

ARA 111 – Elementary Arabic I

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: DRE 097 or ENG 002, or satisfactory score on placement test

Corequisites: ARA 181

This course introduces the fundamental elements of the modern standard Arabic language within the cultural context of Arabic-speaking people. Emphasis is placed on the development of basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Upon completion, students should be able to comprehend and respond with grammatical accuracy to spoken and written Arabic and demonstrate cultural awareness. This course must be taken with the accompanying lab. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement for the general education core requirement in humanities/fine arts.*

Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, successful students will be able to do the following with sufficient accuracy to be understood by someone accustomed to working with language learners:

1. Use the language to engage in interpersonal communication on well-practiced, familiar topics using limited, formulaic language. Often rely on repetition and extralinguistic clues (e.g., gestures and tone of voice) to negotiate meaning.
 - a. Exchange greetings and introductions using formal and informal expressions
 - b. Ask and answer simple questions on very familiar and everyday topics
 - c. Discuss everyday life and daily routines, using simple sentences and familiar vocabulary in familiar contexts
 - d. Discuss likes and dislikes
2. Understand words and concepts presented in the language in spoken and written texts which use well-practiced, familiar topics and grammar structures. Often rely on repetition, one's own background knowledge and extralinguistic cues (e.g., visuals or gestures) to interpret meaning.
 - a. Understand simple conversations about familiar topics (e.g., greetings, weather and daily activities,) with repetition when needed
 - b. Identify key details in short, highly-contextualized texts dealing with a familiar topic, relying on repetition and extralinguistic support when needed.
 - c. Extract basic information about familiar cultural topics from written or audio texts
 - d. Navigate a website in Arabic on a basic level
3. Use the language to present information to an audience through written and spoken forms on well-practiced, familiar topics.
 - a. Offer basic descriptions of self, other people, familiar places and objects in short discourse using simple sentences and basic vocabulary
 - b. Provide basic information about familiar situations, activities and topics of interest
 - c. Express likes and dislikes on very familiar and everyday topics of interest
4. Demonstrate an awareness of the relationship between the products, practices, and perspectives of the cultures in the Arabic-speaking world.
 - a. Identify and describe distinguishing features of countries and regions of the Arabic-speaking world
 - b. Identify some typical products and practices related to familiar everyday life
 - c. Give examples of the cultural and linguistic diversity of the Arabic-speaking world
 - d. Compare and contrast patterns of behavior in the cultures of the Arabic-speaking world and the student's own culture

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. Arabic Alphabet and Sound System
 - A. Arabic symbols
 - B. Reading simple texts on familiar topics
 - C. Composing simple paragraphs about yourself
- II. Vocabulary
 - A. Greetings and introductions
 - B. Formal and informal address
 - C. Question formation for asking basic questions
 - D. Speaking about yourself and others
 - E. Arabic numbers
 - F. Everyday life vocabulary
- III. Grammar
 - A. Conjugating verbs in the present tense
 - B. Formation of singular and plural nouns and adjectives
 - C. Feminine and Masculine Forms
 - D. Definite and indefinite articles
 - E. Possessive adjectives (feminine and masculine)
 - F. Adjectives and adjective agreements
 - G. Sentence structure
- IV. Arabic Culture and History
 - A. Awareness of the different Arabic dialects
 - B. Familiarity with some of the differences between formal and spoken Arabic
 - C. Understanding of various cultures of the Arabic-speaking world. Topics may include food, education, family, festivities, art, literature, history, music, politics, religions and aspects of daily life.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIAL:

The textbook and other instructional material will be determined by the instructor.