

AS375.301

3rd Year Arabic

SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AS.375.301 (3rd Year Arabic) is designed for students who have taken Second Year Arabic AS.375.216, with C+ and above (or equivalent) and wish to learn the language at an academic level by obtaining knowledge of the linguistic aspects of the language as well as skills needed to communicate in Arabic.

The goal of this course is to focus on Media Arabic. Students are required to complete a set amount of material during the semester. Media Arabic introduces the language of print and the Internet news media to students of Arabic seeking to reach the advanced level. It makes it possible for those students to master core vocabulary and structures typical of front-page news stories, recognize various modes of coverage, distinguish fact from opinion, detect bias and critically read news in Arabic. The course enables students to read extended texts with greater accuracy at the advanced level by focusing on meaning, information structure, language form, and markers of cohesive discourse.

In a language course like this, it is imperative that you attend every class, since new material is presented every day. Much of the learning, though, must be done outside of class. This means, among other things, that you should read each lesson and do the assigned homework for each lesson **BEFORE** that lesson is discussed in class. That is the only way you can gain maximum benefit from each class and be assured of not falling behind. We would like to remind you that acquiring a language is **NOT something that can be achieved through overnight cramming; rather, it can only be accomplished through the accumulation of daily effort.**

Although attendance is not one of the grading criteria, *it is mandatory to attend all classes.*

INFORMATION

AS375.301Fall 2017

INSTRUCTOR

Sana Jafire
Lecturer, CLE
sjafire1@jhu.edu

Krieger Hall 5th Floor – Room 515
TEL: 410-516-4396/FAX: 410-516-8008

OFFICE HOURS

Fridays 11 am - 2pm.

CLASS HOURS AND ROOMS

Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30:00 am – 2:45pm

TEXTBOOKS and OTHER LEARNING SOURCES:

1. Elgibali, A. (2014). Media Arabic: A Coursebook for Reading Arabic News (Revised Edition). The American University in Cairo Press (required)

USEFUL LEARNING RESOURCES:

We strongly recommend that you start watching Arabic TV dramas and movies available on the Internet free of charge. Most have subtitles and allow one to easily understand the storyline. Even if you don't understand what is said, you will enjoy the drama and can get used to the sound of the language and quickly increase your vocabulary.

GRADING CRITERIA

Quizzes (average)	20%
2 Written Exams (average)	40%
Homework (average)	10%
2 Presentations	15%
Group Discussions	15%

98-100 = A+	94-97=A	90-93= A-	87-89=B+
83-86 = B	80-82= B-	77-79 = C+	73-76= C
70-72 = C-	67-69 = D+	64-66= D	60-63= D-

Exams:

A total of two written exams are given during each term. Two sets of exams are given in the Spring term as shown in the schedule. The written exams will take up the entire class time. The two written exams in each term are *achievement* tests including/covering materials introduced in class up to the day the exam is given. Detailed information will be announced in class.

Quizzes:

Quizzes will be given during the first 30 minutes of the assigned day and they constitute 20% of the total grade. If you need to come more than 10 minutes late to class, then you should withdraw from class, as you will not be able to take the quizzes. Quizzes start promptly on the hour and are collected at 30 minutes after the hour, which means that you need to finish taking the quiz within 30 minutes, and there will be no extension. If you are absent on the day the quiz is assigned, you will receive a zero and **NO MAKE UP** quizzes will be given. The average of all quizzes is counted toward your final score.

Assignments:

The assignments are based on your preparation in advance for the class. You must read the material specified on the syllabus **BEFORE** the assigned day and answer the questions assigned. You must hand in your assignment in class. On some days, only reading and preparation is required. You must read and prepare before coming to class in order to participate in class discussions. Assignments will be assigned in class.

Late submissions are NOT accepted. The highest possible score for each assignment is 10 points, and the average of all assignments is counted toward your final score.

Group Discussions:

Starting Week 3, every Wednesday one student will choose a video and upload it to blackboard under Discussions tab (I will create one for each week). The student must upload the video 5 days before the due date (failure to submit the video 5 days prior will result in a ZERO grade for that week). Every student in class must watch the chosen video. You may submit questions or comments in the discussion area for that week. On the assigned day, the student will lead the class discussion on the video. Everyone must participate in the discussion. Failure to do so will result in a ZERO grade for that week. Every week each student will be graded (5 pts) is the highest. These grades will be posted on BB every week. **ALL DISUCSSIONS MUST BE IN ARABIC.** After the discussion is over, I will give out a short 10 min quiz on the video. The quiz is mainly comprehension.

Presentations:

There will be 2 presentations during the semester. Both presentations will be group presentations (more details will be posted on BB).

POLICY (strictly observed)

1. Our Center strictly observes the procedures regarding violations of academic integrity published on the JHU website. The following is an excerpt from the JHU website:

<http://www.graduateboard.jhu.edu/integrity.htm>

Academic Integrity: In all aspects of their work, students assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the Johns Hopkins University's mission as an institution of higher education. A student must refrain from acts that he or she knows, or under the circumstances has reason to know, may impair the academic integrity of the University. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to: cheating, plagiarism; submitting as one's own the same or substantially similar work of another; knowingly furnishing false information to any agent of the University for inclusion in the academic records; dishonesty in discharging teaching assistant duties; falsification; forgery.

Student Conduct: The University expects all students to respect the rights of others, and to refrain from behavior that impairs the University's mission of teaching, research/scholarship, and outreach to the local, national, and international community. Violations of appropriate student conduct may include, but are not limited to: harassment behavior (physical or verbal); intimidation or verbal abuse; actions that are a danger to one's own personal safety or that may harm others, and actions that destroy, impair, or wrongfully appropriate property.

Students are expected to know and abide by University policies governing student conduct and academic integrity. Those who impair the University's mission are subject to expulsion. Refer to your divisional academic policies and procedures for specific information.

2. This course is not designed for students who identify Arabic as their **first language**. The Center for Language Education reserves the right to place students in the language course appropriate to their level of language skill.
3. **No incomplete grade is given.**
4. If another course is overlapping with AS375.301, you must choose one course over the other. Simultaneous registration is strictly prohibited.
5. **MAKE UP QUIZZES AND EXAMS WILL NOT BE GIVEN.**
If there are extenuating circumstances, you need to contact the instructor **PRIOR to class** and arrange a day and time to make up the quiz/exam. Requests to the instructor **after** class will not receive any consideration. (Contact the instructor directly via e-mail, phone, etc., regarding a possible delay of your arrival. Do not leave a message with the administrator in the Center for Language Education.)
6. Anyone leaving class immediately after taking a quiz will receive a score of zero on that quiz unless s/he has presented a justifiable reason **PRIOR to that class**.
7. Written assignments must be submitted upon your arrival to the classroom. Late submission after class is over (for written) and 5:00 pm (online) of the due date is not accepted regardless of reasons.
8. **Attendance** is one of the MOST IMPORTANT aspects of the course and not only contributes to your knowledge of the language but also is essential to your development of SKILLS. In order for you to form good attendance habits, we employ the following policy:
Any student missing more than 2 days (unexcused absences) will receive a 0.5-point reduction from their final score for each unexcused absence (beyond 2). For example, if you miss 5 days in a term, although the first two are exempted, 0.5 point is lost for each of the third day, fourth

day, and fifth day, giving a total of 1.5 points subtracted from the final score you receive in the course. In addition, if you miss part of class time, you are considered as tardy. Two tardies will be counted as 1 absence. If your absence is due to unavoidable circumstances, let your instructor know immediately before class starts and wait for his/her instructions.

9. In order to move on to the next term, you are required to receive at least a grade of C+. If you receive a grade of C or below and wish to continue to the next term/level, you need to study during the break and take a placement test a day before the new term starts. If you receive a grade higher than C+, then you can take the subsequent course.
10. The Center for Language Education does not allow individuals to "sit in" on classes or register as audit. All students must register with a grade option.
11. The Center for Language Education follows Hopkins regulations and policies regarding religious holidays detailed in the student handbook. Religious holidays are valid reasons to be excused from class. Students who must miss a class or examination because of a religious holiday must inform the instructor as early in the semester as possible in order to be excused from class and to make arrangements to make up any work that is missed. Students who expect to miss several classes because of religious holidays are encouraged to meet with their academic advisers to consider alternative courses prior to registration.
http://education.jhu.edu/catalog/admission_registration_finance/registration/religiousholidays.html
12. Any student with a disability who may need accommodations in this class must obtain an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services, 385 Garland, [\(410\) 516-4720](tel:4105164720), studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu

REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

1. We request that during the class periods, no food is consumed.
2. We request that you contact us at your earliest convenience if you feel that you are falling behind or that you cannot avoid missing classes. Since we meet frequently, we need to keep you informed of various events and issues.
3. We recommend that students with 18 credits besides the language not to take the language course. Language courses require regular practice every day. Therefore, it cannot be a light extra course, and you need a strong commitment to a language course.
4. We recommend that you take a language course based on a letter grade and NOT a pass/fail grade. In particular, a C+ or better is required to move to higher levels, which may not be evident in a pass/fail grade (e.g., in cases where a "pass" equates to a C, making it difficult to assess readiness for progression).
5. Please refrain from using your cell phone. Make sure your cell phone is on SILENT and not vibrate. Also, please refrain from texting during the class time.
6. When taking a quiz or exam, you are not allowed to have anything on your desk except a pen/pencil.

JHU WEBSITES FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Center for Language Education: <http://www.cledu.jhu.edu/>
- Academic Calendar: <http://www.jhu.edu/~registr/calendar.html>
- Add/Drop Deadlines: <http://www.jhu.edu/~registr/ImportantNotices/Undergrad/add-drop%20deadlinesFall%202011%20UG.pdf>

- Important Dates to Remember: <http://www.advising.jhu.edu/dates.php>
- Final Exam Schedule: <http://www.jhu.edu/~registr/exam.html>

ACADEMIC CALENDAR (Fall 2017)

Thursday, August 31 Monday, September 4 Friday, September 15 Sunday, October 15 Thursday, October 20	First day of classes Labor Day, No classes Last day to add courses Last day to drop courses Classes meet according to Monday schedule
Friday, October 20 - Sunday, October 22 Friday, November 17	Fall Break Last day for course withdrawal
Monday, November 20 – Sunday November 26	Thanksgiving Break
Friday, December 8	Last day of classes
Saturday, December 9 - Tuesday, December 11	Reading period
Wednesday, December 13 - Friday, December 22	Final examination period
Saturday, December 23 – Sunday, January 7	Mid-year vacation