INSTRUCTOR: FATIMA MASOUD
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VIRTUAL OFFICE & LAB HOURS: TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS 10AM TO 12PM, OR BY APPOINTMENT

FALL 2020

ARAB 1501
Elementary Arabic I

LOCATION: ONLINE CRN: 16233

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. 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.
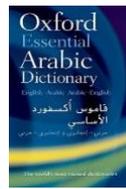
CLASS THEME

The theme of this class is Good Health and Well-Being. In addition to learning the basics of the Arabic language, students will investigate the ways in which good health and well-being are perceived in the Arab world and the United States, uncovering cultural similarities along the way. Elementary Arabic I is the first course of four that are thematically focused and designed to introduce students to the Arabic language and cultural and societal frameworks that exist in the Arab world.

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 TEXTS

- While there is no official textbook to purchase for this course, students will be required to access, download, and print course materials throughout the semester. Materials will be available on our course blackboard.

- Another essential is an Arabic-English Dictionary, such as Oxford Essential Arabic; ISBN-10: 019956115X

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Access to UTEP email and course Blackboard
- Adobe Acrobat or Adobe Acrobat PDF Reader
- Microsoft Office Suite or equivalent
- FlipGrid Student Account
- DuoLingo account

ARABIC LAB

You are **required** to complete work in the virtual Arabic lab for our course. You'll find the link in the course blackboard. All lab work counts toward your overall lab grade.

An Arabic tutor is available to provide support and guidance for you. You are required to meet with the tutor (virtually) at least twice in our course.

COURSE ASSESSMENTS

Discussion Board Responses	150 points
Speaking Assignments [FlipGrid]	150 points
Writing Assignments	150 points
Lab Work [DuoLingo]	50 points
Reflection Journal Posts	50 points
Unit Review Quizzes	100 points
Mid-term Exam	100 points
Cumulative Final Exam	100 points
Conversation Assessment	50 points
Final 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

DISCUSSION BOARD RESPONSES

Every week, students will post responses to short interpretive activities, mostly focused on reading and listening.

LAB WORK DUOLINGO

You will download the DuoLingo app and join my Arabic classroom to share your progress. You'll be assigned lab tasks each week through the app and you'll have one week to complete the lab assignment.

SPEAKING ASSIGNMENTS

Every week, you'll post responses to speaking activities on the FlipGrid App.

MID-TERM AND FINAL EXAMS

There are two exams for this class. Each exam will be a mixture of writing, listening and reading questions. Exams will cover all material from the course, including class content and lab content.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

Every unit has writing assignments that you turn in on Blackboard. Some require you to handwrite responses, others require you to type in Arabic.

UNIT QUIZZES

At the end of each unit in the course, a quiz will assess your progress.

REFLECTION JOURNAL

At the end of each unit, you'll reflect on your progress in the course.

FINAL PROJECT

A creative multi-media project delivered completely in Arabic.

CLASS AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES

COURSE DELIVERY

- This course is delivered entirely online through Blackboard.
- You must have consistent access to high-speed internet, Blackboard, and other required course platforms online and offline.
- If you need help or have issues securing internet at home, reach out to me and we'll try to solve the issue together.
- Assessments in this class are not open book. Put away all notes, books, and electronic devices during quizzes and tests. Respondus Lockdown Browser will be used for major examinations.

VIRTUAL ARABIC LAB POLICIES

- FALL 2020: Arabic lab will not be open this semester.
- You may meet virtually with the tutor using Blackboard Collaborate.
- When using video or audio to connect with the tutor, make sure your setting, dress, and conduct are professional and appropriate for the academic setting.
- If you schedule a meeting with the tutor, arrive on time and be prepared with your work.
- If you log in to the tutor's open hours on Blackboard and there is a session running, make your presence known and be prepared to return or work with the tutor and the other students.
- Lab sessions may be recorded.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Attendance is mandatory and calculated by tracking your weekly engagement with the course blackboard.

- Missing more than 2 assignments in a unit or section counts as an absence.
- After 3 absences (or 6 missed assignments), your final grade will be docked a full letter grade.
- After 4 absences (or 8 missed assignments), you will receive an "F" for the course.
- I reserve the right to drop students from this course due to lack of effort.
- Missing a scheduled lab session or meeting with me counts as an absence.
- If you have an emergency or issue that prevents you from keeping up with your course work, you must let me know. Documentation must be provided within one week after the absence or missed assignment(s) for an excused absence or opportunity to make-up work to be given.

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.

In this class, academic dishonesty includes the use of on-line translation services (i.e: Google Translate) to complete coursework. If I suspect that Google Translate is being used as a primary means of completing assignments, I will introduce measures to monitor student progress, including, but not limited to: using Respondus Lockdown Browser for assignments and tests; check-ins with the Arabic tutor and instructor; and pop quizzes.

> **IMPORTANT**:
> IF YOU ARE FOUND TO BE CHEATING, COLLUDING, PLAGIARIZING, USING GOOGLE TRANSLATE, OR TAKING CREDIT FOR SOMEONE ELSE'S WORK IN MY CLASS YOU WILL RECEIVE A "0" FOR THE ASSIGNMENT IN QUESTION AND A CASE WILL BE OPENED WITH THE OFFICE OF STUDENT CONDUCT AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION.

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. If you make me aware of a complication related to your military status, I will do everything I can to assist you or put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you.

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:

Aug 24	First Day of Class
Sept 7	Labor Day – University Closed / No Classes
Sept 9	Census Day – Students who have not attended will be dropped
Oct 30	Withdrawal / Drop Deadline – Last Day to Drop with a "W"
Nov 26-27	Thanksgiving Break – University Closed / No Classes
Dec 4	Dead Day – No Classes
Dec 7-11	Fall Final Exams
Dec 17	Grades are posted
May 21	Final Grades Posted and Available to Students

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*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.