

Skyline College

Official Course Outline

Date: June 2007

1. TITLE:

ARBC 111 – Elementary Arabic I.
3 units. Three lecture hours plus one lab hour per week.
Prerequisite: None

2. COURSE CLASSIFICATION:

Credit course, applicable to the Associate Degree.

3. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

Catalog description

Three lecture hours plus one lab hour by arrangement per week. Prerequisite: None. The first of a two-course-sequence in basic elementary Arabic. Conversation in the language, dictation, reading and study of the fundamentals of grammar; simple oral and written exercises; an introduction to Arabic culture. Transfer credit: UC; CSU (C2).

Schedule of classes Description

ARBC 111- Elementary Arabic I. Prerequisite: None. The first course of a two-semester sequence in basic spoken Arabic. Recognition of common writing expressions and signs in Arabic; understanding and appreciation of Arabic culture and language. Plus one hr/wk by arrangement. Transfer: UC; CSU (C2)

4. COURSE JUSTIFICATION:

This course is designed to meet G. E. requirements in the Humanities for the A.A. degree and IGETC requirements, and for transfer to the CSU and UC. This first part of the Elementary Arabic course is followed by advanced elementary Arabic (ARBC 120= ARBC 121+ ARBC 122) course. Transfer credit: UC; CSU (C2).

5. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO'S):

After successfully completing the course ARBC 111, students will be able to:

- Construct a foundation in the basic skills: reading and writing and listening comprehension.
- Recognize signs in Arabic.
- Compare different values, customs and the life styles in the various regions and communities of the Arabic-speaking-world.
- Acquire vocabulary pertaining to the basic elements of everyday life.
- Have a basic understanding of the cultural and linguistic contributions and influences of the Arabic world toward the development of civilization.

6. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:

- Teach basic vocabulary related to the basic elements of everyday life.
- Build and strengthen students' foundation, mainly in reading and writing in Arabic.
- Develop proficiency in producing words in Arabic and translating them
- Drill and practice the vocabulary learned in every chapter.
- Present many cultural and linguistic contributions and influences of the Arabic world toward the development of civilization.

7. COURSE CONTENT:

1. Introduction of the study of the Arabic language and cultures.
 2. Acquisition of a clear pronunciation.
 3. Acquisition of a basic vocabulary.
 4. Acquisition of the basic principles of grammar including
 - a. the writing and sound system, including appropriate markings (diacritics) and their contribution to sentence meaning.
 - b. The vocative (without case endings), personal pronouns, gender system, nominal sentences, and interrogatives.
 - c. Definite articles, adjectives, adverbs, and *nisba* adjectives.
 - d. The perfect tense of verbs, verbal sentences, verbal agreement, and other constructions.
 - e. Further interrogatives, negation of phrases.
 5. Development of basic oral communication skills in Arabic.
 6. Basic instruction in Arabic culture and traditions to develop a greater understanding and awareness of
 - a. Arabic and Arabic-American attitudes and values, social heritage, and economic, cultural, and community perspectives.
 - b. The contributions and influences of the Arabic culture toward the development of civilization.
7. Recognition and comprehension of basic written expressions in Arabic.

8. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Methods of instruction include:

- Lecture presentation.
- Reading and interpretation of written material and in-class exercises, including discussion using that material.
- Oral repetition to refine pronunciation.
- Listening comprehension with tapes and DVDs.
- In-class writing and translation drills.
- Research project on cultural aspects of the Arabic world
- Speech presentation, pair and group work about cultural aspects of the Arabic-speaking-world and Arabic-American communities.
- Film viewings and cultural discussions.

9. ASSIGNMENTS:

Typical assignments:

- I. Listening, practicing and creating oral and written statements and questions regarding basic needs in Arabic
- II. Students will comprehend, evaluate and interpret what they read, especially basic written expression in Arabic
- III. Speaking:
 - a. Role-playing in pair s or groups..
 - b. Oral exercises with a partner and also the teacher.
- IV. Reading comprehension
 - A. Read sentences.
 - B. Read sentences the instructor provides; answer questions.

C. Translate statements.

V. Writing

A. Write or read basic dialogues emphasizing cultural aspects of the Arabic-speaking-world.

B. Distinguish between the phonemic and structural components of the language in order to gain competence in basic spoken Arabic.

C. Write statements based on information given in class by the instructor or induced by audio and audio visual materials.

D. Take vocabulary quizzes.

E. Demonstrate correct usage of grammar in paragraph writing and written exercises.

10. EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:

Grade option

1. Students will be required to read and write, pronounce words and translate them into English and Arabic.
2. Tests, quizzes, dictations, one oral presentation and small paragraphs interpreting passages on culture.
3. A mid-term exam may be given and a final is required.
4. Translation exercises and writing exercises will also be assigned to evaluate students' critical thinking.
5. Evaluation of daily preparation and performance
6. Class participation
7. Homework assignments

11. RECOMMENDED or REQUIRED TEXT(S):

The texts are periodically changed based on a thorough evaluation of the texts presented at the time. Presently the following is used:

Al-Batal, Mahmoud et al. Alif Baa, Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds, Georgetown University Press, Second edition, 2002. (ISBN 087840273x)

Al- Batal, Mahmoud et al. Al Kitaab, Georgetown University Press, 2007. (ISBN 0878402918)