

**University of Florida**  
**Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures**  
**Arabic Division**

**STRUCTURE OF (STANDARD) ARABIC**  
**ARA4850/LIN6571**  
**Spring 2014**

**Instructor:** Youssef A. Haddad  
**Meeting Time:** MWF 9<sup>th</sup> period  
**Room:** MAT 0005  
**Office Hours:** MW 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. or by appointment  
**Office:** 357 PUGH, Tel: 273-2958  
**E-Mail:** [yah@ufl.edu](mailto:yah@ufl.edu)

**PREREQUISITE**

ARA 1131 OR LIN 3010

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Holes, Clive. (2004). *Modern Arabic: Structures, Functions, and Varieties*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course describes and analyzes the sound system, word structure, sentence structure, and semantics of Arabic.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this course,

- You should be able to retain linguistic facts about the Arabic language.
- You should be able to recognize and transcribe Arabic sounds broadly and fairly accurately using the International Phonetic Alphabet.
- Given enough data, you should be able 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:

You will be able to

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

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### 1) Exams – 60%

There will be three in-class exams. Each will be a two-day exam and is worth (20%).

- a. **Exam 1: Wed-Fri, Feb 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>**
- b. **Exam 2: Mon-Wed, Mar 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>**
- c. **Exam 3: Mon-Wed, Apr 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>**

### 2) Abstracts and Presentations – 40%

There will be two take-home assignments due on:

- a. **Mon Feb 24<sup>th</sup>**
- b. **Mon Apr 7<sup>th</sup>**

Each is worth 20% distributed as follows:

- a. 15%: Each assignment requires the reading of one or two journal articles or book chapters (not to exceed 60 pages) and the writing of an extended conference abstract. Your task is mainly to pretend that you are the author of the article(s)/book chapter(s); you plan to present your work at a conference that requires the submission of an extended abstract. All abstracts must be typed with the following specifications: 4 pages long, single-spaced, font Times 12, one inch margin all around, including data and references. The abstract must be typed and turned in as a hard copy on the due date. You may discuss the articles/book chapters with your classmates, but you are required to write your abstract solo. Sample extended abstracts may be found at:  
<http://elanguage.net/journals/index.php/lsameeting/issue/view/134>  
Here is another link that provides tips on how to write an abstract:  
<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/linguistics/assets/documents/abstractadvice.pdf>
- b. 5%: Work with three partners on a 20-minute presentation + 5 minutes for questions.

### 2) Ungraded Homework:

You are required to do close reading of five chapters in the textbook: 0/1, 2, 3, 4, and 6. You will be given a set of questions about each chapter to guide you through the reading.

In addition, you are expected to do data-set homework assignments that mainly include data analysis.

You may discuss – you are actually encouraged to discuss – homework with classmates.

Although this homework is not graded, you are expected to turn it in as instructed and to always have material ready for class discussion. Doing homework seriously and turning it in will have at least the following benefits:

- a. It prepares you for class, helps you understand the material better, and accordingly helps you perform better on exams.
- b. At the end of the semester, it helps me decide between two equidistant letter grades.
- c. It helps me decide whether I should accept to write a recommendation letter for you or not, and what to write about if I do.

## GRADE DISTRIBUTION

93 – 100	A	73 – 76	C
90 – 92	A-	70 – 72	C-
87 – 89	B+	67 – 69	D+
83 – 86	B	63 – 66	D
80 – 82	B-	60 – 62	D-
77 – 79	C+	Less than 60	E

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

A C- grade will not be sufficient for Majors or Minors or count towards a GE or Gordon Rule Credit or College Basic Distribution Credit. See UF website on grading policy:

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

**Sakai:** All assignments, announcements, exercises, study guides, grades, etc. will be posted on the course website on Sakai. It is your responsibility to check the website regularly and keep up to date with the class.

**Attendance:** Students who miss 6 sessions or more without a documented excuse will receive a failing grade. Refer to the following website:

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

Every TWO LATES equal one absence.

**Expected Time Required (Approximate):** On average about 2 hours of homework per hour spent in class. Note that some weeks may require more work than others.

**Late and Make-Up Work:** No late work will be accepted or make-ups will be offered unless the student offers a legitimate documented excuse. See **Attendance** above.

**Cell phones and other electronic devices:** Students are expected to turn off - or put on silent + no vibration - and put away all cell phones during class sessions. No electronic devices are needed in this course. Accordingly, all electronic devices must be put away as well.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. Violations of the honor code include, but are not limited to: plagiarism, cheating, bribery, misrepresentation, fabrication, and conspiracy. Such violations may result in the following: lowering of grades, mandatory 0 on assignments, redoing assignments, a final failing grade in the course, expulsion from the course, referral to the student-run Honor Court. The Honor Code states: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” 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.* For more information, refer to: [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/Academic\\_Honesty.html](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/Academic_Honesty.html)

**Students with Special Needs:** Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (Disability Resources in Reid Hall). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Other Issues:** Appointments – Letters of Recommendation – E-mail

1) Appointments: No appointment is needed for meetings during office hours. If you make an appointment with me outside my office hours, please make sure you show up on time. If you wish to cancel, do so at least two hours in advance. Students who violate these will not be given a second chance.

2) Letters of recommendation: If you wish me to write you a letter of recommendation, before you approach me with a request, please make sure that:

- You will earn / have earned at least B+ in all classes you had with me.
- You had regular attendance.
- You did all required work, including ungraded work.
- You never behaved in a disrespectful way - tacitly or otherwise - with me or your classmates.

3) E-mail: Please note that e-mail messages WITHOUT the following will be ignored:

- A meaningful subject line
- A proper greeting (at least in the first message in a series of related messages; i.e., messages with the same subject line). Examples of proper greeting include 'Dear Dr. Haddad', 'Hello Prof. Haddad'. No 'hey' or simply 'hello', and no 'Mr.' please ... not in this academic context.
- And please make sure you read your message over before you hit 'send'.

## SCHEDULE

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

	Topic	Readings
Weeks 1	Introduction	Ch. 0: Introduction Ch. 1: A Brief History of Arabic
Week 2	Phonetics and Phonology General Intro	
Week 3	Arabic Phonetics	Ch. 2: Phonology – Section 2.1
Week 4	Arabic Phonology	Ch. 2: Phonology – Sections 2.2-2.4
Week 5	Morphology General Intro	
Week 6-7	Arabic Morphology Verbs	Ch. 3: Verb Morphology
Week 7-8	Arabic Morphology Nouns	Ch. 4: Noun Morphology
Week 9	Arabic Morphology Pronouns	Ch. 5: Beyond root and Pattern: Pronouns and Deictics
Week 10	Syntax General Intro	
Week 11	Arabic Syntax Noun and Verb Phrases	Ch. 6: Syntax and Semantics I: Section 6.1
Week 12	Arabic Syntax Clauses	Ch. 6: Syntax and Semantics I: Sections 6.2-6.3
Week 13-14	Arabic Semantics Construct structures Aspect and Tense	Ch. 7: Syntax and Semantics II:
Week 15	Wrapping up	