Syllabus

Elementary Arabic LAR 101 G

Instructor: Inga Skaara

Methodology:

This course is intended as an introduction to Modern Standard Arabic. It is designed for absolute beginners and can serve as a stepstone to a solid understanding of Arabic. Since we are dealing with a system of writing and sounds that is new to the participants, we will thoroughly go through the reading and writing exercises in the teaching book in order to provide participants with a solid basis. Don’t panic, it looks daunting, but there are only 28 letters.

The systematic teaching along with the book will be enriched with practical exercises, music, videos, role plays and games addressing the fundamental communication skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. At the same time participants will learn a lot about the large variety of culture and language in the Arab World.

Course Prerequisites

No previous knowledge required, just curiosity and enthusiasm.

- **Week 1 (23 May – 27 May)**
  - Introduction, cultural background and history of Arabic
  - Varieties of Arabic
  - The Alphabet, Sounds and basic vocabulary
  - First few words and names to get acquainted with the alphabet. Songs, the sound of the language.

- **Week 2 (30 May – 03 June)**
  - Recapitulation of letters and sounds
  - Question-answer games/Quizz
  - First unit: Greetings

- **Week 3 (06 June – 10 June)**
  - Units 2 & 3: At the airport
  - Countries and cities, varieties and cultural differences
- **Week 4 (13 June – 17 June)**
  - Local varieties of Arabic
  - Presentations about the main dialect-groups
  - Unit 4: In the hotel

- **Week 5 (20 June – 24 June)**
  - Presentations about the main dialect-groups
  - Unit 5: In the restaurant
  - Food, students present food and find the necessary vocabulary

- **Week 6 (27 June – 01 July)**
  - Unit 6: At the bank
  - Numbers
  - Economy vocabulary
  - Samples from Arabic media

- **Week 7 (July – 08 July)**
  - Recapitulation, consolidation of the learned contents
  - Time for exam related questions
  - Last two sessions: Oral exams (short conversation/role play) and written exams. (Three sections: dictation, grammar, translation)

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**Books to be purchased:**


2. A good dictionary is required. Suggestions:
   - The Hans Wehr Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic
   - Oxford Arabic Dictionary
Recommended reading:

„The Arabic Language Today (Georgetown Classics in Arabic Languages and Linguistics)“ by A. F. L. Beeston

„The Phonology and Morphology of Arabic“ by Janet Watson

„Sbahtu! A Course in San‘ani Arabic“ by Janet Watson

„Kullu Tamam! – an introduction to Egyptian Colloquial Arabic“ by Manfred Woidich & Rabha Heinen-Nasr

„Marokkaans Arabisch“ by Jan Hoogland

Recommended Websites

http://learning.aljazeera.net/arabic


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIG4v24iw0Y

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eE3yaJcOp28

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XyJJu3nzmDE