I. Course goals and Objectives:

The overall goal of this course is to develop students’ ability to communicate in Modern Standard Arabic, read and write in the beautiful Arabic script, and make connections with its culture.

At the end of the course, students should be able to perform the following tasks:

- Speak about yourself, others, and environment, and initiate and sustain conversations on familiar topics,
- Read texts on a number of topics and understand the main ideas with minimal use of dictionary,
- Write, at the paragraph level, intelligibly about daily life activities, past events, correspondence, people, and places.
• Provide information, spoken and written, about different aspects of Arabic culture.
• Compose sentences that are structurally acceptable and semantically unambiguous.

II. Course resources:

Required Text:

Two textbooks will be used in this class, and they will be used in this order:
• Material given by the instructor from various sources. (Please have a folder to organize worksheets, study sheets, quizzes etc.).
• An Arabic-English, English-Arabic dictionary (e.g. Al-Mawrid, by Munir Ba'albaki).

III. Approach and Methodology

This course implements the Communicative Approach to language learning in which the student is the active learner and the instructor is a facilitator. We will remain in the Arabic language as much as possible, right from the beginning. If you do not immediately understand everything I say, do not worry, that is to be expected. I will use means such as actions, gestures, repetition, media material and paraphrasing to help you understand. A variety of authentic audio, video, and reading materials will be presented throughout the course. The following steps will help you prepare for class and are required:

1. Practice the vocabulary given to you each class until you have thoroughly familiarized yourself with it, its meaning, usage, spelling and the pronunciation.
2. Prepare the basic texts given by the instructor to discuss in class.
3. In class, students are expected to engage in activities related to the context of the prepared lesson and related functions for which mastery of the material is essential. Active participation in all class activities is essential to language learning and to achieving the expected level of proficiency.
4. Speaking Arabic only is expected during class, do not hesitate to try and make up new sentences, once we try, we learn! Remember to turn on your Arabic mode button once you entered the class.

IV. Student Responsibilities & Major Assignments:

The seven major requirements of the course include:

• Classroom participation and attendance (10% of final grade): You must be in class on time and do not miss classes. Because this is a language class with a small enrollment. It is crucial that everyone attends class every time. There is no way to recapture the conversations carried out in one’s absence. Therefore, attendance is mandatory. If you cannot make it to class for a legitimate reason you are expected to inform the instructor beforehand, or immediately if you had something urgent. You have three absences without penalty, although I don’t expect three absence from you, after that, students must provide university documentation to justify their absence; otherwise, one percentage point will be deducted from their attendance grade for every undocumented absence.
• **Important Note:** For every two times a student is late, he or she will be considered absent. I urge you all to come on time in order not to miss anything and to avoid disrupting the class. Quizzes will be occurred at the beginning of class so you need to be there to catch your quiz. No cell phones allowed to be used during class.

• **Homework** (10% of final grade): Students are required to do their homework before coming to class, and if they miss a class, it is their responsibility to contact their classmates to know if any homework has been assigned. All assigned homework will be collected in class on its due date and will be graded promptly. Late homework will be corrected, but will receive no credit, unless the student has a documented absence for the day the homework was due.

• **Quizzes** (10% of final grade): Students will take a quiz every FRIDAY. Each quiz will cover the materials learned over the week. They will be 10 minute written form quizzes. If you miss a quiz it will not be made up unless you provide a legitimate university documentation (written form) to justify the absence. In addition to Friday quizzes, there will be short vocabulary quizzes at the beginning of class for the days you had vocabulary study at home.

• **Three Oral Tests** (10% of final grade): Students are expected to develop and demonstrate oral fluency. In addition to oral interaction in class, every student will meet with the instructor and discuss a topic. The instructor will offer two topics to prepare for discussion and the student will choose one of them to discuss it with the instructor.

• **Presentation** (5% of final grade): Students will choose a topic of their own to present on. Each presentation will be at least five minutes long. Presentations will be prepared and practiced beforehand. The presentations will be evaluated based on their content, pronunciation, fluency, width of vocabulary, and appropriate, and functional usage.

• **Reading weekly short stories, writing journals, or watching Arabic media clips** (10% of final grade): Over the weekends, students will either read weekly short stories given by the instructor, write a journal to the instructor or watch something interesting about Arabic language and culture. On the reading week, the story will be discussed and students will answer questions about it on Monday. For writing, students are to include the new vocabulary as well as recycling the vocabulary previously learned. We can converse through those journals and make special, out-of-class discussions. As you progress during the semester, you will be able to increase the number of words in your paragraphs. The journals must be submitted for grading each Monday. Students can write anything they want to tell the instructor in the journal, and their entries will be evaluated based on their structure and their ability to convey meaning.

• **Midterm Exam** (15% of final grade) and **Final Exams** (25% of final grade): Both the exams are cumulative, that is, they cover all material up to the time when the test is taken. Therefore, students are advised to study from the beginning of the course and not to procrastinate. Valid university excuse is required for a make-up. The dates for these exams are indicated below.
Note on Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is highly discouraged. Students are expected to acknowledge source materials. Please let me know if you have any questions about this issue.

IV. Schedule:

Note: I have combined parts of the book *Arabic for life* with material from other sources to create these units. Also, we may sometimes not be able to abide by the exact readings and assignments in the syllabus due to the inherent flexibility of the language classroom. The underline dates of every Friday are quiz days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates and Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments/Events</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1 (29, 31, 2 Sep)</td>
<td>Let’s Talk! + review نتحدث هيا تتحدث! Lesson 6</td>
<td>Journal 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2 (X, 7, 9 Sep)</td>
<td>Lesson 6 &amp; 7 Arab World العالم العربيّة</td>
<td>Labor day</td>
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<td>Watching Arabic short film</td>
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<td>Week 3 (12, 14, 16 Sep)</td>
<td>Lesson 7: Music and Literature الفن والأدب العربي</td>
<td>Reading short story</td>
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<td>Week 4 (19, 21, 23 Sep)</td>
<td>Lesson 8: Arab Culture الثقافة العربيّة</td>
<td>Journal 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5 (26, 28, 30 Oct)</td>
<td>Lesson 9: Arabs’ history التاريخ</td>
<td>Watching Arabic short film</td>
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<td>Week 6 (3, 5, 7 Oct)</td>
<td>Lesson 10: Arab Culture الثقافة العربيّة</td>
<td>Reading short story</td>
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<td>Week 7 (10, 12, 14 Oct)</td>
<td>Lesson 11: Arab Renaissance + Rian's presentation</td>
<td>Journal 3</td>
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<td>Week 8 (17, 19, 20 Oct, Friday class schedule)</td>
<td>Lesson 12 + Egypt مصر أم الدنيا Garret's presentation</td>
<td>Fall break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9 (24, 26, 28 Oct)</td>
<td>Lesson 13: Tunisia تونس الخضراء Bryson's presentation</td>
<td>Watching Arabic video</td>
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<td>Week 10 (31, 2, 4 Nov)</td>
<td>Lesson 14: Lebanon لبنان German's presentation</td>
<td>Reading short story</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11 (7, 9, 11 Nov)</td>
<td>Lesson 15: Bahrain البحرين + ثقافة عربية</td>
<td>Journal 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week 12 (14, 16, 18 Nov) | Lesson 16  
العائلة العربية | Watching Arabic film |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Week 13 (21, X, X Nov) | Lesson 17  
الأردن | Thanksgiving Holiday |
| Week 14 (28, 30, 2 Dec) | Lesson 18  
العرب في الأندلس | Reading short story |
| Week 15 (5, 7, 9 Dec) | Revision  
مراجعة | Last day of classes |
| Dec. 14th | Final Exam  
الامتحان النهائي | Happy Holiday  
عطله سعيدة |

V. Assessment:
The students’ final grade will be the culmination of their grades on all class requirements. The students’ final grade will be calculated as follows:

| Attendance and participation | 10% |
| Homework | 10% |
| Quizzes | 10% |
| Oral exams (3) | 10% |
| Presentations | 10% |
| Weekly Short Stories | 10% |
| Midterm | 15% |
| Final exam | 25% |
| **Total** | **100%** |

VI. Grading:
This course will be graded based on the following scale:

- A= 93-100 %
- A-= 90-92%
- B+= 87-89%
- B= 83-86%
- B-= 80-82%
- C+= 77-79%
- C= 73-76%
- C-= 70-72%
- D+= 67-69%
- D= 63-66%
- D-= 60-62%
- F= below 60%

IV. Important Dates:

- August 29 Classes Begin
- September 5 Labor Day
- October 20 Friday Class schedule
- October 21 Fall break
- Nov 23-25 Thanksgiving Holiday
- Dec 9 Last day of classes
- Dec 14 Final Exam
V. Academic Integrity, “The Honor System”

Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The Honor System is designed to establish the higher level of conduct expected and required of all Utah State University students. The Honor Pledge: To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge: "I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity." A student who lives by the Honor Pledge is a student who does more than not cheat, falsify, or plagiarize. A student who lives by the Honor Pledge:

- Espouses academic integrity as an underlying and essential principle of the Utah State University community;
- Understands that each act of academic dishonesty devalues every degree that is awarded by this institution; and
- Is a welcomed and valued member of Utah State University

VI. Disability Services:

The Americans with Disabilities Act states: "Reasonable accommodation will be provided for all persons with disabilities in order to ensure equal participation within the program. If a student has a disability that will likely require some accommodation by the instructor, the student must contact the instructor and document the disability through the Disability Resource Center (797-2444), preferably during the first week of the course. Any request for special consideration relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking of examinations, etc., must be discussed with and approved by the instructor..."