Texas A&M Corpus Christi University

Arabic II 1312.001

Spring 2020

Instructor: Youssef HILMI

Section one Tues & Thurs 11:00-12:15
Section two Tues & Thurs 14:00-15:15

Office: CE 214E

Office Hours: Monday 3:00-5:00 pm
Tue 12:30-1:30 pm
Wed 3:00-5:00 pm
Or by appointment

Email: yhilmi@islander.tamucc.edu
All subject to change

Required Textbooks:


2. Al-Kitaab Companion Website (details to be provided in class)

Course Description:
This course will continue to reflect on the emphasis of Arabic 1311 on Modern Standard Arabic and the Moroccan Arabic Darija. Student will continue to build on the skills and strategies acquired in Arabic 1311 for all listening, reading, speaking, writing and culture modalities. In addition to increased vocabulary repertoire, a greater emphasis will be placed on basic grammatical understanding, to deal with more complex sentence structure, and larger spoken and written exercises. Come to class ready to listen and respond. Play the rules- use Arabic!

Student Learning Outcomes:
By the end of this semester you will be able to:

1. Speak about yourself and your environment, initiate and sustain conversations on a number of topics (e.g., family, friends, study, etc.).

2. Initiate and maintain dialogue in both Moroccan Darija (Colloquial Arabic) and FuSHaa (Standard Arabic) when appropriate.

3. Read texts on familiar topics and understand the main ideas without using the dictionary.

4. Comprehend simple Arabic discourse dealing with familiar topics.

5. Carry out written tasks connected to daily life and write short letters and essays.

6. Demonstrate familiarity with many aspects of Arab culture, such as social and religious customs and traditions, family life, and education.
This course will continue the practice of introducing you simultaneously to formal Arabic along with Moroccan Arabic, Darija. Our aim here is to prepare you to function in a range of situations and expose you to the varieties of Arabic and the many ways in which these varieties interact in real-life communication. In so doing, we embrace a dynamic view of Arabic reflecting authentic communication with and among native speakers across various contexts and geographical areas in the Arab world. While it is impossible to capture all the nuances of spoken Arabic in a single course, you will be introduced to tools that will enable you to function successfully within this exciting sociolinguistic environment.

Course Evaluation System: Grade Distribution

- Participation and Attendance: 10 pts.
- Writing Portfolio: 20 pts. (90 - 100 = A)
- Weekly Assignments: 10 pts. (80 - 89 = B)
- Quizzes: 20 pts. (70 - 79 = C)
- Midterm Exam: 15 pts. (60 - 69 = D)
- Oral Interview: 10 pts. (59 & below = F)
- Final Exams: 15 pts.
- Total: 100 pts.

Attendance and Participation:
Class time will be devoted to **activating** the vocabulary and structures that you have prepared at home through your homework. You should expect to spend at least 75% of class time doing activities in pairs and small groups. Thus, attendance and active participation in class is essential to your making good language proficiency gains and doing well in the class. This part of your grade will be based on a daily “attendance and participation” grade assigned by your instructor according to the following criteria:

5- You are actively engaged in developing your Arabic proficiency and communicating in Arabic as much as possible with your partner/classmates/teachers from the moment you walk into the class until you leave it.

Full credit will be given when you,

i. arrive to class on time
ii. are well prepared for the class, which means that you have listened to recorded materials on the accompanying web site/DVD, learned the new vocabulary, read the grammar explanations carefully and done the homework drills based on these explanations before coming to class
iii. you submit fully completed homework at the beginning of class
iv. are alert
v. participate actively when we are working together as a class
vi. make maximum use of pair/group work time by
   a) understanding the learning objectives of tasks assigned
   b) staying focused on those objectives
   c) continuing to work with your partner on the task objectives even if you "finish" an assigned task before the allotted time is up (Ask your instructor for additional instructions if you aren’t sure what to do next).

4- You are present but lacking in one of the above criteria for full credit in participation.
3- You are present but lacking in two of the criteria
2- You are present but lacking in three of the above criteria.
1- You are present but lacking in more than three of the above criteria. For instance, you come late to class, submit incomplete homework, use English to say something that you could say in Arabic and are not focused on the assigned task during group work.
0- Absent

Attendance Policies:
Regular attendance and active participation are vital in learning a foreign language. You are expected to attend all classes. Absences will affect your academic performance and your final grade. **After the second absence, you will lose 3 points from your final average grade, for every absence thereafter.**
Remember: Absences do not exempt you from material covered, assigned or due in class during your absence. **Employment predicaments or travel plans do not constitute excused absences;** you must speak to the instructor in advance to work out a plan in case of extreme urgency. Only written documentation will be accepted to excuse your absences beyond the second time.

- More than ten absence- whatever the reason- will result in an “F” for the course.
- Please inform me by email of absence as soon as possible before--not after--the class you will miss. This helps us considerably in planning for daily class activities.
- If you are ill and cannot come to class, do your best to contact your instructor before class and to stay caught up on class. Check with a classmate to see what you missed.

Classroom Conduct Policies:

- Have your own materials with you each day, including textbook.
- **Use of laptops and cell phones is not permitted unless used for instructional reasons.**
- Please do not chew gum in class.
- Any drink you bring to class must have a lid.
- If you bring food, proper cultural etiquette dictates that you offer some to others in the room.

Homework Assignments: **10%**

To prepare for the learning that takes place through practice in class, you will listen to, read and study new material at home. This material will not be presented in class. **Expect to spend an average of two hours on learning new material, writing homework, and reviewing every night.** Note that the assigned homework at the companion website is required.

Homework assignments should be submitted by the start of class. **Late homework assignments will not be accepted without prior permission from your instructor.** When submitting homework:
1. Write your name in Arabic.
2. Write the homework number (from assignment schedule).
3. Write the date in Arabic.
4. Staple pages together or use a paperclip

Pay close attention to the instructor’s comments on your assignments, and follow up promptly in office hours or after class if you have questions about your homework grade. Homework assignments will be evaluated on a **scale of 1 to 5** (5 = excellent; 4 = good but not your best effort; 3 = mediocre; 2 = poor; 1 = very poor). Your homework will be rated on the overall quality of your work, not merely on the number of
correct or incorrect answers. Note that you do not have to get everything 100% correct on your homework in order to get a “5” but each assignment should reflect 1) the time you have spent studying the new material and examples, and 2) your best effort to use that new material in your work.

We expect you to write out your homework assignment in full sentences. You will not receive full credit for submitting only the words from a fill-in-the-blank exercise or submitting a Xeroxed copy of the exercise from the book. The aim of the homework exercises is not only to build your vocabulary, but also to recycle and reinforce the vocabulary and grammatical structures that you already know. By writing out the exercise in full, you will notice details of the language (such as spelling and grammatical details) that you may have missed the first time around. Furthermore, you incorporate your new vocabulary in context rather than producing a simple list, and you increase your writing speed. Because a simple list only meets one aim of the exercise, we consider it incomplete, and you may lose up to one point on your homework grade for this reason.

Be sure your work on the homework assignments reflects your best effort and preparation. If you have any questions about how an assignment will be graded, please ask your instructor.

Using the answer key in doing the homework is cheating and will be dealt with as a case of academic dishonesty per the Student Code of Conduct.

Periodic Quizzes: 20%
There will be two quizzes over the course of the semester. If you will miss/have missed a test, contact your instructor as soon as you know that you will be missing/have missed it. If you have not contacted your instructor within 24 hours after the test has been given to discuss the possibility of a make-up, you will receive a “0”. If you contact me for a makeup, you have to take the quiz by the next class period.

Final Interview: 10% Conducted during the last week of classes
We will also have a final interview, worth 10% of the total grade, to be held during the last week of class. More information about interview format, content and evaluation rubric will be given near the end of the semester.

Writing Portfolio & Portfolio Corrections: (20%)
This semester you will create a writing portfolio of essays in Arabic to practice the new vocabulary and structures you are learning in class. We expect to do four writing portfolio entries this semester. The due dates and guidelines for your portfolio entries will be specified in your homework schedule. Late writing will not be accepted. All entries need to be written in Arabic. Your writing will be graded on a scale of 1 to 5 as follows: • 5= your writing 1) meets the length requirement, 2) communicates your ideas successfully; 3) uses new vocabulary with correct meaning; 4) uses the required # of new vocabulary words; 4) uses new structures we are learning, and 5) written neatly in a legible handwriting. • 4= does not meet one of the above criteria needed to earn a 5 • 3= does not meet two of the above criteria • 2= does not meet three of the above criteria • 1= does not meet any of the above criteria

Tests and Final Exam:
The dates for the Tests and the Final are indicated in the schedule of work. They will be administered during class time, in the classroom. Regular and careful preparation for class is the best way to prepare for
the tests and the Final. Make up exams will be allowed in cases of sickness, family emergency, or official extracurricular activities. **Students must provide documentation before scheduling a makeup with me. Makeups should be taken within one week** of the scheduled exam. If not, zero.

**Blackboard:**
This course uses Blackboard to post grades and course materials, post assignments and post grades. You automatically have access to Blackboard by being registered for this class. To log on, go to [https://iol.tamucc.edu](https://iol.tamucc.edu). If you have problems logging on, contact the IOL Helpdesk at 825-2825.

**Companion Website:**
You are required to purchase online access to the companion website for *Al-Kitaab Part One*. All of the exercises, video, and audio featured in the textbook are also available on the companion website at alkitaabtextbook.com. Use the “Registration Instructions” handout provided by your instructor to enroll.

**Disabilities Accommodations:**
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Academic Advising:**
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

**Dropping a Class:**
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. **Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course.** Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation **WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. The last day to drop a class for the spring semester is April 10, 2020.**

**Grade Appeals**
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C0.03, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal.
A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C0.03, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean's office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at: http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf.
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أهلاً وسهلاً في صف اللغة العربية!  
ahlan wa sahlan to Arabic class!