
Intensive Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic

Modern Standard Arabic (Lower Intermediate)

COURSE DESIGNATOR MRCO 3801

Language of Instruction Arabic

NUMBER OF CREDITS 10 credits

Contact Hours 180 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

MRCO 3801 is a lower intermediate course in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). In this course, the students will be able to study the last four chapters of *Al-Kitaab Part I*. They will develop their lexical competence by learning new vocabulary and learning more about the Arabic morphological system. Thus, they will be introduced to the meanings of some verb forms in Arabic. They will also use their vocabulary knowledge to process difficult reading and listening passage and to guess the meaning of never-seen-before words from context or using morphological rules. They will learn topic-based vocabulary, such as months, colors, parts of the body, and religious celebrations.

The students will also deepen their grammar competence by learning how to identify some complex structures in reading and listening passages and also by using them in speaking and writing. The grammar structures will include the following: Conditionals, comparatives, case endings, the dual, the feminine plural, two of the “six nouns”, subject-verb agreement, some verb patterns, the future and its negative form and particles, definite and indefinite *Idafa*, verb patterns, relative pronouns, etc.

Regarding communication and culture, the students will learn how to talk about dates in Arabic. They will be exposed to some interesting parts of Arab history. They will also learn how to talk about both hypothetical and possible situations in the past, present, and future. This course will enable the students to learn about some celebrations in the Arab world and talk about their own. It will also give them insight into the structure of the Arabic family.

INSTRUCTOR

ALIF faculty

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Understand and use basic grammatical rules
2. Develop their reading skills through mid-size texts
3. Use conversational Arabic in various situations
4. Produce short writings about different daily activities
5. Give short and concise oral presentations on topics of interest
6. Acquire more knowledge about major issues in contemporary Arab cultures
7. Understand various expressions used in conversational Arabic
8. Understand the techniques of developing different forms of composition (writing letters, short narrative and descriptive texts)
9. Enhance their knowledge about Arabic sentence structures
10. Acquire in-depth knowledge about life and society in the Arab world

COURSE PREREQUISITES

MSA 200 (MRCO 2701), 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-ʿArabiyya with DVDs: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic: Part One, Third Edition*, Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, Abbas Al-Tonsi,
2. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-ʿArabiyya with DVDs: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic: Part Two, Third Edition*, Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, Abbas Al-Tonsi,
3. *A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*, Hans Wehr

MRCO 3801 will cover lessons 10-13 from Al-Kitaab Part I, and lessons 1 & 2 from Al Kitab Part II. The textbooks will be supplemented by 2 additional Lessons of extra material.

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%
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Overall grade	100%

CLASS SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

- Placement test
- General review
- Alkitab 1: Lesson 10
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 1

WEEK 2

- Alkitab 1: Lesson 11
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 2

WEEK 3

- Alkitab 1: Review 10-11
- Lesson 12
- Additional materials
- Quiz #3

WEEK 4

- Alkitab 1: Lesson 13
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 4

WEEK 5

- Review Lessons 12 – 13
- Extra material Lesson 1
- Quiz # 5

WEEK 6

- Extra material Lesson 2
- General Review
- Exam

WEEK 7

- Review
- Alkitab Part II, Lesson 1
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 6

WEEK 8

- Alkitab Part II, Lesson 1 cont., Lesson 2
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 7

WEEK 9

- Alkitab Part II, Lesson 2 cont.
- 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.