

COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: ARAB 1101: Beginning Arabic I

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

1. **Credits: 4**
2. **Hours/Week: 4**
3. **Prerequisites (Course discipline/number):** None
4. **Co-requisites (Course discipline/number):** Basic language skills in English or student's own language.
5. **MnTC Goals (if any):** CT, GP

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of Arabic, including culture as well as speaking, reading and writing in a cultural context. Conversation, audio and video materials, short readings, computer work, field trips, and cultural topics are all a part of this course. This course is for students with very little or no previous experience with the Arabic language.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): November, 2008

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

1. Arabic alphabet, numbers, the reading of different types of Arabic scripts and awareness of different Arabic dialects which influence relations of the different Arabic states between themselves and with other states.
2. Basic grammar, including verbs, structuring of Arabic sentences, agreement of nouns and adjectives, etc.
3. Historic and cultural aspects of topics such as:
 - a) greetings
 - b) numbers
 - c) family members
 - d) food
 - e) daily life topics
 - f) festivals
 - g) customs
 - h) the media

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:

1. Converse in Arabic about origin, age, residence, family, pets, hobbies, food, and/or daily activities.
2. Converse with a store clerk or restaurant waiter on a simple, culturally appropriate level.
3. Pronounce Arabic correctly.
4. Read and understand short paragraphs within their cultural context.
5. Write on the above topics.
6. Be familiar with aspects of the Arab-speaking cultures sufficiently to explain linguistic, social, cultural and religious differences from the student's own culture.
7. Describe how the economic and cultural elements of the diverse Arab-speaking cultures influence relations between them and other world communities.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): Competencies from the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MNTC):

Goal 2: Critical Thinking (CT): The student will be able to:

1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives, which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
3. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
4. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions, which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

Goal 8: Global Perspectives (GP): The student will be able to:

1. Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements, which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.



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F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:

1. Oral tests
2. Written tests
3. Written homework
4. Class presentation

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None