UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Lingua Araba II

2627-2-E2002R016-E2002R01601

Course title

Arabic Language II

Topics and course structure

The course aims to strengthen elementary-level competence in Standard Arabic and to introduce learners to the study of the language at an intermediate level, in order to enable them to read, analyse, and comment on texts dealing with contemporary Arab society (press and media, rights, reforms, and contemporary Arab culture). In addition, the course activities aim to enhance the ability to comprehend audiovisual materials, including journalistic content, and to develop oral and written production skills in order to describe personal interests and preferences, outline future study or career plans, talk about a journey, and express opinions on current affairs.

Objectives

The course, through constant class attendance, aims to:

1. consolidate knowledge of the fundamentals of Standard Arabic and introduce the study of the language at an intermediate level;
2. develop the ability to independently elaborate the grammatical structures and vocabulary acquired during the course;
3. develop the ability to formulate and effectively argue one's own opinion independently on simple topics;
4. develop adequate communicative skills in both oral and written production and comprehension.

Furthermore, students are invited to have an active attitude towards language learning and to attend the events

that will be organized during the year.

Methodologies

Lessons will be held predominantly in person and will mainly follow an interactive teaching approach; only a limited number of sessions will be lecture-based (transmissive method). In the event of specific teaching needs, some lessons may be conducted online.

The language practice sessions taught by the native-speaker instructor will be entirely interactive and will also include oral production activities carried out by students under the instructor’s supervision.

Online and offline teaching materials

Textbook, handout and supplementary teaching materials that will be uploaded to the E-Learning platform.

Programme and references

Programme:
The course presents the fundamental elements of Arabic grammar and syntax with exercises of writing, reading, comprehension and translation, as well as conversation exercises with a native teacher.

Texts adopted:

- B. Airò, S. Bertonati, Y. Odeh, M.S. Barakat, Lingua araba e società contemporanea, Zanichelli, Bologna 2021 (lessons 7-12)
- Ali Faraj, Appunti di grammatica araba con esercizi, secondo anno. Anno accademico 2026-2027

Recommended dictionaries:

- E. Baldissera, Il dizionario di arabo (dizionario italiano-arabo arabo-italiano), Zanichelli, Bologna 2014 (seconda edizione)
- R. Traini, Vocabolario arabo-italiano, Istituto per l'Oriente, Roma 1994
- Online dictionaries
  https://www.almaany.com/ar/dict/ar-en/right/
  https://www.arabicstudentsdictionary.com

Course contents:
The verbal noun (ma?dar) ????????????
Further study of the verbs "must" ?????? and "can" ??????????? and ???????? amkana
The future ?????????
The iussive ??????? ???????
The imperative ?????
K?na and "its sisters” ????? ?? ????????????
The particles ????? e ?????
Active and passive participle ??? ?????? ???? ???????
The exceptive particles: ’ill? e ?ayr ????? ?? ?????

Use of ????? ?????? ?????
The derived verb forms ??????? ???????
Use of the Arabic dictionary ??????? ?????? ???????
The relative sentence and the attributive sentence ?????? ???????? ??????? ?????????
Cardinal numbers from 11 to 99 ?????????? ???????????
Hundreds and thousands ?????? ????????

It is also necessary to keep up to date on the contents of the course by consulting the pages of the E-learning platform, where additional materials will be uploaded.

The program and the bibliography for those not attending are the same as those for attending students.

Assessment methods

The final exam is divided in two parts:
1 - a written test, consisting of comprehension of a text and exercises on the grammatical and syntactic structures learnt, including sentences to be translated from Italian into Arabic and viceversa (paper dictionary allowed).
2- an oral test, consisting in reading, comprehension questions, conversation, one or more questions on a grammar topic and submission of the following papers:

- written assignment (minimum 260 words) on a current affairs issue (i.e. an event, topic, or contemporary issue of political, social, economic, or international relevance) chosen by the student and discussed in the press, the media, or public debate. The assignment must include a presentation of the news item, with reference to the source consulted, and a personal commentary expressing one's opinion and reflections on the topic.
- brief report on participation in a conference, seminar, or exhibition related to the Arabic language and/or culture. The report should provide a concise description of the event attended and include a personal reflection on the experience.

To be admitted to the oral test, students must pass the written test.
To pass the exam it is necessary to obtain a sufficient grade in both tests.
The final grade of the exam is the average of the written test grade and the oral test grade.

The written and the oral tests must be taken and passed by the last examination call of the academic year, or the grade of the written exam will be cancelled.
Only students regularly registered for the exam will be admitted to the test. To access the written test, students must register for the written exam, to access the oral test, students must register for the oral exam.

The criteria for the written evaluation are:

1. correct assimilation of grammatical contents;
2. ability to apply the acquired knowledge correctly and autonomously;
3. correct and appropriate use of vocabulary and syntax;
4. ability to comprehend the assigned text.

The criteria for the oral evaluation are:

1. correct pronunciation;
2. ability to spontaneously interact with an interlocutor;
3. ability to understand and answer questions;
4. lexical accuracy and range;
5. ability to read texts fluently.

The criteria for the assignment of the final grade are as follows:

0–17: insufficient knowledge and understanding of the course contents; limited ability to apply the acquired knowledge; insufficiently developed autonomy of judgement, communication skills, and learning abilities.
18–24: sufficient or satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the course contents; satisfactory ability to apply the acquired knowledge; adequate autonomy of judgement and communication skills; overall satisfactory learning abilities.
25–30: good or excellent knowledge and understanding of the course contents; ability to apply the acquired knowledge correctly and autonomously; adequate autonomy of judgement; good or excellent communication skills; fully developed learning abilities.

N.B. Students holding a PUOI certification must email the document to the professor before the exam.

Office hours

Contact the professor by sending an e-mail to: ali.faraj@unimib.it

Programme validity

The programme is valid for two academic years.

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION | DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | REDUCED INEQUALITIES