



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY
Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

ALMC 202
Beginners' Arabic I
Fall 2021

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:00-1:50 pm – *synchronous online* (Zoom link posted on D2L)
Thursday – *asynchronous*

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dr. Rachel Friedman

OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays 2:00-3:00, Thursdays 11:00-12:00, and by appointment (via Zoom; Zoom link posted on D2L)

E-MAIL: rachel.friedman@ucalgary.ca. I will generally respond to e-mails within 48 hours (weekends and holidays excluded).

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (403) 220-5200. E-mail is preferred.

DESCRIPTION

A comprehensive course for students with no prior knowledge of the language. Includes training in listening, speaking, reading and writing of Modern Standard Arabic in its cultural context.

OBJECTIVES

To acquire basic skills in speaking, listening, writing, and reading Modern Standard Arabic and gain foundational knowledge of Arabic vocabulary and grammar as well as Arab cultures.

OUTCOMES

Students will acquire novice-level proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic. They will develop foundational skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing as well as acquire knowledge of basic Arabic vocabulary, grammar, and Arab cultures. They will be able to read and write the Arabic alphabet and basic Arabic phrases and sentences, understand spoken and written Arabic at a novice level, speak and write about themselves and their families at a novice level, and engage in basic conversation using conventional greetings and expressions.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

1. *Alif Baa: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*, 3rd edition, by Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2010.
2. *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic: Part One*, 3rd edition, by Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2011.
3. Answer keys to *Alif Baa* and *al-Kitaab Part One*. The answer keys are:

Answer Key for Alif Baa, 3rd ed. by Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. 3rd ed. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2010.
and

Answer Key for al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya Part One, 3rd ed. by Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi. 3rd ed. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2011.



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WAYS OF ACCESSING THE COURSE MATERIALS:

Alif Baa, Al-Kitaab Part One, and their answer keys can all be accessed in the following ways; students may choose how to access them:

- Hard copies are available for purchase from the campus bookstore and several online vendors
- E-books are available to rent or purchase from <https://calgary-store.vitalsource.com/>
- TDFL (the campus library) has several copies available to borrow (including DVDs)

RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

A list of recommended online resources for Arabic language and culture learning is provided on D2L.

Optional: Access to Lingco Labs companion website. Instructions for accessing the site will be posted on D2L.

COURSE NOTES

The University of Calgary has a system for Arabic language course placement. Information about course placement can be found at: <https://live-arts.ucalgary.ca/languages-linguistics-literatures-cultures/arabic-language-muslim-cultures/assessment-and-placement>

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This course meets synchronously via Zoom on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays, 1:00-1:50 pm. On Thursdays, there is no class Zoom session. Instead, the weekly schedule (posted on D2L) will let you know what work you have that day (such as a video to watch or an activity to complete).

Important dates (excluding weekly homework, which is always due Monday at class time 1:00 pm):

Wednesday 8 Sept., 1:00-1:50 pm	<i>First Zoom class session</i>
Thursday 23 Sept., 11:59 pm	Cultural portfolio 1 due
Wednesday 29 Sept., 1:25-1:50 pm	Quiz 1
<i>Thursday 30 Sept.</i>	<i>National Day for Truth and Reconciliation</i>
Friday 8 Oct., 11:59 pm	Cultural portfolio 2 due
<i>Monday 11 Oct.</i>	<i>Thanksgiving – no class</i>
Thursday 14 Oct., <i>anytime*</i>	Quiz 2
Thursday 21 Oct., <i>anytime*</i>	Test 1
Thursday 28 Oct., 11:59 pm	Skit recording due
Thursday 4 Nov., <i>anytime*</i>	Quiz 3
Friday 5 Nov., 11:59 pm	Cultural portfolio 3 due
<i>Week of 7-13 Nov.</i>	<i>Term break – no class</i>
Thursday 18 Nov., <i>anytime*</i>	Test 2
Thursday 25 Nov., <i>anytime*</i>	Quiz 4
Thursday 2 Dec., 11:59 pm	Monologue recording due
Monday 6 Dec., 11:59 pm	Cultural portfolio 4 due
Wednesday 8 Dec., 1:00-1:50 pm	<i>Last Zoom class session</i>
Thursday 9 Dec., <i>anytime*</i>	Test 3

* Quizzes and tests scheduled to take place on Thursdays may be completed at anytime during the day. In D2L, the quiz or test will be available to take anytime on the Thursday, beginning at 12:00 am and continuing until 11:59 pm. The student may choose to take the quiz or test anytime during that time. The quiz or test must be submitted by 11:59 pm at the latest. Quizzes will have a 25-minute timer, and tests will have a 65-minute timer (50 minutes for the test itself + 15 minutes built-in technology time).



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Dates are not expected to change but may under extraordinary circumstances.

Guidelines for submitting assignments: Weekly homework assignments are due by Monday at class time (1:00 pm), submitted online (according to instructions posted on D2L). Quizzes and tests will be completed online in D2L. Cultural portfolios will be submitted to a D2L dropbox. Oral presentations will be submitted (as a recording) to a D2L dropbox.

Contingency plan for inability to take a timed assessment during the scheduled time period: If a student is unable to take a timed assessment during the scheduled time period (as listed in the chart above), the student should contact the instructor as soon as possible, providing information about the reason for the inability to take the assessment at the scheduled time, and providing the student's availability to complete the assessment at a time as close as possible to the originally scheduled time.

Contingency plan for issues that arise during timed assessment: If a student encounters issues that affect their ability to complete an assessment, they should contact the instructor by email as soon as possible after the issue arises; identify the issue and the time at which it arose. Also include information about the next time at which they could complete the timed assessment, if need be. Then, monitor email for response from instructor.

Policy for missed/late assignments: If individual circumstances may prevent a student from meeting a course deadline, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible if the student wishes to request credit for any missed assignments. A deduction for completing or submitting an assignment late may apply, in the absence of a strong reason (such as illness or family emergency). The extent of the deduction will be at the instructor's discretion, based on circumstances and how late the assignment is submitted. Late homework from a given lesson will not be accepted past the date of the test on that lesson.

Expectations of writing quality: Most writing for this course will be done in Arabic; you will be expected to use in your writing the skills and material we cover in the course. Cultural portfolio entries may use both English and Arabic; before submitting your work, please make sure to proofread it carefully for clarity, flow, spelling, and grammar. Evidence of failure to do so (e.g. typos and misspellings) will result in a deduction to the grade on this assignment.

Class etiquette & guidelines: University Zoom policy: "When entering a Zoom session, you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in Zoom may affect others. To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission." Visit [Student conduct in the virtual classroom](#) for further guidance.

- Students should conduct themselves appropriately during Zoom class sessions.
- Interactions with classmates and instructor should be respectful.
- During class, please only use technology as is relevant to class. Do not use technology for purposes not relevant to class (e.g. checking email and social media). Do not do other work for other classes during our Zoom sessions.
- Please mute yourself when you are not talking, in order to reduce background noise.
- If you are joining the Zoom session from a room that has other people in it, please use headphones when possible.
- Only the student enrolled in the course should participate in the Zoom class session, not other people who may be in the vicinity when the student joins the Zoom session.

Learning technology requirements: The course D2L site will be the organizational hub for this course. You are responsible for checking the site regularly for announcements and any changes to the schedule. As per the University's policy, in order to ensure that students can engage successfully in the learning experiences of online or hybrid courses, students will need to have reliable access to the following:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security & malware updates;



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- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection;
- Ability to take a picture (of hand-written Arabic work) using a phone, camera, or other device and upload to D2L.

Course evaluation procedure: Course evaluations will be conducted online.

ASSESSMENT

Active class participation: 10%
Homework: 15%
Quizzes (4, worth 5% each): 20%
Tests (3, worth 10% each): 30%
Oral presentations (2, worth 7.5% each): 15%
Cultural portfolio (4 entries): 10%

Extra credit: Optional; 0.25% per eligible activity, up to a maximum of 6 activities

There will be no final exam in this course.

Active class participation: Class sessions are your primary venue for practicing and speaking Modern Standard Arabic, and speaking is one of the skills that this course develops. As such, regular attendance and participation are key to success in this course. Participation includes paying attention in class, following instructions given, speaking up during discussions and during group/partner work, and volunteering to ask and answer questions. Failure to abide by the class etiquette guidelines listed above will result in a deduction to the participation grade.

Participation will be assessed as follows:

A range: Volunteer to speak 3+ times per week in main Zoom room; active participation in breakout rooms
B range: Volunteer to speak 1-2 times per week in main Zoom room; active participation in breakout rooms
C range: Speak rarely or only when asked in main Zoom room; inconsistent participation in breakout rooms
D-F range: Infrequent speaking and active participation in Zoom class sessions

Homework: All weekly homework assignments will be due each week on Monday at class time (1:00 pm), and will be submitted online (see submission instructions on D2L). Homework is graded for completion, timeliness, following instructions, and demonstrating understanding of the material. Homework will be listed on the weekly schedule available on D2L. Each drill in *Alif Baa* is worth one point; each drill in *Al-Kitaab* is worth two points.

Quizzes: There will be four quizzes during the term, to take place via D2L, on material covered in advance of each one. Information about the material to be covered on each quiz will be provided on D2L in advance.

Tests: There will be three tests during the term, to take place via D2L. Information about the material to be covered on each test will be provided on D2L in advance. Prior to the test, students will have a chance to review the material.

Presentations: Students will do two oral presentations during the semester. The first will be a skit (dialogue) done in pairs (with a partner), and the second will be a monologue (completed individually). Each will be recorded and uploaded to a D2L dropbox. Presentations will be evaluated based on their communicating effectively in Arabic, accuracy of grammar and vocabulary usage, speaking smoothly, pronunciation, and adherence to presentation guidelines (which will be posted on D2L and discussed in class).



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Cultural portfolio: The cultural portfolio is comprised of 4 written entries that will be reflective and process-oriented. The cultural portfolio is focused on documenting and sharing your perspectives on, and exploration of, Arabic-speaking cultures. Specific instructions will be provided for each portfolio entry, posted on D2L and discussed in class. Students may write in any combination of Arabic and English that they choose, and this writing will be submitted to a D2L dropbox.

Extra credit: Eligible activities will be announced during the semester. They may include Arabic conversation hour, guest lectures, and other activities that enhance and strengthen your knowledge of Arabic language and/or Arab cultures. These activities are optional.

GRADING SCALE

97-100% A+	82-86.99% B+	67-71.99% C+	53-56.99% D+
92-96.99% A	77-81.99% B	62-66.99% C	50-52.99% D
87-91.99% A-	72-76.99% B-	57-61.99% C-	49.99% and below F

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>, and <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS



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It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.