

**LIHL 116**

Instructor: Abdelhak Akjeje  
 Office: 3240 AP&M  
 Office hour: Monday 11:00-11:50  
 Friday 300-4:00, or by appointment  
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 Room: HSS 2305A  
 Time: 2:00p - 2:50p  
 Section ID: **638168**  
 Section: A00

**Course Description and Objectives**

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** LIHL Arabic is designed for heritage speakers of Arabic who wish to strengthen their speaking, reading and writing skills in Arabic. The term *heritage speaker* is used within the foreign-language teaching field to refer to a person who was exposed to a language and perhaps speaks it to some degree, but is now mostly dominant in English. Knowledge of reading and writing is not required. This course can be repeated three times for credit. This is a content based course. The topics change each quarter, therefore you will learn new materials each time up to three times.

LIHL Arabic is taught at the *entry* and *more advanced* level and is designed to improve students' command of the Arabic language in the areas of reading, writing and conversation. Material is presented in the context of cultural, social and literary topics. The course will be taught in the standard Arabic dialect spoken in the Arab world.

**LEVEL OF THE CLASS:** In order to offer a curriculum optimal for the students enrolled, the language level of the course could vary from quarter to quarter based on the language skills of the people in the class. For instance, the more advanced heritage speakers of Arabic, the focus will be placed on learning formal and written forms rather than spoken or colloquial forms of the language. The entry level heritage students, the emphasis will be placed more on reading and speaking skills. In addition, the classes may be taught at two different levels if necessary.

**Students who are considered native speakers of Arabic are not accepted in this class;** these classes are designed for heritage speakers and are not intended to serve as easy A courses for native speakers under any circumstances. If students are caught misrepresenting their knowledge of Arabic or the level of class attended in Arabic, **they will be asked to leave the class** and will either be dropped from the class roster or **receive a failing grade in the course.**

**Course Materials**

*Required:* Al KItaab fi Taallum Al Arabiyya part 1(part 2 in few cases)

*Optional:* **Alif Baa**, introduction to Arabic letters and sounds.

*Advanced media Arabic, by El Mustapha Lahlali*

New York Times: **Middle east blog**<< <http://blogs.albawaba.com/nytmiddleeast>>>

**Advanced Media Arabic** By El Mustafa Lehlali.

### **Availability Outside the Classroom**

I will hold regular office hours to answer any questions you might have. If you cannot make it to the regularly scheduled office hours, please contact me to set up an appointment (emails are best). If you encounter difficulty with course material, please ask questions and see me for help.

### **Course grade breakdown for Culture and Communication section:**

Active participation in small groups and in class discussion: 10%

Execution of the written work and reading assignments (10%)

Project: 10%

Quizzes: 20%

Midterm: 25%

Final: 25%

**Daily homework** will be assigned, and **late homework** may be accepted under certain circumstances. If you know in advance that you will have to miss a class, please make appropriate arrangements with the instructor in advance as well; if you must miss class unexpectedly because of illness or other emergency, and then please notify the instructor as soon as possible via email. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS!**

**Class Participation** is an essential foundation for learning a language. Students are expected to come to class prepared and willing to participate in all classroom activities. Attendance will be taken regularly and students who are not present at the beginning of the class hour will be considered absent. **A maximum of 3 absences are allowed without affecting your grade.** Each further absence will lower your final grade by one level. For example, one additional absence will lower a B+ to a B, or a C to a C-. If you miss a total of two weeks of class, you are encouraged to drop the class or you will fail the course.

### **Grading:**

Your commitment and level of progress in the class determine your grade, not the level of your previous knowledge of Arabic. Most students receive A's and B's in this class. **Don't expect an easy A just because you speak Arabic.** If you do very good to excellent work, you will get an A. If you do good work, you will get a B. If you do mediocre work, do not be surprised if you get a C. Also, if you do not complete all the course requirements, do not be surprised if you get a D or an F, depending on how much you do not complete (I generally will allow you to make up for past omissions within a reasonable time frame if you ask me, but I will not chase after you to do so). And if you forget to drop the course, you will certainly get an F.

Grade justification requests will not be accepted after the quarter is over.
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This section has been added to the syllabus to provide general answers to any questions you might have about how I grade. **Please do not email me after the quarter is over to challenge your grade, or to**

**request an explanation for why you got the grade you did or to do extra-credit work to raise your grade.** If you have questions about your grade, please ask me **DURING** the quarter, at which time I will be more than happy to discuss it with you.

### **Statement of Academic Integrity:**

Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD Policy on Academic Integrity published in the UCSD General Catalog. However, group projects and collaboration on homework are allowed and encouraged.

All the writing in your reports and essays must be your own work. You may not copy sentences or paragraphs from books, web pages, other students or any other source. If you quote anything written by anyone else, you must indicate very clearly that it is a quotation, and provide a full citation.

Cheating on exams will not be tolerated, and any student who engages in suspicious conduct will be confronted and subjected to the disciplinary process. Those who are caught cheating will receive a failing grade on the assignment or the exam and/or in the entire course.

### **Culture project:**

Each student will be asked to undertake one cultural activity in the Culture and Communication section. Students will prepare an oral presentation in Arabic. Topics should be discussed with the instructor prior to the due date. If you choose an inappropriate topic for the level of the class your grade can be lowered substantially. A sign-up sheet for culture projects will be available during the first week of class. You will choose a day from the available dates on the sign-up sheet to present your project. The purpose of the culture project is to allow you to learn more about certain aspects of Arab culture that particularly interest you, and that you can then share with your fellow students. Topics may be chosen from among the following areas: music, art, politics, history, geography, literature, religion or sports. You may cook or bake a middle eastern or Maghribi dish, bring the recipe and explain all the steps involved in making that particular dish, or talk about your trip to an Arabic -speaking country. Your project should last 10 to 15 minutes. You should be able to speak freely in Arabic in front of the class. You should bring visual aids, such as pictures, graphs, models, cultural artifacts, demonstrations etc. (big enough for the class the view). More detailed instructions on how to present your project will be provided in class.

### **Tentative testing schedule:**

**Culture project:** Sign-up sheet (week 4)

**Midterm:** week 5

**Quizzes:** At the end of every topic.

**Oral Final:** (For beginners only) 10th week

**Written Final:** Monday – Friday, March **16–20**