

**ARA 4850 / LIN4930 / LIN 6571  
Structure of (Standard) Arabic  
Fall 2020**

**Course Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Youssef A. Haddad  
**Meeting time:** 4<sup>th</sup> period (10:40 – 11:30 a.m.)  
**Meeting Location:** MAT 102  
**Office Hours:** Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.  
or by appointment  
In-person: Pugh 357  
Online: Zoom link:  
<https://ufl.zoom.us/my/yhaddad>  
**Tel:** 352-273-2958  
**E-Mail:** [yah@ufl.edu](mailto:yah@ufl.edu)

**Prerequisite:** ARA 1131 OR LIN 3010

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Haddad, Youssef. In progress. *Introduction to Arabic Linguistics*. Wiley Blackwell.

Other readings will be made available on Canvas. Here is a sample list.

- Aoun, Joseph, Elabbas Benmamoun, and Dominique Sportiche. 1994. Agreement, word order, and conjunction in some varieties of Arabic. *Linguistic Inquiry* 25: 195-220.
- Aoun, Joseph, Elabbas Benmamoun, and Dominique Sportiche. 1999. Further remarks on first conjunct agreement. *Linguistic Inquiry* 30: 669-681.
- Davis Stuart and Bushra Adnan Zawaydeh. 2001. Arabic Hypocoristics and the status of the consonantal root. *Linguistics Inquiry* 32: 512-520.
- Davis, Stuart. 1995. Emphasis Spread in Arabic and Grounded Phonology. *Linguistic Inquiry* 26: 465-498
- Eid, Mushira. 1983a. On the communicative function of subject pronouns in Arabic. *Journal of Linguistics* 19: 287-303.
- Eid, Mushira. 1983b. The copula function of pronouns. *Lingua* 59: 197-207.
- Ferguson, Charles A. 1959. The Arabic Koine. *Language* 35: 616-630.
- Haddad, Youssef A. 2008. Pseudometathesis in Three Standard Arabic Broken Plural Templates. *Word Structure* 1: 135-155.
- Haddad, Youssef A. 2014. Attitude datives in Lebanese Arabic and the interplay of syntax and pragmatics. *Lingua* 145: 65-103.
- Munn, Alan. 1999. First conjunct agreement: Against a clausal analysis. *Linguistic Inquiry* 30: 643-668.
- Prunet, Jean-Francois, Renée Béland, and Ali Idrissi. 2000. The mental representation of Semitic words. *Linguistics Inquiry* 31: 609-648. Focus mainly on pages 609-626
- Watson, Janet C.E. 1999. The Directionality of Emphasis Spread in Arabic. *Linguistic Inquiry* 30: 289-300.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course describes and analyzes the following:

- Arabic speech sounds and sound system
- Arabic words, their structure and meaning
- Arabic phrases, their structure and meaning

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, you will be expected to

- retain linguistic facts about the Arabic language;
- recognize and transcribe Arabic sounds broadly and fairly accurately using the International Phonetic Alphabet;
- observe data sets in order to
  - identify the necessary structural elements at the word and sentence levels,
  - arrive at linguistic generalizations, and
  - explain your answers by providing solid arguments.

Long-Term Objectives:

It is my hope that this course will help you

- appreciate language as a unique human system worth investigating;
- look at your own language as an outsider and appreciate it more.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Undergraduate Students

1) Exams – 60%

There will be three exams. These may be in-class, online, or both.

- a. **Exam 1: Friday, September 24**
- b. **Exam 2: Friday, October 29**
- c. **Exam 3: Wednesday, December 8**

2) Textbook Reading Assignments – 20%

There will be about 200 of these distributed through the semester. You will be expected to read assigned textbook chapters and answer questions, solve exercises, etc.

3) Dialect Report – 10%

Throughout the semester, you will work with a partner or partners on a dialect not covered in the textbook in order to put together a brief report (3-5 pages) that covers the following:

- The linguistic history of the region where the dialect is spoken
- The speech sounds and sound system of the dialect and they compare to Standard Arabic
- The word structure of the dialect and how it compares to Standard Arabic

4) External Reading Assignments (3 assignments, about 35 points each) – 10%

These will be distributed throughout the semester. Each assignment requires the reading of one or two articles or book chapters (not to exceed 35 pages) in order to answer a set of online questions. The assignment and questions will be posted online a week before due date. Students are expected to work alone.

## Graduate Students

- 1) Exams – 30%  
There will be three exams. These may be in-class, online, or both.
  - a. **Exam 1: Friday, September 24**
  - b. **Exam 2: Friday, October 29**
  - c. **Exam 3: Wednesday, December 8**
- 2) Textbook Reading Assignments – 20%  
There will be about 200 of these distributed through the semester. You will be expected to read assigned textbook chapters and answer questions, solve exercises, etc.
- 3) Dialect Report – 10%  
Throughout the semester, you will work with a partner or partners on a dialect not covered in the textbook in order to put together a brief report (3-5 pages) that covers the following:
  - The linguistic history of the region where the dialect is spoken
  - The speech sounds and sound system of the dialect and they compare to Standard Arabic
  - The word structure of the dialect and how it compares to Standard Arabic
- 4) External Reading Assignments (6 assignments, about 35 points each) – 20%  
These will be distributed throughout the semester. Each assignment requires the reading of one or two articles or book chapters (not to exceed 35 pages) in order to answer a set of online questions. The assignment and questions will be posted online a week before due date. Students are expected to work alone.
- 5) Essay – 20%  
You will be expected to write a 3000-word essay in the form of an extended abstract based on two or three assigned readings. The essay must do some or all of the following: (i) highlight a problem or a research question, (ii) provide data to illustrate the phenomenon under examination, (iii) discuss earlier work on the topic and explain why it is inadequate where possible, (iv) provide a solution to the problem. Students are encouraged to discuss the readings together, but each student does the write-up of the extended abstract alone.

Sample extended abstracts may be found at:

<https://journals.linguisticsociety.org/proceedings/index.php/ExtendedAbs>

Here is another link that provides tips on how to write an extended abstract:

<https://www.cs.indiana.edu/icfp96/advice.html>

All assignments must be typed. Additional specifications may accompany certain assignments.

### Grading Scale & GPA Equivalent

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
100-93	92.9-90	89.9-87	86.9-83	82.9-80	79.9-77	76-73	72.9-70	69.9-67	66.9-63	62.9-60	59-
(4.0)	(3.67)	(3.33)	(3.0)	(2.67)	(2.33)	(2.0)	(1.67)	(1.33)	(1.0)	(0.67)	(0)

Students will need to earn a C or higher to use this course toward a major or minor and/or earn General Education Credit.

To receive writing requirement credit, a student must receive a grade of C or higher and a satisfactory completion of the writing component of the course.

For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

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## **GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES**

### Canvas

All assignments, lecture notes, handouts, study guides, grades, etc. will be posted on the course website on Canvas. It is your responsibility to check the website regularly and keep up to date with the class.

### Attendance and make-ups

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Attendance is mandatory and will be assessed by roll call. You may miss 2 sessions without any penalty. Students will lose 1% from their final grade for each unexcused absence. Absences will be excused in accordance with UF policy. Acceptable excuses include illness, religious holidays, & military obligation. These need to be documented excuses. Should you miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for informing yourself as to the material covered. Except in the case of certified illness or other UF accepted excuse, there will be no make-up option for missed exams/assignments. Where possible, make-ups should be arranged prior to absence. Alternatively, students should contact me on return to classes. Arriving late or leaving early (before class is dismissed) is considered a half absence and results in minus 0.5% from the final grade. After 15 unexcused absences, a student is not allowed to attend class anymore and s/he will receive a failing grade.

### Class Demeanor & Academic Integrity

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and eating during class time. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Conduct Code](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### Accommodations

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. For more information see

<https://disability.ufl.edu/>.

## **HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

- U Matter, We Care: [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu); 392-1575
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx> ; 392-1575

- ▶ Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center; 392-1161
- ▶ University Police Department: <http://www.police.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1111 (911 for emergencies)

#### ACADEMIC RESOURCES

- ▶ E-learning technical support: [Learningsupport@ufl.edu](mailto:Learningsupport@ufl.edu); <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml> ; 352-392-4357 (opt. 2)
- ▶ Career Resource Center: Reitz Union; <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1601
- ▶ Library Support: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>
- ▶ Teaching Center: Broward Hall; 392-2010 or 392-6420
- ▶ Writing Studio: 302 Tigert Hall; <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> ; 846-1138

#### Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu> . Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/> .

#### In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

## SCHEDULE

This schedule is tentative and subject to change. Refer to Canvas for updates.

Week	Topic	Textbook Readings
1	Linguistics: An Overview Arabic: An Overview	Ch. 1
2	Speech: An Overview Arabic Consonants and Vowels	Ch. 2 Ch. 3
3	Arabic Syllable Structure and Stress	Ch. 4
4	Arabic Sound System	Ch. 5
5	Arabic Word Structure: An Overview	Ch. 6 <b>Exam 1</b>
6	Arabic Verbs: Their Structure and Meaning	Ch. 7
7	Arabic Nouns: Their Structure and Meaning	Ch. 8
8-9	Arabic Morphophonology	Ch. 9
10	Arabic Phrase Structure: An Overview	Ch. 10 <b>Exam 2</b>
11	Arabic Noun Phrases: Their Structure and Meaning	Ch. 11
12	Arabic Verb Phrases: Their Structure and Meaning	Ch. 12
13-14	The Arabic Simple Sentence: Its Structure and Meaning	Ch. 13
15	Wrapping up	<b>Exam 3</b>