UMBC UGC New Course Request: Arabic 350: Arabic Media

Date Submitted: March 3rd 2015  Proposed Effective Date: Spring 2015

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
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COURSE INFORMATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number(s)</th>
<th>ARBC 350</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formal Title</td>
<td>Arabic Media</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transcript Title (≤30c)</td>
<td>Arabic Media</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recommended Course Preparation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>ARBC 202 with a grade of C or better</td>
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NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a “D” or better.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>3 credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repeatable?</td>
<td>Yes X No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Max. Total Credits</td>
<td>3 credits This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grading Method(s)</td>
<td>x Reg (A-F) X Audit X Pass-Fail</td>
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PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words):

This course introduces the language of print and Internet media to students of Arabic aiming to reach the advanced Arabic level. It familiarizes students with media vocabulary and text construction. Students will read and discuss media texts and will focus on meaning and text structure. Activities will include learning vocabulary, discussing text meaning, speaking on topics discussed, presentations, and listening and reading of up-to-date texts.

RATIONALE FOR NEW COURSE:

Arabic language has been offered at UMBC since 2004. This course will serve as an addition to series of upper level Arabic courses already offered at UMBC in order to create a minor in Arabic at UMBC. Over the past several years, a considerable number of UMBC students and prospective students who have been showing strong interest in pursuing Arabic minor at UMBC.

This course can serve as an elective for a certificate/minor of Arabic and an upper-level GEP culture course. This course is an upper level course because students need to have the general basic requirements gained through the two years of the Modern Standard Arabic in order to facilitate a smooth transition in the learning of new level of vocabulary related to Arabic media in the modern days.

The Arabic media course can be offered as a regular grading method for students who desire to pursue a certificate or minor in Arabic and audit or P/F option for students who completed intermediate Arabic level and want to explore the Arabic media and obtain an elective upper-level credit for their GEP.
1. **Arabic 350: Arabic Media (3 credits)**

1.1 **Prerequisite**
Completion of intermediate Arabic (2 years of Arabic) with a grade of C or better

1.2 **Objectives and learning outcomes of the course**

At the end of the course, students will be able to demonstrate:

- An understanding of
  1. The Arabic vocabulary related to media from texts and Internet
  2. The complexity of the text structure used in the contemporary Arabic media
  3. The syntax, morphology, phonology and lexicon through the listening and reading of the Arabic media

The primary objectives of the course are: to introduce students the experience of working with Arabic media texts and interact with variety of topics related to listening and reading of up to date texts. Honing students’ skill in presenting in Arabic is also one of the main objectives of this course as well as enabling them to independently acquire communicative competence in Arabic in this course and in the course of their studies and beyond.

1.3 **Scope and syllabus**

The theoretical component of the course will cover the following topics: Text organization and the use of vocabulary in specific context. The utilization of Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) in the Arabic media and its association to phonology, morphology, syntax and lexicon

Each week students will have the opportunity to develop the communicative skills associated with a particular everyday scenario.

- **Class preparation and participation:** A substantial part of the grade for this class is determined by students’ active participation and involvement in class. Additionally, students will be required to spend time weekly watching news in class and online before discussion and presentation, in addition to open discussions via weekly Blogs.
- **Quizzes:** Six Vocabulary quizzes will be given throughout the semester.
- **Midterm:** one midterm related to vocabulary and article from the media (comprehension), short essays of topics discussed in class and online
- **In-class group debates:** Students will be evaluated on active participation in conversations and debates in class, both impromptu and assigned.
- **Video Journals:** All students are required to have a YouTube account to post weekly video journal assignments / blogs.
- **Final Exam:** vocabulary and article from the media (comprehension), short essays of topics discussed in class and online

**Intercultural Communicative Competency**
All Arabic courses at UMBC involve learning the Arabic language in the framework of intercultural communicative competency. Arabic, like all languages, is embedded in specific cultures, and you will learn culturally appropriate ways to communicate with native speakers, who come from a variety of regions, including, Maghreb, Middle East, or Arabian Peninsular communities. By emphasizing interconnections between diverse cultural zones, our program helps you build the intercultural communicative competency you need to interact effectively with speakers from the many Arab cultures.

**Blackboard**
Your supplement online activities, such Aswaat Arabbiya (Arabic voices), Arab Academy, and Arabic tutorial will be directly accessible in Blackboard.
There will be an orientation to help you register in the International Media Center. Sherman Hall 219 area

Note that in case of inclement weather or flu outbreak, we will continue our program online using BB and the Arab Academy grammar explanations.

**Homework delivery**
All activities are assigned deadlines that need to be respected to earn credit. Make sure to do your homework a bit ahead of time to allow for unforeseen delivery platform issues (BB is down, UMBC server has crashed, etc.)
The interactive Forum activity in Asswaat Arrabiya will have to be given to your instructor in a folder in class. Each unit and unit topic will have to be identified, stapled with the student’s name on top.

**IMPORTANT**
**CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE.**
No laptop allowed in the classroom.
Cell phones, tablets, I pods or any other electronic devices must be turned off and kept inside your school bag. During quizzes and exams, all classroom materials must also be put in your school bag.

Disrespectful behavior, as well as any writing, homework, online communication in Forum that do not follow netiquette or social etiquette (insults, extreme statements, offensive comments to other people beliefs, etc.) will result in a zero for the exercise and will be reported to the MLLI department for further disciplinary action.
The use of any web translator or any other correction devices will be considered to be an act of plagiarism

"By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. [http://www.umbc.edu/provost/integrity/faculty.html](http://www.umbc.edu/provost/integrity/faculty.html)

**TUTORING:**
Sign up at LRC, Sherman Hall 345 if you need tutoring. It is a free service.

**Suggested Key TEXT**
- Handouts and other reading & listening materials will be provided to all students by instructor
- Arabic/English Dictionary
- Alaa Elgibali, Nevenka Korica, Media Arabic, The American University, Cairo
Further Reading

- Arabe. (Paris: Ellipses, 2003). This is an Arabic/French and French/Arabic lexicon containing words groups by topic. It is very useful _ including for those who have only very minimal French - as it gives core vocabulary for each topic. Examples of topics are: Environment, Society, Leisure, Arts and Culture, Tourism, Commerce, IT, International Relations, Health, Industry, Work and Employment, Economics and Finance etc.
- Press Grammar reference books in Arabic

Dictionaries


Additional language learning materials will be selected by your instructor from Arabic media websites such as the following:

Grade distribution:

15% Attendance & Participation
20% Homework & Preparation
15% Presentation
20% Midterm
30% Final Exam
This schedule is tentative and subject to change if necessary

Note:
To ensure you will benefit from the most effective learning environment, you will need to read ahead what you will be practicing in class, as well as making sure you have done all your homework on time, and have your book with you.

Week 1.
- Introduction to the course, syllabus
  Unit 1: Meetings and Conferences pp.8-33
  - Vocabulary and short texts pp.8-51
  - Understanding text organization pp.14-15
  - Additional reading - Listening

Week 2.
- News of the day
- Your presentation on a news item
- Reading for details pp.16-20
- Discusses homework readings

Week 3.
- Unit 2: Demonstrations pp.38-59
- News of the day
- Unit 1 vocabulary building pp.22-27
- 2 minutes presentation on a meeting or a conference using the new vocabulary of unit 1

Week 4.
- Reading for details pp.43-49
- News of the day
- Your presentation on a news item
- Discusses homework readings - Listening

Week 5.
- Unit 3: Elections pp.72-89
- News of the day
- Unit 2 vocabulary building pp.50-54
- 2 minutes presentation on demonstrations using the vocabulary of unit 2

Week 6.
- Reading for details pp.77-79
- News of the day
- Your presentation on a news item
- Discusses homework readings – Listening
Week 7.
- Unit 3 vocabulary building pp.80-84
- 2 minutes presentation on an election using the new vocabulary of unit 1
- Unit 1&2 Review pp.63-70 - Unit 3 review pp.129-132
- Midterm

Week 8.
- Unit 4
- vocabulary and short texts pp.49-103
- Understanding text organization pp.104-105
- Your presentation about a story from the news

Week 9.
- Reading for details pp.106-109
- Discusses homework readings
- Unit 4 vocabulary building pp.115-120
- Your presentation on an election using the vocabulary of unit 4

Week 10.
- Unit 5
- vocabulary and short texts pp.140-146
- Understanding text organization pg.147-149
- Your presentation on a news item

Week 11.
- Reading for details pp.150-152
- Discusses homework readings – Listening
- Unit 5 vocabulary building pp.154-158
- Your presentation on trials using the vocabulary of unit 5

Week 12.
- Unit 6
- vocabulary and short texts pp.172-175
- Understanding text organization pp.176-177
- Your presentation about a story from the news
- Reading for details pp.178-181
- Discusses homework readings

Week 13.
- Unit 6 vocabulary building pp.185-190
- Your presentation on business news using the vocabulary of unit 6

Review for Final
- Unit 4 Review pp.134-135
- Unit 5-6 Review pp.199-205