BEGINNING ARABIC II - ARB10200 02
اللغة العربية ١٠٢
Spring 2025 – Hunter College

أهلا وسهلا من جديد!

Welcome back to the Arabic program at Hunter College!

It is our pleasure to continue on our amazing journey learning one of the world's most important and widely used languages. Arabic is not only a beautiful language but also a key to understanding and learning about the great and diverse Arab civilizations and cultures across time and space.

Prerequisite: ARB 101 or equivalent

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Alexander Elinson

E-Mail: Alexander.elinson72@login.cuny.edu

Office: 1304 Hunter West

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Fridays 11:30-12:30, and by appointment

Class: TWF 10:30 – 11:20 am in 509A HW

Scheduled Final Exam: Wednesday, May 21, 9-11 am

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will focus on four essential language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students learn Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) (also sometimes called "formal Arabic" or "الفصحى") and some basic phrases in Egyptian Arabic (اللهجة المصرية), Levantine Arabic (اللهجة الشامية), Moroccan Arabic (الدارجة المغربية), and other dialects. Class management will be done in Hunter's Brightspace course management system. The syllabus, class schedules, and materials will be available on our class Brightspace page.

COURSE MATERIALS

1) ***Al-Kitaab Part I, 2nd ed.*** by Brustad, Al-Batal & Al-Tonsi.
- plus the free AV materials: https://alkitaabtextbook.com/part1/2e/

You can buy the book here or elsewhere. My advice is to buy it used.
https://hunter.textbookx.com/institutional/index.php?action=browse#/books/3826780/

Here is a link to a PDF version of the textbook:
https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/xjm4uav33i16qgwbd6se5/al-kitaab-part-1-second-edition.pdf?rlkey=bz2julc67mcbkbajk2mno2czz&dl=0

Please note that you CANNOT use the 3rd edition of either of these books for this class. We will use

Al-Kitaab Part 1, 2nd edition, for ARB 101-301.

You must bring a physical copy of the book (or a photocopy/printout of the complete chapter we are working on at the time) to every class. You cannot use electronic devices in class. Failure to bring a physical copy of the textbook (or photocopy/printout) will result in a reduced attendance/classroom citizenship grade.

LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR *Beginning Arabic 2 (ARB 102)*

By the end of this semester, you will, إن شاء الله have reached Novice High proficiency in Arabic and will:

1. be able to read or listen to simple texts on familiar topics and understand the main ideas without using the dictionary,
2. be able to speak about yourself and your environment and initiate and sustain conversations on a number of topics (e.g., family, friends, study, hobbies, the weather, etc.) in formal Arabic,
3. be able to carry out written transactions connected to daily life and write short essays and stories,
4. be familiar with many aspects of Arab culture, such as social and religious customs and traditions, family life, and education, and
5. be able to narrate in past, present, and future time frames

By the end of the semester, you will also:

1. recognize and use verbs in all major tenses,
2. continue to master the basics of the Arabic root system and morphology,
3. begin to be able to recognize and form complex sentence structures,
4. be able to recognize and use negation patterns,
5. begin to learn to use the Arabic-English dictionary, and
6. add approximately 300 words to your vocabulary.

GRADING

Every student starts with a 65%

How to lower your grade:
The primary way you lower your grade below 65% is by being absent/late to class and not preparing and participating fully in class.

You are allowed 3 absences without affecting your grade. Beyond that, each absence will lower your overall grade by 1%.

Please note that missing the first day of class counts as 2 absences. Being late counts as a partial absence.

Other things that can lower your daily attendance/classroom citizenship grade:
- not having your book (or copy/printout of the lesson we are working on) in class
- looking at or using a device with a screen (put all devices away!)
- wearing headphones in class
- leaving the classroom without permission ("عن إذن حضرتك")
- not engaging in class activities and tasks at hand
- eating or drinking (except water) in class

-speaking English when asked to speak Arabic

How to raise your grade:
Regular Assessments (can add up to 20% to your final grade)
Short quizzes at the beginning of most classes. These will not be scheduled/announced, but you should assume there will be a quiz at the start of class and prepare accordingly. These regular assessments will be based on the homework preparation you are expected to complete before class.

Homework (can add up to 5% to your final grade)
Submit 1 homework assignment a week for a grade
Homework will be graded out of 10

Final Project (can add up to 10% to your final grade)
The final project will be geared toward your goals and interests. It will utilize skills and material we learn in class and we will work on it over the course of several weeks. More details will be provided during the semester.

All grades will be posted on Brightspace daily. Please note that these are raw scores and are thus relatively meaningless until the grades are weighed, tallied, and calculated at the end of the semester. That said, it is your responsibility to keep track of your grades on Brightspace. If there is a discrepancy between what is recorded and what you think should be recorded, bring it to my attention as soon as possible.

For the recording of your grades on Brightspace, please note:
- your attendance/classroom citizenship grade for every day is the column with that day's date
- your homework grade for each week is marked with the last date of that week and the letters "hw"
- regular assessment grades will be in a column marked "ra" followed by the date

Attendance and tardiness
You are expected to attend class every day. Missing class not only means extra work to catch up on, but it is also unfair to your classmates because you will slow us down.

You are allowed 3 absences without affecting your grade. Beyond that, each absence will lower your overall grade by 1%.

Please note that missing the first day of class counts as 2 absences.

Please note that there are no excused and unexcused absences EXCEPT in the case of Covid. If you test positive for Covid, please provide us with a photo of the positive result.

If there are extraordinary circumstances other than Covid pushing you over the 3-absence limit, please reach out to me ASAP. Be sure to get in touch when things come up, not afterward.

Make sure you have the contact information of at least two of your classmates so, if you do have to miss a class, you can contact them to find out what you missed. Do not count solely on the weekly syllabus to tell you this, as it is subject to change.

If you miss class, homework is still due before the start of class (via email) UNLESS you ask me specifically for an extension. Bring in a hard copy of the homework when you come back.

Class will begin on time. Do your best not to be late for class as it is disruptive and disrespectful to your classmates, and you will miss material. Being between 0 and 5 minutes late constitutes 1/4 of an absence (a grade of 3 on Brightspace), between 5 and 15 minutes late, 1/2 of an absence (a

grade of 2 on Brightspace), between 15 and 25 minutes 3/4 of an absence (a grade of 1 on Brightspace), and more than 25 minutes 1 absence (a grade of 0 on Brightspace).

Unless told otherwise, you must bring your book/printed chapter to every class.

No food is allowed in the classroom unless you receive permission from me first.

Extra Credit: (up to 2.5% added to your final grade)
There will be ample opportunity for extra credit this semester. Each extra credit assignment will raise your overall grade by 1/4 of a percentage point. To receive extra credit, you must write at least 80 words (بالعربية as much as possible) in response to each event you attend, with the exception of Arabic Hours/peer tutoring.

We will email you about extra credit opportunities.

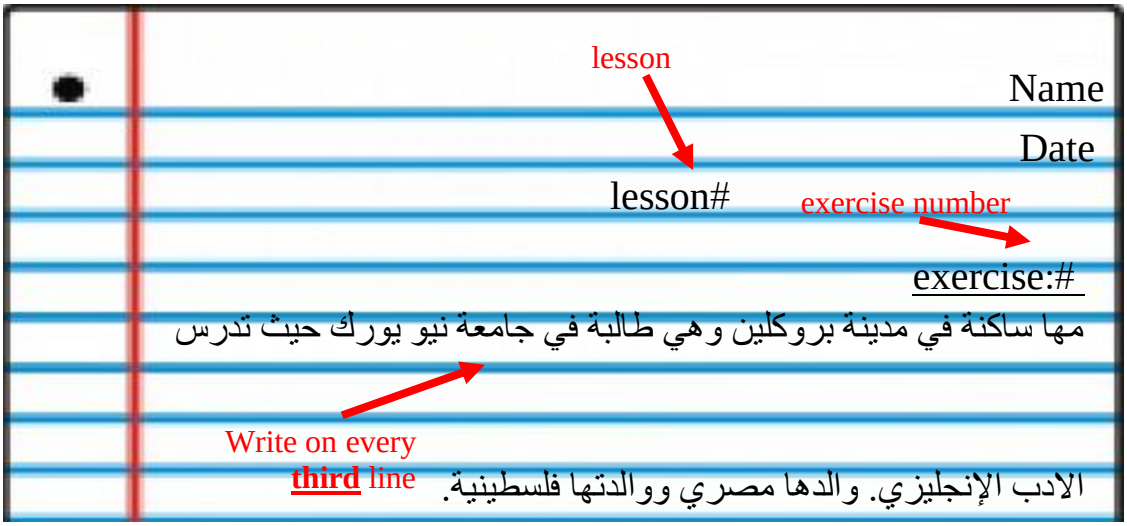
Please note that extra credit points cannot raise a grade from an A to an A+.

Arabic Hours/peer tutoring:
Arabic peer tutoring sessions will be held every Wednesday (405 HW) from 2:30 to 3:45. For each session you attend (a full 75 minutes), you will receive 1/4 of a percentage added to your final grade.

Homework can add up to 5% to your final grade
We cannot emphasize enough the importance of homework, which means both written work and other kinds of preparation. The philosophy of the Arabic program at Hunter is that material is rarely introduced "cold," which means that the majority of class time will be devoted to practicing and using the language concepts that are introduced in the homework rather than talking about the language and explaining things in class. It is thus essential that you come to class prepared. You should expect to spend at least 2 hours on homework preparation for every classroom hour to be prepared for class. This means 6 hours/week. If you are doing less than this, you are not preparing enough!

There will be written homework assigned for every class, although you are only required to submit one per week to receive full credit. You are expected to turn these assignments in on time; no late submissions will be accepted. In turn, I will make every effort to return your homework the following class with feedback. You are encouraged to study and work on homework assignments together, **with the understanding that everyone must submit their own individual paper and do their own work**. Please do not do your homework in your book. Pages xeroxed out of the book, unless stated otherwise, will not be accepted. For each assignment, please include the date that it is due as well as the lesson, exercise, and page number(s). Please staple your homework in the top right-hand corner. Homework not following these instructions will be penalized.

An example of a correctly formatted homework assignment:



Note that an incomplete homework assignment will not be considered done, and you will receive a 0 for it.

Homework assignments will be graded out of 10.

You will be graded on the overall quality of your work, not necessarily on the number of correct or incorrect answers. Neatness and effort count!

Submitting homework:
Homework should be submitted on my desk **BEFORE** class begins. If you come in after class has started, you should focus on getting into the class flow as quickly as possible and submit your homework when class ends. Thus, if you come into class after class has started and submit your homework while class is in session, you will lose points on that homework.

Note on AI and online translation/translation sites/apps:

The use of generative AI and translation tools (such as ChatGPT, DALL-E, Google Translate etc.), are not permitted in this class unless we specifically assign you to use it. Any use of AI or translation tools for work in this class may be considered a violation of the Hunter College Policy on Academic Integrity since the work is not your own. The use of unauthorized AI/translation tools will result in a 0 for the relevant assignment.

Participation and Preparation
Participation/preparation is a key component of this class. Participation is closely related to homework and preparation. If you are not prepared for class, it will be difficult for you to participate in a meaningful way. Good and effective participation also means being a good citizen in class. Part of good participation means knowing when to give others the chance to speak. In this class, we will be doing a lot of group work. Sometimes you will work with students more advanced than you and sometimes you will work with students less advanced. It is important that everyone treats his or her fellow students with respect and patience at all times. Participation also means regularly checking your e-mail and Brightspace at least once a day for messages regarding Arabic class. I will be using Brightspace to post schedules and for communication. Please make sure you are set up to be able to access Brightspace. This is your responsibility.

Preparation is obviously related to homework, but it also includes assignments and aspects of the course that are not written. In other words, you are expected to come prepared for class activities (studying vocabulary and grammar and being ready to participate fully).

Preparation includes listening to the new vocabulary and expressions. It is essential to remember that preparation for class means more than passively reading assigned grammar explanations and/or new vocabulary and completing homework in a completely mechanical fashion. You are expected to demonstrate that you have made a concerted effort to learn, understand, and are ready to actively use the new material in class. Treat every day as if there is an exam and prepare accordingly.

The use of devices with screens on them is prohibited during class. You must put away all cell phones and other mobile devices before class starts. Checking a cell phone or other mobile device during class will result in a lowered classroom citizenship grade for that class.

Regular Assessments
There will be short quizzes at the beginning of most classes to check your preparation. These will not be scheduled/announced, but you should assume there will be a quiz at the start of class and prepare accordingly. These regular assessments can raise your final grade up to 20%.

Final Project (can add up to 10% to your final grade)
The final project will be geared toward your goals and interests. It will utilize skills and material we learn in class and we will work on it over the course of several weeks. More details will be provided during the semester.

The scheduled final exam date is on Wednesday, May 21, 9-11 am. We will be using that date to present our final projects. This date is set by Hunter College. Make your plans with that date and time in mind.

Hunter College Policy on Academic Integrity

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty.
The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

ADA Policy

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical and/ or Learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY located in Room E1124 to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance please call (212- 772- 4857)/TTY (212- 650- 3230

Hunter College Policy on Sexual Misconduct

In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College reaffirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationships. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College.

1. Sexual Violence: Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, or contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444).
2. All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct: Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose (jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-650-3262) or Colleen Barry (colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1123.

CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct Link: *https://www.cuny.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/page-assets/about/administration/offices/ovsa/policies/Sexual-misconduct-8.30.18-PSM-2018-005.pdf*

Know Your Rights:

In the current political climate, for many CUNY students, faculty, and staff, as well as their families, the uncertainty surrounding immigration rights, safety, and security can be confusing and nerve-wracking, to say the least. As your professor, I will do everything that I can to support you. Here are some links with helpful videos and information to help you understand your rights. These resources are also useful for allies:
Community Resources for Immigrant NYers
Red Cards (printable); Know Your Rights Cards for your wallets, backpacks, etc. Available in many languages
We Have Rights videos/infographics in English, Urdu, Arabic, Spanish, Mandarin, Haitian-Creole, and Russian
Immigrant Defense Project
Hunter College's Immigrant Student Success Center

Please note that the terms of this syllabus are subject to change. If the syllabus is changed, you will be notified via Brightspace as to what changes have been made, and a revised syllabus will be uploaded to Brightspace and clearly marked as such.