

ARAB 502 – Arabic Superior
Noor Majan Training Institute

Academic Director: Hussein Al Farsi

Office hours:

Tel.: +968 99427098

Sundays through Thursdays 1:10 – 2:00 p.m.

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Other meetings may be arranged in advance

Required material:

Advanced high students will use *Al Kitaab fi Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya III* by Mahmoud Al-Batal/Kristen Brustad, et al., second edition (Georgetown, 2006), chapters 5 – 8, provided by the institute. Additional material, such as texts and exercises from other textbooks and authentic sources, will be presented in class.

Recommended text:

The Hans Wehr Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic by Hans Wehr, fourth edition, edited by J. Milton Cowan (Ithaca, NY: Spoken Language Services); an Arabic-English Dictionary

Online dictionary: several are available, e.g. the Cambridge Dictionary at www.dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english-arabic/

Online learning: <http://www.cram.com/>, <http://www.aljazeera.net/portal>

Learning outcomes:

At the end of the Superior level, students will be able to express their opinion supported by arguments and coherently reply to opinions of others. Students at this level will be able to speak and write about varied and complex topics and issues that do not pertain to their direct environment and life. They are able to understand abstract texts and speech and can express themselves on these topics intelligibly.

They are able to process authentic Arabic sources such as print and broadcast media, books and websites. They can independently develop on the issues raised in these source texts and organize written and oral texts on a formal language level. Students will also be able to interact with any native speaker on a given topic in different tenses, with the ability to clearly start, develop and conclude a thought or idea coherently, correctly and precisely. They are able to produce texts and speech on abstract issues coherently, correctly and exactly and interact correctly orally and produce written texts in informal and formal language registers. They are able to discern and use the required language register and support their opinion with arguments and proofs.

Students will expand their knowledge on the different uses of *qad* and its effect on verb tenses, the usage of *ida* and *ayyā* and different patterns of feminine and masculine nouns. They will also further their knowledge on linguistic derivation in Arabic.

Topics covered:

- Progress and development in the Arab world
- Socio-religious relations

- Problems of migration and life in the diaspora
- Gulf Arabic poetry and arts

Media Literacy

Noor Majan Training Institute uses authentic materials from print and broadcast media, as well as from the internet. Students acquire the competence to take in, understand, and comment on news broadcasts, articles, excerpts, and forum contributions using the appropriate register.

For the Superior level these materials can include, but are not limited to, Gulf Arabic poems, articles and background documentaries about the Arab awakening and Arab development movement, portraits and documentaries of Arab personalities in the diaspora, political speeches and pamphlets about the influence of religion on society or debates between supporters and opponents of secularism in the Arab world, graphs, statistics or maps, and international reports (IMF, World Bank, UN) on Arab development goals and achievements.

Course Requirements

- **Participation in class:** Attendance is obligatory. Furthermore, each student is expected to participate in class and to be adequately prepared to do so. Assignments will be discussed and corrected in class. Students will be graded on quantity and quality of participation. More than two absences might result in the termination of students' course participation.
- **Oral presentations:** Students will have to give weekly presentations in class about different issues.
- **Portfolio:** Students will prepare a portfolio in the media class to document their progress and topical and language learning.
- **Homework & written assignments:** Students are expected to accomplish the given homework and writing assignments within the announced time frame. Homework assignments can be either collected, or corrected, or presented in class. Students will be graded on the extent and regularity of accomplishment, as well as their correctness.

Exams:

- **Tests:** Throughout the course students will be presented with weekly quizzes to test different language skills in the classroom. These small tests take place every Thursday (except the last Thursday of each course).
- **Final exam:** The final exam is taken at the very end of the course and examines language development in all skills. It takes place on the last Wednesday of the course.

Student Evaluation

Students receive feedback from instructors throughout the course. Evaluation is a reflection of the student's proficiency, participation, engagement and progress. Feedback is based on oral participation in class, results in quizzes, tests, portfolios, mid-term and final exams as well as oral presentations in class and homework completion. Students will meet their teachers individually at least once on a weekly basis during office hours to discuss their performance and progress.

Grading:

Final exam: 40 %

Weekly quizzes: 15 %

Homework: 10 %

Classroom participation: 10 %

Oral presentations: 10 %

Writing, reading and listening assignments: 15 %

Grading Scale

Excellent		Very Good		Good		Pass	
94 – 100%	A	87 – 89%	B+	77 – 79%	C+	67 – 69%	D+
90 – 93%	A-	84 – 86 %	B	74 – 76%	C	64 – 66%	D
		80 – 83%	B-	70-73%	C-		

Anything below 64% is considered a failing grade.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty or academic misconduct is any type of cheating or lying that occurs in relation to a formal academic exercise.

Cases of academic dishonesty and appropriate punishments are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Incidents of academic dishonesty can lead to failure of a course and/or expulsion from the NMTI program without refund of tuition.

Language Guidelines

The language of instruction and language of communication at Noor Majan Training Institute is Arabic.

Schedule

Classes will take place Sundays through Thursdays. Students will be in classes for 25 contact hours weekly according to the following schedule:

Time	Activity
8:30 – 10:10	Lesson 1: textbook work
10:30 – 11:20	Lesson 2: skills focus
11:30 – 1:10	Lesson 3: media literacy

One contact hour is 50 minutes long.