news to intermediate and advanced students of Modern Standard Arabic. As such, it encourages students to read news critically and expose them to methods of analyzing in media coverage with the help of video and listening activities.

INSTRUCTOR

ALIF faculty

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

- Read extended texts by paying attention to the internal structures
- Practice extensively new vocabulary in context
- Improve their listening abilities and to cope with news coverage on television
- Acquire the techniques of both skimming and scanning long written passages
- Talk about and write their own news stories

COURSE PREREQUISITES

MRCO 3001/MSA 300 (Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic I), or Program/Language Coordinator approval

REQUIRED READING/MATERIALS

Excerpts from relevant books and articles as well as relevant audio and video materials

GRADING

Students will be evaluated for progress by one or two of the following methods:

- Listening tests designed to assess the student's ability to understand the audio and video material
- Oral reports designed to discuss in class one of the topics suggested by the student or teacher
- Written reports designed to show students' mastery of the course and of the Arabic language
- Weekly quizzes designed to assess students' ability to recall and critically analyze concepts studied
- A final examination designed to assess students' understanding of the essential concepts and issues raised in class

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	
D+	67-69	Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.
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	40%
Final Exam	30%
Homework	10%
Oral Presentation & Research Projects	10%
Attendance & Class Participation	10%
Overall grade	100%

CLASS SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

- Reading concise passages with vocabulary expansion

WEEK 2

- Elections

WEEK 3

- Conflicts and violence

WEEK 4

- Trials

WEEK 5

- Negotiations

WEEK 6

- Business news

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 miss any meetings without an excused absence from the on-site 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.