

**CUYAMACA COLLEGE**  
OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

**ARABIC 250 – CONVERSATIONAL ARABIC I**

3 hours lecture, 3 units

**Catalog Description**

Continues to develop oral, reading, writing and listening skills, but with an emphasis in oral proficiency.

**Prerequisite**

ARBC 121 or three years of high school Arabic or equivalent

**Entrance Skills**

Without the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge, students entering this course will be highly unlikely to succeed:

- 1) Participate in informal conversation relating to daily life and dealing with topics such as health, work and leisure activities in the past, present and future time frames
- 2) Comprehend increasingly more difficult texts such as brochures, travel guides, short newspaper items, commercials, poems and songs
- 3) Write notes, paragraphs and letters on topics related to daily life, personal opinions
- 4) Identify and discuss differences and similarities between their own and Arabic cultures
- 5) Speak with increased intelligibility and create simple sentences expressing their own ideas

**Course Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- 1) Show generally fair control of most basic syntactic patterns and convey meaning accurately most of the time in simple standard Arabic
- 2) Sustain simple conversations on everyday topics
- 3) Comprehend non-technical speech in everyday spoken Arabic
- 4) Understand and participate in cultural discussions and comprehend authentic cultural material such as newspaper articles and short essays
- 5) Discuss and analyze comparisons and contrasts of the Arabic cultures to their own and other cultures

**Special Materials Required of Student**

None

**Minimum Instructional Facilities**

- 1) Standard classroom with writing boards, bulletin board, maps
- 2) VCR/monitor, overhead projector/screen, tape recorder, CD player, laser disc player, target language maps, video camera, multimedia computer with software

**Course Content**

- 1) Listening and speaking tasks organized around increasingly varied and complex situations dealing with opinions, feelings, agreement and disagreement
- 2) In-depth discussion of cultural differences between the Arabic speaking world and the students' own cultures
- 3) Presentation of grammar explanations to reinforce the acquisition and oral production of the language
- 4) Increased development of students' writing skills to enable them to produce in writing what they can communicate orally
- 5) Presentation of authentic and more complex reading material through library resources and Internet research as the basis for discussions and written/oral presentations

**Method of Instruction**

- 1) Lecture and presentation of communicative activities and supporting language structures
- 2) Discussion of cultural content
- 3) Asking/answering questions
- 4) Paired and group activities

**Method of Evaluation**

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Periodic written, oral evaluation (listening/reading comprehension, speaking and writing)
- 2) Periodic tests
- 3) Final exam (comprehensive)

**Texts and References**

- 1) Required: Brustad, Kristen, Mahmoud Al-Batall and Abbas Al-Tonsi. Al-Kitaab fii Ta'alum al-Arabiyya: A Textbook for Beginning Arabic – Part One. (Chapters 1-6). 1999.
- 2) Supplemental: Arabic dictionary, magazines, newspapers

**Exit Skills**

Students having successfully completed this course exit with the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge:

- 1) Show generally fair control of most basic syntactic patterns and convey meaning accurately most of the time in simple standard modern Arabic
- 2) Participate in everyday conversations with ease
- 3) Comprehend speech in everyday spoken Arabic
- 4) Understand and participate in cultural discussions and comprehend authentic cultural material such as newspaper articles and short essays
- 5) Discuss and analyze comparisons and contrasts of the Arabic cultures to their own and other cultures