

أهلا وسهلا إلى الصف العربي في جامعة مكالستر

Welcome to Intermediate Arabic I Class at Macalester College!

Instructor: Antoine Mefleh

Office: 308 Old Main Office Phone: (612) 978-6297 Email: amefleh@macalester.edu

Course Description:

Students will build on prior learning from Arabic I and II. This course focuses on:

- Expanding and recycling familiar, previously acquired vocabulary and structures in the context of authentic texts and short stories
- Using acquired language to *communicate* through listening, speaking, reading and writing in Arabic about real-life situations and to understand authentic texts and stories
- Applying the grammar and morphology of Arabic (sentence structure, nouns, pronouns, and verb tenses) to refine communication skills
- Understanding cultural concept, perspectives, and products of peoples in various Arab countries
- Connecting knowledge learned through Arabic to other subject areas
- Comparing Arabic language to English and Arab cultures to American cultures.
- Communicating in Arabic with speakers in the community

I have developed my own Intermediate Arabic I curriculum based on cultural themes, concepts, and literature, which I teach using a communicative method. To support language learning, students will continue to supplement the course using the textbook: **Easy Method of Learning Arabic: Level Two** by Farha Semaan Al-Bitar. Dar El Ilm Lilmalayin. 2005, is available at the Macalester Bookstore.

Course Expectations and Evaluation:

Students are expected to

- Be on time and attend all classes in order to progress in acquiring the language. (Any absence from class will be detrimental, as it is difficult to make up missed lessons by reading or getting the notes from another student.)
- Review class notes before class and be prepared to fully participate through interacting in the language and contributing to class learning through active participation
- Complete all class assignments with high quality work.
- Support learning and review lessons by listening to podcasts of lessons presented in class posted on my website: www.qudmous.com
- Maximize Arabic learning through exposure to the language and cultures through music, films, Internet, books and readings outside of class.

Grades:

Grades are based on three (3) components:

Class participation = 30% of grade

- **Speak** Arabic in class using familiar vocabulary to respond to and ask questions in Arabic.
- **Read** texts and stories using familiar structures and vocabulary
- **Write** with guidance using acquired words and structures

Formative assessments = 30% of grade

- End of unit assessments, either oral or written work (or a combination of both) based on language acquired through scaffolded learning and contextualized interaction about texts and stories read and presented in class.

Summative assessment (final exam) = 40% of grade

- The final summative assessment will target communication in speaking, reading and writing in Arabic, based on vocabulary and structures that you have acquired in class.
- Dates for quizzes and assessments will be determined and announced in advance in class.

Arabic is a wonderful, rich, and useful language. Enjoy learning Arabic this year and for years to come!