



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures
ALMC 202 L02
Beginners' Arabic I
Fall 2022

Monday, Wednesday, Friday SH 157 (15:00-15:50 pm); Thursday asynchronous

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Hasmik Tovmasyan

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 14-14:50 or by appointment. Email to schedule an appointment. Zoom link for office hours will be provided on D2L.

E-MAIL: hasmik.tovmasyan@ucalgary.ca. Feel free to contact me over email at any time. Please include a proper salutation, your full name and a proper closing in the body of your email. I do not answer emails over the weekend and after 6PM. I will do my best to answer your emails as soon as possible (within 24 hours- weekends and holidays excluded). Please take that into account when emailing me questions pertaining to assignments or tests. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline first. Questions about the course content and materials, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with during my office hours.

Land acknowledgment

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), as well as the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The city of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3.

DESCRIPTION

A comprehensive course for students with no prior knowledge of the language. Includes training in listening, speaking, reading and writing of Modern Standard Arabic in its cultural context.

OBJECTIVES

To acquire basic skills in speaking, listening, writing, and reading Modern Standard Arabic and gain foundational knowledge of Arabic vocabulary and grammar as well as Arab cultures.

OUTCOMES

Students will acquire novice-level proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic. They will develop foundational skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing as well as acquire knowledge of basic Arabic vocabulary, grammar, and Arab cultures. They will be able to read and write the Arabic alphabet and basic Arabic phrases and sentences, understand spoken and written Arabic at a novice level, speak and write about themselves and their families at a novice level, and engage in basic conversation using conventional greetings and expressions.



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REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

1. *Alif Baa: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*, 3rd edition, by Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2010.
2. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic: Part One*, 3rd edition, by Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2011.
3. Answer keys to *Alif Baa* and *al-Kitaab Part One*. The answer keys are:
Answer Key for Alif Baa, 3rd ed. by Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. 3rd ed. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2010.
and
Answer Key for al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya Part One, 3rd ed. by Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. 3rd ed. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2011.

WAYS OF ACCESSING THE COURSE MATERIALS:

Alif Baa, *Al-Kitaab Part One*, and their answer keys can all be accessed in the following ways; students may choose how to access them:

- Hard copies are available for purchase from the campus bookstore and several online vendors (new and used copies)
- E-books are available to rent or purchase from <https://calgary-store.vitalsource.com/>
- TDFL (the campus library) has several copies available to borrow (including DVDs)



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COURSE NOTES

The University of Calgary has a system for Arabic language course placement. Information about course placement can be found at: <https://live-arts.ucalgary.ca/languages-linguistics-literatures-cultures/arabic-language-muslim-cultures/assessment-and-placement>

This course meets in person on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays, 3:00-3:50 pm.

On Thursdays, there is no synchronous class session. Instead, the weekly schedule will let you know what work you have that day (such as a video to watch or an activity to complete), and you can complete that work at the time of your choosing (anytime before the next class session).

Daily Schedule, assignment guidelines and all other details see D2L.

Important dates: Dates are not expected to change but may under extraordinary circumstances.

Wednesday, September 7-*First class session*

Weekly Homework 15% (always due Monday before the start of class time, 3:00 pm)-Dropbox

4 Quizzes 20% (5% each-September 28; October 14; October 31; November 25)-in class

2 Cultural portfolio entries 10%(5% each- October 7; November 3)-Dropbox

3 Tests 30% (10% each-October 21; November 16; December 7th)-in class

2 Oral presentations 15%(7.5% each-October 27; December 2)-Dropbox

Contingency plan for inability to take a timed assessment during the scheduled time period: If a student is unable to take a timed assessment during the scheduled time period (as listed in the chart above), the student should contact the instructor as soon as possible, providing information about the reason for the inability to take the assessment at the scheduled time, and providing the student's availability to complete the assessment at a time as close as possible to the originally scheduled time.

Policy for missed/late assignments: If individual circumstances may prevent a student from meeting a course deadline, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible if the student wishes to request credit for any missed assignments. A deduction for completing or submitting an assignment late may apply, in the absence of a strong reason (such as illness or emergency). The extent of the deduction will be at the instructor's discretion, based on circumstances and how late the assignment is submitted. Late homework from a given lesson will not be accepted past the date of the test on that lesson.

Expectations of attendance: Students are expected to attend class regularly and to be fully present and engaged in class activities and discussions. It is only through the regular attendance of the classes and participation in them that you can achieve a maximum result in this course.

Class etiquette & guidelines:

- Students should conduct themselves appropriately and respectfully during class sessions and when interacting with their classmates and instructor.
- During class, please only use technology as is relevant to class. Do not use technology for purposes not relevant to class (e.g., checking email and social media). Doing so distracts you and the people around you and may result in a deduction to your participation grade.

Learning technology requirements: The course D2L site will be the organizational hub for this course. You are responsible for checking the site regularly for announcements and any changes to the schedule.

As per the University's policy, in order to ensure that students can engage successfully in the learning experiences of blended courses, students will need to have reliable access to the following, in order to access D2L and complete course assignments:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security & malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection;
- Ability to take a picture (of hand-written Arabic work) using a phone, camera, or other device and upload to D2L.



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ASSESSMENT

Active class participation: 10%
Homework (weekly): 15%
Quizzes (4, worth 5% each): 20%
Tests (3, worth 10% each): 30%
Oral presentations (2, worth 7.5% each): 15%
Cultural portfolio (2 entries worth 5% each): 10%

Extra credit: Optional; 0.25% per eligible activity, up to a maximum of 6 activities
There will be no final exam in this course.

Active class participation: Class sessions are your primary venue for practicing and speaking Modern Standard Arabic, and speaking is one of the skills that this course develops. As such, regular attendance and active participation are key to success in this course. Participation includes paying attention in class, following instructions given, speaking up during discussions and during group/partner work, and volunteering to ask and answer questions. Failure to abide by the class etiquette guidelines listed above will result in a deduction to the participation grade.

Participation will be assessed as follows:

A range: Volunteer to speak 3+ times per week; active participation in group work during class

B range: Volunteer to speak 1-2 times per week; active participation in group work during class

C range: Speak rarely or only when asked; inconsistent participation in group work during class

D-F range: Infrequent speaking and active participation in class sessions

Homework: All weekly homework assignments will be due each week on Monday at the start of class time (3:00 pm) and will be submitted to Dropbox. Homework is graded for completion, timeliness, following instructions, showing self-correction (where applicable), and demonstrating understanding of the material. Homework will be listed on the weekly schedule available on D2L. Each drill in *Alif Baa* is worth one point; each drill in *Al-Kitaab* is worth two points.

Quizzes: There will be four quizzes during the term, to take place in class, on material covered in advance of each one. Information about the material to be covered on each quiz will be provided in advance. Quizzes will be closed-book.

Tests: There will be three tests during the term, to take place in class. Information about the material to be covered on each test will be provided in advance. Prior to the test, students will have a chance to review the material. Tests will be closed-book.

Presentations: Students will do two oral presentations during the course. The first will be a dialogue done with a partner, and the second will be a monologue (completed individually). Each will be videorecorded and uploaded to a D2L dropbox. Presentations will be evaluated based on their communicating effectively in Arabic, accuracy of grammar and vocabulary usage, speaking smoothly, pronunciation, creative use of language, and adherence to assignment guidelines (which will be posted on D2L and discussed in class). Students who do not wish to videorecord themselves may instead contact their instructor to schedule a time to present in person; students wishing to do this should contact their instructor at least one week prior to the assignment deadline to set a time to present.

Cultural portfolio: The cultural portfolio is comprised of two (2) written entries that are reflective and process-oriented. The cultural portfolio is focused on documenting and sharing your perspectives on, and exploration of, Arabic-speaking cultures and on the relevant usage of the course materials. Specific instructions will be provided, posted on D2L and discussed in class. Portfolio entries will be submitted to a D2L dropbox.

Extra credit: Eligible activities will be announced during the semester. They may include Arabic conversation hour, guest lectures, and other activities that enhance and strengthen your knowledge of Arabic language and/or Arab cultures. These activities are optional.



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GRADING SCALE

97-100% A+ 82-86.99% B+ 67-71.99% C+ 53-56.99% D+

92-96.99% A 77-81.99% B 62-66.99% C 50-52.99% D

87-91.99% A- 72-76.99% B- 57-61.99% C- 49.99% and below F



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INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behaviour which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at:

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations> .

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy



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- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Tower.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops and tablets are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.



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COURSE OUTLINE