

Intermediate Arabic I

Last Updated: Fri, 08/01/2025

Course prefix: ARBC

Course number: 2001

Section: -

CRN (you may add up to five):

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Instructor First Name: Sarah

Instructor Last Name: Kayali

Semester: Fall

Academic year: 2025

Course description:

ARAB 2001 offers a rapid review of grammar with continued use of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Arabic, all with a cultural emphasis.

Course learning outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Use Arabic to communicate with peers and instructor both orally and in writing in order to create a shared community experience.
2. Employ strategies to comprehend texts written by and for Arabic speakers (written, aural and video) in depth.
3. Employ strategies to express ideas orally and in writing related to familiar topics in presentational contexts in depth.
4. Employ strategies to express your ideas in interpersonal contexts in culturally appropriate ways in depth.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of their languages and cultures in relation to the practices, products, and perspectives of the culture(s) of Arabic-speaking countries.
6. Develop intercultural awareness through the study of the similarities and differences among and the relationships between language and culture systems.
7. Be prepared to continue developing your Arabic language skills and cultural understanding in ARAB 2002.

Required course materials:

[*'Arabiyyat al-Naas \(Part One\): An Introductory Course in Arabic, 2nd Edition*](#)

Grading policy:

Preparation

20%

On most days preparation will consist of watching instructional videos or reading Arabic texts and then working your way through a series of questions on them or activities that were carefully designed to help you acquire the vocabulary and grammatical structures in focus. Each unit also includes a cultural exploration section that asks you to consider the perspectives of a variety of Cultural Collaborators on a thematically driven topic and then conduct guided, Internet-based research on that topic to be shared with your classmates. Advancing your cultural awareness and linguistic ability, in ARAB 2001 you will also employ the knowledge acquired to resolve the cultural conflict presented in each unit. After each series of activities you will complete a culminating activity in class that will allow you to demonstrate what you have learned and reveal gaps in your understanding to ask about in class. Please be aware that your preparation for the cultural activities and the culminating activities will be crucial for all class work with your classmates.

Conversations

10%

After completing the preparation assignments, you will engage in a series of conversational prompts or learning games in class where you apply the information learned through the preparation activities.

Quizzes

15%

You will take a minimum of three quizzes designed to assess your understanding of key concepts covered in class. These quizzes will test your vocabulary, grammar, and comprehension skills, ensuring you stay on track with the course material. They provide an opportunity to review what you've learned, identify areas for improvement, and strengthen your grasp of Arabic.

Movie Reviews

10%

At least twice during the semester, you will engage in a critical exploration of Arab cinema by selecting and watching an Arab film of your choice (on YouTube, Netflix, another website, or borrowed from GT library). You will write a concise review, analyzing the film's themes, cultural context, and artistic elements in a one-page reflection. This exercise encourages you to deepen their understanding of Arab cultures and perspectives through visual storytelling while developing analytical writing skills.

Arab Cultural Event

5%

You will attend one Arab cultural event this semester, either offered at GT, or in the larger Atlanta community (such as visiting a music event, film fest, poetry reading, etc.). You will write a concise description of your experience and the event in a one-page reflection. This exercise encourages you to deepen their understanding of Arab cultures and perspectives through visual storytelling while developing analytical writing skills.

Midterm and Final Projects

20%

For the midterm project, you will select a children's book in Arabic to read (the professor will offer you a choice of books or you can select your own). You will then collaborate with a partner to create a short film reenacting the story using simplified vocabulary. This project encourages you to enhance their reading, comprehension, and creative storytelling skills while practicing spoken Arabic in an engaging and accessible way. For your final project, you will work in pairs to perform a 10-minute unscripted conversation based on a prompt provided in advance. This activity allows you to demonstrate your ability to engage in spontaneous dialogue, apply vocabulary and grammar learned in class, and communicate effectively in Arabic. The project emphasizes fluency, creativity, and the practical use of language in real-world scenarios. Each project is worth 10% of your final grade.

Oral Interviews

20%

Twice during the semester, you will join other students to engage in a conversation in class in which your listening and speaking skills, as well as your developing understanding of the course content, will be evaluated. This assessment will be an instructor graded Oral Examination, each worth 10% of your final grade. On the day of the interview, as part of it, you must submit a portfolio that includes a reflective paragraph analyzing your progress in the course. This reflection will encourage you to assess your learning journey, identify areas of growth, and recognize challenges you've overcome.

Attendance policy:

More than 3 absences will result in deductions in the student's participation grade unless otherwise discussed. Any more than 6 absences will result in a zero for the student's participation grade. Students must email me before class notifying them of anticipated absences and arrange with a classmate to receive notes for the missed classes.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's

academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Humanities area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge

in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, and philosophical works?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following

Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Competence