
ELEMENTARY ARABIC I in Fall 2020 (AB5010)

Course Code	AB5010	Professor(s)	Fouad Mlih
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	SD-10
Class Schedule	M: 10:50-12:25 in SD-2 R: 10:50-14:15 in SD-2	Office Hours	By appointment
Credits	4	Email	fmlih@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2020	Office Tel. Ext.	638

Course Description

This course is designed so students can acquire the basic elements of spoken and written standard Arabic. You will learn how to read and write with Arabic characters and will get familiar with Arabic phonetic system. The course will help you in dealing with a completely different linguistic system and, as a result, a different cultural way of describing the world and expressing yourself. Consequently, you will be able to compare with your own and personal linguistic and cultural luggage, and to re-examine it through a new contrastive approach. The level language which constitutes the basis of the progression is the contemporary standard Arabic, from which you will be able, on the long term, to move to another register (local dialect : Egyptian, Middle-eastern, North-African...; classical Arabic; press Arabic...).

Course Learning Outcomes

Know the bases of a current conversation and the principles of a correct sentence
Acquire the basis of the Arabic grammar : sentence structure, past and present regular tense
The different type of sentences : nominal, verbal
Comprehension of small description texts and small dialogs
Production of dialogs and small commentary texts

General Education

- **You will be able to learn a new alphabetical system along with a new language and build your own comparisons with your mother tongue**
- **You will be able to interact with Arabic speakers (more than 300 millions people)**

in writing, reading, and speaking

- You will be able to develop a better understanding of a culture that is massively ignored in the Academic field so you can develop appreciated and rare skills at the University

Course Outline

Remark: The material used in class, besides the recommended textbook, is based upon oral registered dialogs, short texts and varied types of genuine documents (cards, newspapers, maps, etc.) that would be available through Teams sessions, by email and on Blackboard.

The schedule is flexible and will be revisited as the course progresses.

September

Week I – 23rd – 25th

Introduction to Arabic language & principles of Arabic writing. First vocabulary elements (greetings and thanks).

Week II – 28th – 2nd

Introduction to Arabic letters, writing progression and major phonetic features - The long vowels *a, u, ?* - Hearing exercises working on the following patterns : *yaf'al* (present tense conjugation) - *fa'il* (noun of agent) - *fa'?l* (adjective)

September 30th – last day to drop/add courses online

October

Week III – 5th – 9th

Dialog 1 Arabic alphabet, part 2 - work on short dialogs where you introduce yourself and say what you do - audio exercises - Geography: the Arab world map, countries and capital cities

Week IV – 12th – 16th

Arabic alphabet, part 3 - how to conjugate the present tense (singular) - the pronouns - Dialog 1 *Kullo tamam* - What are the main differences between standard Arabic and the major dialects

Week V – 19th – 23rd

Arabic alphabet, last part - *Kullo Tamam* dialog 2 - The principles of the nominal sentence (descriptive kind of sentence) - Fast reading exercises - The cardinal numbers - how to conjugate the present tense (plural)

Week VI – 26th – 30th

The principles of the verbal sentence - Audio and fast reading exercises (clear words - foreign transcribed words - name of Arab countries and cities) - The ordinal numbers and the days of the week

October 28th, Mid-semester

November

Week VII – 2nd – 6th

Al-Kitab unit 1 : discover Maha's world - derivation exercises (working on *yaf'al* and *fa'il*) - the *i?afa* and the agreement noun + adjective - Short dialogs in which you describe what you are doing and studying, where you live...

Week VIII – 9th- 13th

Al-Kitab unit 1 + *Kullo tamam* dialog 2 - Introduction to the complex sentence: express what you want or wish to do, what you like - The *i?afa* and the agreement noun + adjective - Academic life and the studies world

November 11th to 13t, fall break (no classes)

Week VIII – 16th- 20th

Kullo tamam dialogs 3 & 4 - How to express what you feel - The complex sentences (rules and conjugation of the subjunctive tense) - Description of the city and its main landmarks

November 16th, Mid-semester grades due

Week IX – 23rd – 27th

Al-Kitab unit 2 - Arab newspapers and media sites - How to order at the restaurant, how to book a hotel... (use of the subjunctive tense) - Vocabulary: food and cuisine Arab traditions

November 27th, last day to withdraw from a course

last day to choose credit/no credit option

Week X - 30th – 4th

Al-Kitab unit 2 - The past tense conjugation, an introduction - How to narrate your everyday life - An introduction to location and possessive sentence (how to describe the environment)

December

Week XI – 7th – 11th

Al-Kitab unit 2 - The past tense conjugation, an introduction - How to narrate your everyday life

Short dialogs and texts produced by students to describe the characters they have known through dialogs and to narrate of them's daily life

December 11th, last day of classes,

December 12th - 15th, reading days

December 16th – 22th, Final Exam

January 4nd, all grades due

Textbooks

This course doesn't have any textbook.

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Covid-19 temporaty amendments

Students studying at The American University of Paris are STILL EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALL scheduled classes. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, students will have the option of attending classes remotely when special circumstances apply. For example when students are placed under quarantine by the French authorities or by their doctor, or when students present symptoms of Covid-19 and are directed, by their doctor or the AUP Health Office, to remain home. It is still the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that their professor might have set in the course syllabus. In particular, Students attending remotely from distant Time Zones should check with their professors about the specific attendance policy for remote learners.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

Assignments throughout the semester + final exam

Other
