
Accelerated Modern Standard Arabic V

(Modern Standard Arabic - Upper Intermediate)

COURSE DESIGNATOR MRCO 3901

Language of Instruction Arabic

NUMBER OF CREDITS 6 credits

Contact Hours 120 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

MRCO 3901 is an upper intermediate course. It builds upon the students' background knowledge and continues to reinforce both their receptive and productive skills through a selected corpus of increasing difficulty. This aims at reflecting the students' progress and preparing them for the advanced level of proficiency. At this level, students are expected to do more readings, both intensive and extensive, outside class.

In MRCO 3901 (MSA 500), students will study the last five lessons of *Al-Kitaab part II*. They will be introduced to new topics related to Arabic culture and history, namely immigration and its causes, early Arab travelers (Ibn Battouta), Ramadan and its customs, Journalism and the new media, and education in the Arab world. Students are expected to watch the DVD segments and do the reading tasks before coming to class. They will also be required to do research and give presentations in class about their findings. Their participation in the discussions and their active engagement in class activities will help them attain a high level of fluency in Arabic.

To help the students read, write, and speak with increasing grammatical accuracy, the course aims at expand the students' understanding of two major aspects of Arabic grammar, the root and pattern system and the complex sentence. The students will learn the types of irregular (or weak) verbs in Arabic, the meanings of verb patterns, direct and indirect imperatives, forms of adverbs of manner, exclamatory style, the type of accusatives, etc.

INSTRUCTOR

ALIF faculty

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Understand more complex grammatical structures
2. Cope with lengthy readings and make coherent summaries
3. Conduct online research and obtain the necessary information to understand texts
4. Use scanning as a technique to fully grasp a listening activity
5. Understand the writing techniques of one-paragraph essay
6. Express their views on different topics
7. Give oral presentations and interact with their classmates

COURSE PREREQUISITES

MSA 400 (MRCO 3702), 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 a final (accumulative) exam by the end of the course.

REQUIRED READING/MATERIALS

1. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya with DVD 3rd edition: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic: Part Two, Third Edition.*
2. *The Hans Wehr Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*

MRCO 3901 will cover lessons 6-10 from *Al-Kitaab Part II*

The textbooks 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%
Overall grade	100%

CLASS SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

- Placement test
- General review
- Alkitab 2: Lesson 6
- Quiz # 1

WEEK 2

- Alkitab 2: Lesson 6 (cont) – Lesson 7
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 2

WEEK 3

- Review Lessons 6 & 7
- Alkitab 2: Lesson 8
- Additional materials
- Quiz #3

WEEK 4

- Alkitab 2: Lesson 9
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 4

WEEK 5

- Review Lessons 8 & 9
- Alkitab 2: Lesson 10
- Additional materials
- Quiz # 5

WEEK 6

- Alkitab 2: Lesson 10 (cont)
- Additional materials
- General 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.