



INSTRUCTOR: FATIMA MASOUD
 EMAIL: FSMASOUD@UTEP.EDU
 OFFICE & HOURS: WORREL 106 BY APPOINTMENT
 ARABIC LAB & HOURS: LART 220 / MW 1:30-3:30PM

ARAB 1501

Elementary Arabic I

CRN: 12065

TIME: MW 9:00-10:20am

PLACE: Classroom C301

Course Description

Welcome to Elementary Arabic!

This course is an introduction to the Arabic language and the cultures of the Arabic speaking world. Elementary Arabic I is designed to provide students who have little to no knowledge of the Arabic language with a solid foundation of the structure, pronunciation and vocabulary of Modern Standard Arabic. Students will learn the Arabic alphabet and numbers, basic Arabic grammar, and basic communicative sentences and phrases. Goals of this course include: development reading, listening, writing and speaking skills in preparation for Elementary Arabic II.

By the end of this course, students will, among other skills, be able to write and read the Arabic alphabet, understand basic grammatical rules of the Arabic language, and communicate basic information at the novice level in Modern Standard Arabic.

A NOTE ABOUT THIS COURSE

This course is designed for **non-native speakers / novice learners** of the Arabic language. Students enrolled in this course who have experience with the Arabic language from previous academic courses must report to the instructor and take a placement test to assess their appropriate level of Arabic. Failure to adequately self-report can result in removal from the course.

Language & Culture

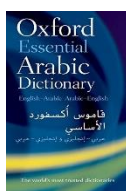
The Arabic speaking world is large and includes many different cultural practices and behaviors, many of which have had an impact on the way people communicate in Arabic. As students of the Arabic language, it is important to be aware of the ways different cultural practices and behaviors have shaped and been shaped by the Arabic language.

This course is designed to provide students with an introductory view of the many different cultural practices of the Arabic speaking world to allow for a richer understanding of the Arabic language.

Learning Objectives

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

- Read and write the Arabic alphabet
- Write short sentences
- Read short texts
- Understand basic grammatical rules
- Understand various cultural practices and behaviors of the Arabic speaking world
- Communicate with others at the novice level on familiar topics



Required Materials

- Access to UTEP email and course Blackboard
- Adobe Acrobat or Adobe Acrobat PDF Reader
- Microsoft Office Suite or equivalent
- Student access to Al-Kitaab Website Companion
- FlipGrid Student Account

Required Texts

- Alif Baa: Al-Kitaab Arabic Language Program, Kirsten Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, Abbas Al-Tonsi, 3rd Edition, Georgetown University Press (with DVD and companion website book key). ISBN# 978-1-58901-705-4
- Arabic-English Dictionary, such as Oxford Essential Arabic, ISBN-10: 019956115X
- Additional Readings and Worksheets posted on Blackboard.

Arabic Lab

The Arabic Lab is located in Liberal Arts Building, Room 220.

You are **required** to attend the Arabic lab 2 hours a week for this course.

There, you will work on assigned lab tasks. You will be quizzed and assessed on the work you do there throughout the semester.

Course Assessments

Homework, In-Class Work & Lab Work/Tasks	150 points
Quizzes [3 total – 50 points each]	150 points
Lab Quizzes [2 total – 50 points each]	100 points
Test #1	100 points
Test #2	100 points
Cumulative Final Exam	150 points
FlipGrid Videos	100 points
Conversation Assessment	50 points

Final Arabic Project

100 points

Grade Distribution

(Students can earn a total of 1000 points for the course):

A	B	C	D	F
1000-900	899-800	799-700	699-600	599 and below

Worksheets on Blackboard

At times, I will provide extra worksheets on Blackboard. You need to print out these worksheets and bring them with you to class.

Al-Kitaab Website Companion

To access lab work assignments, go to: alkitaabtextbook.com **after** you purchase your book with access code. More instructions in class.

Assessment Policies

Due Dates: Be mindful of the scheduled due dates for assignments and assessments.

Late Work: All late assignments will be docked 15% per day they are late. A late work window is open for only two days after the assignment or assessment is due. I will not accept assignments after the late window is closed.

Extension Policy: I do not grant extensions for any assignments unless it is a clearly documented medical emergency. Extensions are not guaranteed and they are granted on a case-by-case basis.

Make-Up Work: I do not offer make-up work or make-up exams. It is your responsibility to alert me if you are unable to meet specific assessment dates or other due dates.

Homework, In-Class Work and Lab Work

You are required to do homework for this class. Homework is due every Monday at the beginning of class. In class work and lab work is also graded.

Lab time is recorded and tracked by turning in lab proof papers weekly. I will collect lab work papers the week after they are recorded, but I will not accept lab proof papers past the 1-week mark. I will not accept lab proof papers that are missing the date of lab work and/or signature of the lab attendant.

In-Class Quizzes

There are total of three quizzes in this class offered at different times in the semester. These quizzes will focus on content covered in class and will be a mixture of writing, listening and reading exercises.

Lab Quizzes

You will work on the Al-Kitaab Website Companion in the Arabic lab.

The lab quizzes will available through blackboard and you may complete them in the lab or at home. Lab Quizzes will be open for 1 week before their scheduled due date and you may complete them any time during the week that they are open. Lab Quizzes will be due Wednesdays by midnight 1 week after they are assigned.

Lab quizzes will be based on content covered in *Alif Baa*, in class, and in our lab tasks.

Tests

There are two tests for this class. Each test will be a mixture of writing, listening and reading questions. Tests will cover all material from the course, including

Alif Baa, class content, and lab content.

Conversation Assessment

I will conduct short, five-minute Conversation Assessments with each student individually. These interviews will test your knowledge of how to hold a short conversation in Arabic by asking and answering questions. Throughout the semester, you'll have the opportunity to practice for the assessment both in class and through the FlipGrid video assignments.

Final Exam

The final exam is a cumulative, written test and will cover all the materials from the semester.

Check back with me for the date and time of the final exam.

FlipGrid Videos

To prepare you for the Conversation Assessment, you will create and respond to prompts using FlipGrid. You will be prompted with a set of questions and you will respond to them in Arabic, recording your responses in video format. When necessary, you will respond to your peers' videos or ask them questions, too.

Instructions for setting up your FlipGrid account will be given in the first week of class.

Final Arabic Project

During the final week of class, we will hold in-class presentations of our final projects. The subject of your project will be announced, but you are expected to deliver the presentation in Arabic, using vocabulary you have learned throughout the semester.

English-Arabic Dictionary

To learn Arabic effectively, I suggest that you buy an Arabic-English dictionary and grammar guide.

You may purchase one from a bookstore or download a verified app. One such dictionary is recommended in our course readings list.

Do not use Google Translate for this class!



Typing in Arabic

There are a few ways to type Arabic characters on the computer, but the easiest is to use Arabic Keyboard. Type your words out on the Arabic Keyboard via your browser, then copy and paste into a Word document or a PowerPoint presentation.

<http://www.arabic-keyboard.org/>

Class and University Policies

Classroom Etiquette

- Laptops and tablets are permitted in the classroom to take notes or participate in various language activities using language apps. However, if the use of these devices interrupts the class, I reserve the right to ask you to put your device away or turn it off.
- No cellphone or MP3 player use during class.
- Assessments in this class are not open book. Put away all notes, books, and electronic devices during quizzes and tests.

Arabic Lab Policies

- Follow all lab rules and regulations established by the Department of Languages and Linguistics.
- Only Arabic related coursework may be completed in the lab. Any activity unrelated to Arabic course-work may result in a penalty on lab grades.
- No food, drink, or loud conversations in the lab.
- Disruptions or violations of lab rules will be reported to the appropriate University authorities.

Attendance Policy

- Attendance is mandatory.
- After 3 absences, your final grade will be docked a full letter grade.
- After 4 absences, you will receive an "F" for the course.
- Arriving late (up to 20 minutes) to class is a half absence. Tardiness after 20 minutes is marked as a full absence.

- I reserve the right to drop students from this course due to lack of effort.
- Missing lab time will result in absences for the course.
- If you need to miss class, email me and let me know. In order to have an excused absence, I require the appropriate documentation whether it is from work or a doctor's note within 1 week of the absence. Other absences will be unexcused.

Academic Integrity

The University of Texas at El Paso prides itself on its standards of academic excellence. In the classroom and in all other academic activities, students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Visit the Office of Dean of Students. Instructors are required to report the suspected academic dishonesty to the Office of Student Affairs.

Important: If you are found to be cheating, colluding, plagiarizing, or taking credit for someone else's work in my class you will receive a "0" for the assignment in question and a "0" for the participation points in this course.

Accommodations

Your success in this class is important to me. We will all need accommodations because we all learn differently. If there are aspects of this course that prevent you from learning or exclude you, please let me

know as soon as possible. Together we'll develop strategies to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. I also encourage you to visit the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) in room 106, Union East Building or contact them at 747-5148 or cass@utep.edu. If you need official accommodations, you have a right to have these met. There are also a range of resources on campus, including the Writing Center, Counseling Center, Military Student Success Center and Academic Advising Center.

Military Students

If you are a military student (veteran, dependent, active) please visit the Military Student Success Center. I also recognize the complexities of being a student veteran. If you are a student veteran, please inform me if you need special accommodations. Drill schedules, calls to active duty, complications with GI Bill disbursement, and other unforeseen military and veteran-related developments can complicate your academic life. If you make me aware of a complication, I will do everything I can to assist you or put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you.

EMAIL POLICY

If you send me an email, always include a greeting, your name, and which class you are in.

I check my email daily, but allow a 48-hour period for replies.

Emails sent on weekends will be replied to on the next business day.

Course Calendar

A course calendar for this class is available on Blackboard. There, you will find the due dates for all assignments and readings for this course.

I will give announcements and reminders in class about homework and assignments, but it is your responsibility to keep track of those dates, too.



Important Semester Dates:

August 26 – First Day of Class

August 26 to 30 - Late Registration

September 2 – Labor Day Holiday, University closed

September 11 - Census Day, last day to register for classes*

November 1 - Drop Date, last day to drop with a "W"

November 28 & 29 – Thanksgiving Holiday, University Closed

December 5 – Last day of classes

December 6 – Dead Day, no classes

December 9 to 13 - Final Exams, check the UTEP Finals calendar for specific exam dates and times

December 19 – Final grades posted

*Census Day: I reserve the right to drop students for lack of effort, multiple absences, multiple missed assignments, and missed lab time. If I drop students who fall into these categories **before** Census Day I will determine whether the drop will be an "F" or a "W." Any drops made **after** Census Day will automatically be an "F," regardless of the reason for the drop.

Final Note: Policies in this syllabus are all subject to change at instructor's discretion. I will notify you in writing if anything in this syllabus is updated.