

Modern Language Center (MLC)

Novice Modern Standard Arabic (AM/LANG 150)

Program: MLC Jordan

Total Hours: 105 | **Recommended Credits:** 6

Primary Discipline: Arabic Language | **Language of Instruction:** Arabic

Prerequisites: None – final placement determined by the Academic Director.

1. Course Description

This course introduces students with no prior experience in Arabic to the fundamentals of Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). It provides a comprehensive foundation in the four essential language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students learn the Arabic alphabet, pronunciation, and script while developing basic grammar and essential vocabulary. Emphasis is placed on communication for daily life and survival needs within Jordanian society.

Cultural themes related to Jordanian society enrich the learning experience, helping students navigate real-world contexts confidently. Through task-based activities, interactive exercises, and direct engagement with native speakers, students gain practical competence in using Arabic appropriately across formal and informal situations.

2. Course Objectives

- 1 Recognize and reproduce Arabic letters and sounds accurately.
- 2 Understand basic grammar and structure sentences correctly.
- 3 Communicate using simple vocabulary and correct agreement.
- 4 Read and comprehend short Arabic texts.
- 5 Engage in brief, predictable conversations about everyday topics.
- 6 Write simple paragraphs about personal and daily subjects.
- 7 Use present and future tenses with confidence.
- 8 Progress from ACTFL Novice-Low to Novice-High or Intermediate-Low level.

3. Assessment and Requirements

This intensive course demands active participation and daily preparation. Students are evaluated through participation, homework, quizzes, oral presentations, and written/oral exams. The grading system ensures that students are assessed across all four language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

Grading Breakdown:

- 1 Participation – 20%
- 2 Homework – 15%
- 3 Presentations – 5%
- 4 Quizzes – 10%
- 5 Midterm Project – 10%
- 6 Midterm Exam – 5%
- 7 Final Exam – 5%
- 8 Final Oral Interview – 10%
- 9 Final Written Assignment – 20%

4. Course Topics Overview

- 1 Alphabet & Writing System – Letters, vowels, word formation.
- 2 Introducing Myself – Pronouns, articles, greetings.
- 3 Family & Relationships – Dual/plural forms, gender roles.
- 4 Building Conversations – Question words, sentence structures.
- 5 Expressing Needs – Colors, numbers, food, directions.
- 6 Work, Study & Travel – Comparatives, youth culture.

5. Course Materials

Main Textbook: My Arabic Language, Levels 1–2

Supplementary Materials:

Short authentic media clips from Al Arabiya, Al Jazeera, and other regional sources.

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