

ARBC 2001: Intermediate Arabic I Syllabus

Fall 2026 | 3 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, 12:30 – 1:45, Skiles | Room 368

Course Description

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

About This Course

ARBC 2001 builds on the foundation established in Elementary Arabic. Throughout the semester, you will strengthen your ability to communicate in Arabic through speaking, listening, reading, and writing while expanding your vocabulary and grammatical knowledge. Class activities emphasize meaningful communication, collaboration, and the use of Arabic in authentic contexts.

We will continue working with both Formal Arabic (Fusha) and spoken Arabic, *Shami* dialect, introduced in the textbook while exploring a wide range of cultural, literary, and social topics from across the Arab world. As the course progresses, you will engage with longer texts, richer discussions, and use Arabic more independently in and outside the classroom.

Learning Outcomes

1. Participate in conversations in Arabic about familiar and culturally relevant topics using vocabulary and grammatical structures introduced in the course.
2. Read and understand Arabic texts, identifying main ideas, supporting details, and cultural perspectives.
3. Write organized paragraphs and short compositions in Arabic using appropriate vocabulary and grammatical structures.
4. Understand main ideas and important details in spoken Arabic through conversations, interviews, videos, and other authentic materials.
5. Use Formal Arabic (Fusha) and spoken Arabic introduced in the course appropriately in different contexts.
6. Compare and discuss cultural practices, perspectives, and contemporary issues from across the Arab world, using Arabic and English as appropriate for the task.
7. Continue developing the language skills needed for success in ARBC 2002.

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

Language develops through consistent use. You are expected to come to class prepared so we can spend our time communicating in Arabic through discussion and collaborative activities rather than introducing new material for the first time.

Outside of class, you will complete preparation assignments that may include vocabulary, grammar, readings, listening, and other course materials. Completing these assignments will allow you to participate more fully in class discussions and activities.

Throughout the semester, you will also engage with authentic texts, videos, literature, music, and cultural perspectives from across the Arab world. Many class activities emphasize group/pair work and dialogue, which will give you regular opportunities to use the vocabulary and language structures you are learning.

Grading

Assessment	Percentage
Homework and preparation	20%
Class Participation	15%
Movie Reflections (2)	10%
Arab Cultural Event	5%
Quizzes	15%
Oral Interviews	20%
Final Project	15%

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

Grading Description

Homework and Preparation

Homework and preparation may include textbook exercises, vocabulary and grammar practice, readings, listening activities, and other course materials. Completing this work before class will help you participate fully in class activities.

Class Participation

Heard of “use it or lose it”? This is what class participation is about. It is essential. You are expected to come prepared and actively participate in conversations, pair/group work, readings, listening activities, and other class activities. Participation is based on your preparation and willingness to use what we’re learning, not on speaking perfectly.

Movie Reflections

You will watch two Arabic-language films during the semester and submit a short reflection for each. Reflections will focus on cultural themes, language, and your observations and responses to the film.

Arab Cultural Event

You will attend the Alif Institute Arab Festival on October 3 or 4 and submit a brief reflection connecting your experience to the language and cultural themes explored in class.

Quizzes

Three quizzes will assess vocabulary, grammar, reading, and listening comprehension from the units covered in class.

Oral Interviews

Twice during the semester, you will participate in an oral interview with me. The interviews will give you an opportunity to demonstrate your ability to communicate using the vocabulary and language structures we have practiced in class.

Final Project

For your final project, you will demonstrate your ability to use Arabic to communicate about topics explored during the semester. You will present your project during our final class meeting on December 8. Additional instructions and assessment criteria will be provided in class.

Course Schedule

Course Topics and Calendar of Activities (Subject to Change). Weekly homework 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 Unit 11	Introductions; discuss religion and personal/community identity	Religion, identity, community	عجبك, عجبني, verb-subject agreement	Religious identity and diversity in Arab societies	HW1
2 Unit 12	Discuss multiculturalism and relationships across communities	Identity, religion, interfaith relationships	additional uses of من and فيه expressions of wonder	Multicultural families and mixed marriages	HW2
3 Unit 13	Talk about professions, work, and career plans	Jobs, professions, workplace	Present continuous, imperative, negation,	Professional life in the Arab world	Thu 9/10 Quiz 1
4 Unit 14	Discuss immigration and opportunities in different places	Immigration, employment, opportunities	To-like, some, verb roots	Arab immigration and professional identity	HW3
5 Unit 15	Describe where you live and different living arrangements	Housing, apartments, neighborhoods	To become/to be	Housing and everyday life	Thu 9/24 Oral Interview 1
6 Unit 16	Discuss renting, roommates, and shared living	Rent, housing, household vocabulary	Negation, verb forms I, II & V	Housing, gender roles, and shared living	HW 4

7 Unit 16	Navigate everyday housing situations and solve problems	Housing and infrastructure		Everyday urban life	Fall Break: no class Oct. 6; Cultural Event Reflection 10/8
8 Unit 17	Visit someone, welcome guests, and participate in social interactions	Visits, hospitality, gifts	Temporal expressions, verb forms VIII & X	Arab hospitality and social customs	Thu 10/15 Quiz 2
9 Unit 18	Talk about visiting Lebanon, food, and everyday experiences	Food, visits, everyday activities	Idaafa review فينا, ممكن	Social life, food, and visiting customs	Thu 10/22 Movie Reflection 1
10 Unit 20	Discuss shopping, prices, and consumer choices	Shopping, malls, commerce	Uses of particle ما, noun-adjective	Shopping and consumer life	HW5
11 Unit 21	Describe neighborhoods, markets, and changing cities	Markets, furniture, infrastructure, city life	Demonstrative pronouns	Traditional markets and changing cityscapes	Thu 11/5 Quiz 3
12 Unit 22	Discuss Lebanese history and cultural identity	History, culture, identity	كأن as if; verb forms III, VI & VII	Lebanese cultural history and identity	Thu 11/12 Oral Interview 2
13 Unit 24	Discuss literature and how writers express identity	Literature, writers, cultural identity	Imperative forms	Khalil Gibran and Lebanese literature	Thu 11/19 Movie Reflection 2
14	Course review; final project preparation and dialogue practice	Review		Review	Final project preparation; Thanksgiving: no class Nov. 26
15	Final project presentations			Final project presentations	Final Project Presentations, Dec. 8

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.

Modified Operations and Digital Learning Days

If weather or another emergency affects campus operations, I will communicate with you through **Canvas and/or email** about any changes to our class. If we cannot meet in person, we may have an asynchronous digital learning day instead. I understand that power or internet outages may also affect your ability to participate, and we will adjust as needed.

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.