

ARBC 1001: Elementary Arabic I

Fall 2026 | 4 Credit Hours

Instructor: Noor Abbady

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Office: Swann – office 233

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 2:00-4:00 PM on Zoom

Class Meetings: Tue + Thu, 3:30 – 4:45, Cherry Emerson | Room 322

Asynchronous Work: Approximately 1 hour per week

Course Description

Introduction to listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Arabic and to the culture of Arabic-speaking regions.

About This Course

In ARBC 1001, you will begin using Arabic from the start. We will learn Formal Arabic (Fusha) for reading and writing alongside Levantine Arabic (Shaami) for everyday conversation. Class time will focus on speaking, listening, interaction, and using Arabic with your classmates. You will also explore aspects of everyday life and culture across the Arab world as they connect to the language we are learning.

Learning Outcomes

1. Participate in short, guided conversations in Arabic about familiar topics such as introductions, family, university life, food, places, time, and everyday needs.
2. Read and write basic Arabic, including familiar words, sentences, questions, and short texts.
3. Understand the main idea and key information in short, familiar spoken and written Arabic.
4. Recognize and use basic Levantine Arabic (Shaami) and Formal Arabic (Fusha) in the everyday spoken and written contexts introduced in the course.
5. Recognize and discuss aspects of everyday life and culture in the Arab world, including greetings and social interactions, family, food, geography, and other topics encountered throughout the course.

Course Materials

- *'Arabiyyat al-Naas, Part One*, 2nd Edition, [ISBN 9781138492868](#). Buy or loan. Links available on Canvas.
- **A lined notebook and pencils** for Arabic handwriting practice
- A device with internet access for Canvas activities and course materials

How This Course Works

Learning a language requires using it. You are expected to come to class prepared so that class time can focus on speaking, listening, reading, writing, and interacting in Arabic.

In addition to meeting twice a week, you will complete approximately one hour of asynchronous work each week. This may include textbook activities, listening and viewing assignments, vocabulary practice, short writing tasks, and other preparatory work that supports in-class learning.

Grading

Assessment	Percentage
Homework	20%
Class Participation	20%
Weekly Asynchronous Work	10%
Movie Reflections (2)	10%
Quizzes	25%
Final Exam	15%

Final Grade Scale	
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	Below 60%

Grading Description

Homework (20%)

Homework will be assigned weekly and submitted through Canvas. Most assignments will come directly from the textbook and reinforce the material covered in class. Homework is listed in the weekly lesson plans on Canvas.

Assignments submitted within 24 hours after the deadline will receive a maximum of 50% credit. No homework will be accepted more than 24 hours after the deadline.

Class Participation (20%)

Regular attendance and active participation are essential to learning a new language. You are expected to come prepared, participate in class activities and discussions, work collaboratively with classmates, and use Arabic as much as possible during class. Participation grades will be recorded throughout the semester and averaged at the end of the course.

Weekly Asynchronous Work (10%)

You will complete approximately one hour of asynchronous work each week and submit it through Canvas. Activities may include textbook exercises, listening or viewing assignments, vocabulary practice, or short writing tasks. This work is graded based on completion.

Movie Reflections (10%)

During the semester, you will watch two films or documentaries related to the Arab world. After each viewing, you will submit a short reflection on Canvas. Additional instructions and prompts will be provided on Canvas.

Quizzes (25%)

Five quizzes will be given throughout the semester, each worth 5% of the final course grade. Quizzes may be completed during class or on Canvas. Details about each quiz will be shared in advance.

Final Exam (15%)

The final exam will be administered in person during the university's scheduled final exam period. The date and time are listed in the course schedule.

Class Schedule

Course Topics and Calendar of Activities (Subject to Change). Weekly homework and asynchronous activities will be posted on Canvas. Specific assignments and due dates may be adjusted based on the pace and needs of the class.

Week	Communication	Vocabulary	Grammar	Culture	Assignment
1 Course Introduction Unit 1: Lesson 1	Introduce yourself and greet others	Numbers 1–10; Arabic letters ا, ب, ط, ل, ن	Simple nominal sentences (e.g., 'I am a student.')	Introducing yourself in Arabic-speaking cultures	Async work 1
2 Unit 1: Lessons 2–3	Talk about yourself and your hometown	Numbers 11–30; Arabic letters ت, د, ر, س, ف, م, و, ي, ج, ش, ص, ق, ك	Possession in Arabic	Capital cities of the Arab world	Async work 2
3 Unit 1: Lessons 4–5	Describe the weather	Weather Arabic letters ث, ح, خ, ع	Definite article; Sun and Moon letters	Weather and seasons in the Middle East	Async work 3, Quiz 1
4 Unit 1: Lessons 6–7	Shop for clothing and ask simple questions while shopping	Clothes; days of the week Arabic letters ض, ز	Arabic plurals	Asking about prices while shopping	Async work 4
5 Unit 1: Lessons 8–9	Talk about your home and tell time	Housing; telling time	Idaafa (construct state)	Homes in the Middle East; telling time in Arabic	Async work 5, Quiz 2
6 Unit 1: Lesson 10	Talk about your family	Family members	Dual forms; possession with عند	Family structure in the Arab world	Async work 6, Movie reflection 1
7 Unit 1: Lessons 11–12	Talk about food, professions, and past experiences	Professions; food	Asking simple questions in the past tense using أكل and شرب	Preferred occupations in the Arab world	<u>Fall break/no class on Oct 6.</u> Async work 7, Quiz 3
8 Unit 1: Lessons 14–15*	Describe your country, its location, and its weather	Countries; location; weather	Comparative and superlative	Geography of the Middle East, with a focus on Syria	Async work 8
9–10 Unit 2: Lessons 1–3	Introduce yourself and travel	Self-introductions; travel	Nisba adjectives; present tense markers	Introducing yourself appropriately; travel documents in Arabic	Async work 9+10, Quiz 4
11–12 Unit 3: Lessons 1–3	Exchange personal information and navigate transportation	Personal information	بدّ, noun-adjective phrases, past tense conjugation	Transportation in the Arab world; taxi conversation in Lebanon	Async work 11+12, Movie reflection 2
13–14 Unit 4: Lessons 1–3	Talk about student housing and university life	Student housing; university life	Present tense after helping words;	Living with a roommate in an Arab country	Async work 13+14, Quiz 5

			hollow verbs; object pronouns		
15	Review course content	Comprehensive review	Comprehensive review	Final exam review	Final exam Dec 15

Course Expectations & Policies

Academic Integrity & AI

You are expected to uphold the Georgia Tech Honor Code in all course work.

This course will incorporate the use of artificial intelligence (AI) as a tool to support language learning. Unless an assignment explicitly instructs you to use AI, all submitted work must reflect your own understanding and language production. Any use of AI beyond what is permitted in the assignment instructions—including generating, translating, rewriting, or substantially editing your work—will be considered a violation of the Georgia Tech Honor Code.

Attendance & Participation

Regular attendance and active participation are essential to success in a language course. You are expected to come prepared, engage in class activities and discussions, collaborate respectfully with classmates, and use Arabic as much as possible during class.

Regular attendance supports your learning and participation in this course. Attendance is not graded by deducting points for individual absences. Instead, **if you finish the semester with four or fewer absences, 5 bonus points will be added to your participation grade.**

Institute-approved absences will be handled according to Georgia Tech policy, including reasonable opportunities to make up missed work.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

A successful class depends on mutual respect, preparation, communication, and effort. You can expect me to come prepared, communicate clearly, provide timely feedback, listen to your questions and concerns, and support your learning. I ask that you bring the same commitment to the course by coming prepared, participating actively, communicating openly and respectfully, and supporting your classmates. Together, we will work to create a classroom where everyone feels comfortable learning, practicing, asking questions, and making mistakes.

Collaboration

Language learning is collaborative. You will frequently work with classmates during class activities. Unless otherwise stated, all submitted assignments must represent your own work.

Late Work

Homework submitted within 24 hours after the deadline will receive a maximum of 50% credit. Homework submitted more than 24 hours late will not be accepted. Extensions may be granted only in extenuating circumstances.

Accommodations

Georgia Tech is committed to providing equal access to all students. If you require accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at disabilityservices.gatech.edu or 404-894-2563 as early as possible. Once you receive your accommodation letter, please share it with me so we can discuss how to best support your learning.

Campus Resources

You are encouraged to take advantage of Georgia Tech's academic and personal support resources, including the Office of Disability Services, Center for Academic Success, Counseling Center, Dean of Students, and Stamps Health Services. Additional information is available on the Georgia Tech website.