

## أهلا وسهلا إلى الصف العربي في جامعة مكالمستر

Welcome to Intermediate Arabic I Class at Macalester College!

**Instructor: Antoine Mefleh**

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Course schedule: Tuesday and Thursday, plus one hour of lab on Wednesday

### **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*: understanding authentic texts and stories by listening and reading; and speaking and writing in Arabic about familiar, real-life contexts
- Applying the grammar and morphology of Arabic (sentence structure, nouns, pronouns, and verb tenses) to refine communication skills. Specifically, students will continue to work on
  - use of the plurals in all forms
  - understanding how changes in word endings relate to the function of the word
  - acquiring and using various forms of verbs in context
- Understanding cultural concepts, 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.
- Participate in **weekly lab sessions** that focus on understanding and speaking spoken colloquial Arabic through conversations with various native speakers and listening and responding to a variety of music and other media to develop speaking skills.

### **Course Expectations and Evaluation:**

Students are expected to

- Be on time and attend all classes 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 responding and interacting in the language, 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 each lesson presented in class posted on my website: [www.qudmous.com](http://www.qudmous.com)
- Maximize Arabic learning through exposure to the language and cultures through music, films, Internet, books, readings, and using Arabic for conversation outside of class.

### **Grades:**

Grades are based on three (3) components:

#### **Class participation = 30% of grade**

- **Show understanding** by responding to questions
- **Speak** Arabic using familiar vocabulary to respond, ask questions, and give information
- **Read** texts and stories based on 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 based on texts and stories read and presented in class.

**Summative assessments** (mid-term and final exam) = **40% of grade**

- The summative assessments target communication - speaking, reading and writing in Arabic using vocabulary and structures that you have acquired in class. Students prepare projects to present in class.
- Dates for quizzes and assessments will be announced in advance in class.

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