

Skyline College

Official Course Outline

Date: July 2007

1. TITLE:

ARBC 801- Standard Spoken Arabic

2 units. Two lecture hours per week and one lab hour by arrangement per week.

Prerequisite: None.

2. COURSE CLASSIFICATION:

Credit course not applicable to the Associate Degree.

3. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

A. Catalog Description:

Two lecture hours and one lab hour by arrangement per week.

A practical course in the Arabic language approached by way of conversation. Intensive drill in the patterns and idioms of daily speech in standard spoken Arabic, with sufficient grammar to give flexibility to the spoken language. Introduction to Arabic culture. (This course will not fulfill the foreign language requirement at California State Universities or at the University of California).

B. Schedule of Classes description:

Prior knowledge of Arabic not necessary. This is a practical and enjoyable course focusing on the spoken language. Students will study everyday vocabulary and language structure through role playing and situational conversation and learn to communicate in Arabic at a basic level.

Introduction to Arabic culture. . (This course will not fulfill the foreign language requirement at California State Universities or at the University of California).

4. COURSE JUSTIFICATION:

Arabic is a widely spoken language in the Bay Area, as it is in the state of California. There is a high demand for this course from those who wish to learn to converse in Arabic for business, travel, or personal reasons.

5. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO'S):

After successfully completing the course ARABIC 801, the students will be able to:

- Hold some simple daily conversations.
- Learn some basic and stereotypical phrases, sentences, such as greetings, simple questions and answers and vocabulary in the English script of Arabic. Students do not need to know the script of Arabic.
- Carry on a basic conversation related to how to identify themselves, likes and dislikes, ordering food and shopping for basic needs, and some aspects of culture and travel in simple structures.
- Use proper grammar somewhat comfortably on a basic level in the four basic skills: reading writing, speaking and listening comprehension
- Begin to distinguish among and compare different values, customs and life styles in the Arabic-speaking world.

6. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:

- Strengthen foundation in all aspects of language acquisition: listening, speaking, reading and writing, with an emphasis on speaking.
- Develop oral proficiency based upon modeling, drills and real-life-situations and simulations in groups.
- Develop proficiency in producing basic statements in Arabic and translating them, using vocabulary related to identifying oneself and others.
- Give classroom presentations based upon diverse topics discussed in class.

7. COURSE CONTENT:

- Basic Study of the Arabic language and some aspects of culture in the Arabic-speaking world
- Acquisition of the Arabic language for speaking purposes.
- Acquisition of basic vocabulary.

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 presentations
- Listening comprehension with audio equipment
- In-class translation drills
- Speech presentation, pair and group work
- Film viewings and appreciation

9. ASSIGNMENTS:

Typical assignments:

- I. Listen to, practice and create oral statements and questions regarding small talk and daily conversation in Arabic.

- II. Speaking:
 - a. Role-play in pairs or groups.
 - b. Interview the instructor and other classmates in Arabic.
 - c. Deliver simple oral presentations.

- III. Reading comprehension
 - a. Read sentences the instructor provides; answer questions.
 - b. Translate statements.

- IV. Writing
 - a. Translate simple statements.
 - b. Create simple statements.
 - c. Create simple dialogue.
 - d. Take vocabulary quizzes.

10. EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:

- Students will be required to read, write, pronounce words, speak in public and form sentences on a basic level so that they are able to communicate their ideas, using all tenses to the 1st / 2nd grade-level vocabulary.
- Take oral quizzes and dictations.
- Give oral presentations.
- A mid-term exam may be given and a final is required.
- Practice translation exercises and small dialogue writing exercises to demonstrate critical thinking.

11. RECOMMENDED or REQUIRED TEXT(S):

The texts are periodically changed based on Arabic instructors' evaluation of the texts presented at the time. Presently the following text is used:

McCarus, Ernest et al. A Course in Levantine Arabic, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Latest edition