

## Evening Courses

### A) General Arabic Courses

The general Arabic courses follow the ACTFL Guidelines as shown below.

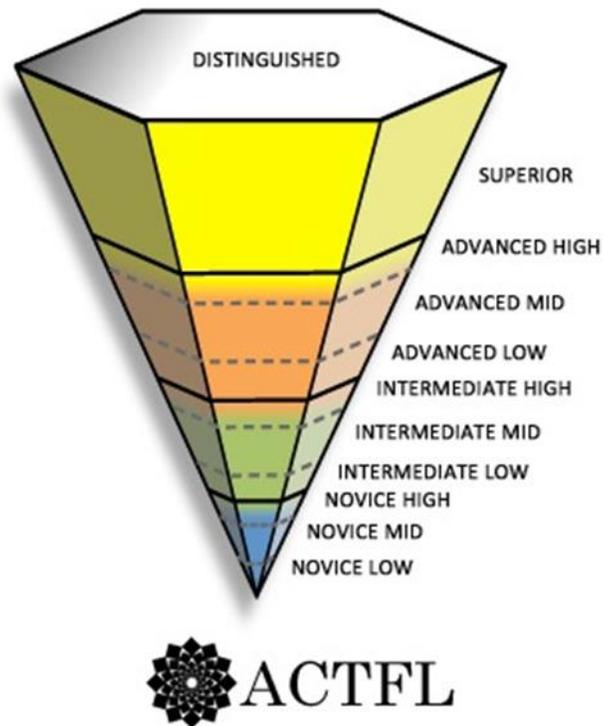


Figure 1: General Preface to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012 (*ACTFL Website*)

**Arabic (101; 102; 103)** (Novice Low; Novice Mid; Novice High)

**Arabic (201; 202; 203)** (Intermediate Low; Intermediate Mid; Intermediate High)

**Arabic (301; 302; 303)** (Advanced Low; Advanced Mid; Advanced High)

#### **Arabic 101**

This course is designed for students with no prior knowledge of Arabic. In this course, students are introduced to speaking modern standard Arabic, to reading and writing Arabic script, and to Arab culture. At the end of the course students will be at the Novice Low sublevel. They will be able to recognize the letters and each distinctive sound. They will be able to identify and use commonly used words or phrases when supported by context.

#### **Arabic 102**

This course is a sequel to Arabic 101. It emphasizes the four communication skills: reading, listening, writing and speaking. Students will be able to exchange greetings

and pleasantries (including talking about the weather and health). Also, they will be able to introduce and describe themselves and their friends, family members, hometowns, home and school. By the end of the course, students are expected to be at the Novice Mid sublevel. At this level, students can identify contextualized words and expressions including cognates. They can also discern the general idea of very short reading (2 to 3 lines) and listening excerpts.

### **Arabic 103**

This course is a sequel to Arabic 102. The course is meant to help students meet practical writing needs such as creating lists, short messages, postcards, and simple notes. Students will begin to develop language skills that allow them to survive in a target culture. The focus of this course is to help students form sentences in past, present and future tenses. By the end of the course, students will be at the Novice High sublevel. They will be able to derive meaning from short passages that convey basic information for which there is contextual or extra-linguistic support.

### **Arabic 201**

This course is designed to help students describe personal and work-related information, experiences, and events and briefly impart information. Students will practice how to ask and respond to simple questions for the most common features of daily life. Also, they will be able to provide simple explanations without complexity. In addition, students will be trained to produce clear, detailed texts such as summaries, reports, and emails on a wide range of topics. By the end of the course, students will be at the Intermediate Low sublevel. At this level students can produce language in straightforward social situations and ask/respond to simple questions about daily life events/routine.

### **Arabic 202**

This course is a sequel to Arabic 201. The course focuses on the application of language. It also emphasizes the teaching of language structure, format of developing vocabulary from verbs, and language patterns. Besides a comprehensive grammar review, students will learn how to make suggestions, describe future actions and events, describe a person's appearance, ask and express an opinion with limitations, ask and giving directions, congratulate people on special occasions, and order and talk about food. At the end of the course, students will demonstrate language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing that are appropriate to the level of study and that are necessary for everyday life in an Arabic speaking country. In addition, students will be able to analyze similarities and differences between their own and the target culture.

### **Arabic 203**

This course is a sequel to Arabic 202. Its focus is to improve on the students' ability to interact in the language, augment their active vocabulary, and build on their structural knowledge. An inductive/communicative approach is employed for all skills; students are given real-life situations so they can practice their acquired vocabulary and newly learned grammar points. Also, students are exposed to an increasing array of in-

language inputs, such as real conversations with native speakers, audios of newscasts, and parts of movies. Students are also asked to write short compositions using newly taught structures and vocabulary. They will be trained to distinguish between the main and secondary ideas in a passage. By the end of the course, students will be at the Intermediate High sublevel where they can identify logical relationships in familiar topics.

### **Arabic 301**

In this module, all skills of the Arabic language are equally addressed. Further emphasis is placed on students' ability to communicate more fluently. More authentic language situations are brought into the classroom and used as language models. Students are asked to personalize these situations, putting into practice newly acquired vocabulary and structures. To consolidate the students' learning of new vocabulary and structures, they are asked to write compositions on a variety of topics to match their linguistic ability. By the end of the course, students will be at the Advanced Low sublevel. At this point students can participate in a group discussions to solve a problem that requires connecting written and spoken passages.

### **Arabic 302**

This course is a sequel to Arabic 301. In this course, students will achieve better oral fluency, considerable ability in listening and reading comprehension, and better writing proficiency. Oral activities will take the form of group work, pair work, role playing and presentations. Instruction is conducted regularly in lectures and tutorials. Students will listen to authentic listening comprehension materials such as lectures, newscasts and talk shows. In addition to readings on a variety of topics, students will read stories. Using the vocabulary learned in lectures and tutorials, students will write compositions on various topics. By the end of the course, students will be at the Advanced Mid sublevel. At this level students possess moderate oral and written linguistic control.

### **Arabic 303**

This course is a sequel to Arabic 302. It is designed to help students improve their speaking skill through group discussions, pair work and oral presentations. Students will learn how to use complex language structures. They will listen to advanced listening materials such as newscasts, talk shows and movies from a variety of media sources. Students will also read stories and newspaper articles. They will learn to write different types of essays in descriptive, narrative and argumentative styles. By the end of the course, students will be at the Advanced High sublevel. At this level students can go beyond the mere comprehension of facts and start to understand implications of the language.

## **B) Specialized Arabic Courses**

Courses may change over time, and some courses are not available in every session. Students must have achieved an advanced proficiency level in order to take the following courses. **Courses will be taught entirely in Arabic.**

### **Media Arabic 401**

This course is intended to help students develop advanced reading, listening and speaking skills through work with current written media and broadcasts on Arabic TV and Radio. The course systematically covers current affairs in Arabic language mass media, and includes topics such as politics, elections, military, economics, trade, industry, and disaster and aid. In this course, students will be trained to access Arabic news information without any prior knowledge of media jargon. It introduces students to the vocabulary, style and content of the Arabic press and broadcast media, focusing largely on news-related material. It will also equip students with the necessary basic skills to help them in their professional career as well as the knowledge to pursue further research in the field of Arabic media or other related fields.

### **Media Arabic 402**

This course is a sequel to Arabic 401. This course is designed to further develop students' reading, listening and speaking skills in relation to media in the Arab world. The focus will be on current events or issues in the Arab world featured in the Arab media. Materials will include written reports, articles, and opinion pieces, in addition to audiovisual reports and interviews. After successful completion of this course, students will be able to conduct independent research using authentic Arabic news sources. They will also be able to critically identify biases in authentic Arab news reporting.

### **Business Arabic 501**

This course is designed to improve students' business Arabic language skills by developing their vocabulary and reading skills. This is done by helping students better understand the tone, style and knowledge of communication in an Arab business environment. In this course, students will master how these language skills can enhance audience analysis, business case analysis and basic business communication strategies. At the end of the course, students should be able to gain a deeper understanding of the culture and work etiquette in the Arab world and Omani business etiquette in particular. In addition, students will learn to communicate confidently with Arabic-speaking colleagues and clients.

### **Business Arabic 502**

This course is a sequel to Arabic 501. It is designed to further help students communicate more professionally and effectively in all aspects of business from day to day communication to participating in a business meeting and making presentations. The course content and material will focus on exploring different economic sectors in

the Arab world. By the end of the course, students will be able to give presentations and take part in negotiations using a wide range of vocabulary for business environments. In addition, students will be able to read and produce documents such as reports, contracts and financial statements.

### **Oman: Historical Progression and Future Developments 601**

This course is designed to cover the social and economic transformation of Oman in the early 70's under his Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said. Students will learn about the social and economic change after the discovery of oil. Students also will learn about his Majesty's unique leadership style which made Oman gain a regional influence and international respect. Students will learn about Oman's future development plans and diversification from economic dependency on oil.

### **Omani Culture through Photography 701**

In this course, students will learn about famous Omani photographers and survey their art work to unveil profound characteristics of the Omani culture. Students will learn to describe and analyze still life, portrait, landscape and candid photographs. Through their exposure to photographs of Oman and its people, students will understand the Omani culture deep rooted Islamic influence and its unique blend of tradition and modernization.

### **Entrepreneurship in Oman 801**

This course will highlight the benefits of encouraging and facilitating new business start-ups in Oman and expose students to different programs like Fund for Development of Youth Projects, Entrepreneur's Conclave, and SANAD, which promote entrepreneurship for both men and women. Students will learn about efforts made by the government to promote trade and cooperation between start-ups and corporations. Students will get acquainted with innovative business ventures of Omani male and female entrepreneurs.

### **Omani Arabic Familiarization 901**

This course aims to familiarize students with Omani dialect in order to naturally interact with Omani community. In this course, students will practice of interactive functional skills such as listening, speaking, and vocabulary building. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate actively and properly on a variety of topics. A knowledge of Arabic script and Modern Standard Arabic grammatical structure is a prerequisite for this course.

### **Arabian Nights 1001**

This course is a survey of the composition, structure, history, and importance of the Arabian Nights, the famous tales narrated by Shahrazad during 1001 nights. In this course, the focus will be on the literary structure and narrative strategies and dynamics

of the *Nights*. Students will read some of the most famous series from 1001 nights and discuss their perspectives of each tale, highlighting different facets of culture such as gender, power and politics. The course will also cover the propagation and adaptation of these famous tales in different forms of arts in the modern-day world.

### **Arab Women in the Twentieth Century 2001**

The focus of this course is the historical development of gender identities in different Arab countries. The evolution of gender paradigms will be studied in response to shifting perceptions of sexuality, reproduction and the family as a result of education and women entering the workforce. In particular, the course will examine how and why women's statuses differs from one Arab country to another.

### **Arabic Modern Literature 3001**

This course is designed to familiarize students with developments in Arabic literature. The focus of the course will be on Arabic novels, short stories and poetry. The class will explore these works in their literary and historical context. Students will be able to discuss and analyze chosen literary works. Students will sharpen their awareness of the significance of literature to the understanding of Arabic culture and history. In this course, students will have the opportunity to further enhance their level of spoken interaction and reading while exploring the beauty of Arabic literature.

### **Arabic Translation 4001**

This course provides a survey of the main theories of translation and interpretation. The course is divided in two: the methodology section addresses the linguistic and cultural aspects of language transfer while the professional component includes an overview of career opportunities and current practices. Students will be able to translate journalistic, commercial, legal and scientific texts from Arabic to English. The course includes an overview of the Arabic language and a contrasting analysis of the two linguistic systems. Students will complete a translation project and will also be able to choose from a range of option modules. These modules can introduce editing and revision, audiovisual translation or computer-assisted translation, or enable students to acquire a working knowledge of another language for translation purposes.

### **Arts and Identity in the Arab World 5001**

This course will introduce students to Arabic visual and performing arts, music, food and clothing. Students will be encouraged to analyze the arts as an expression of Arab cultural identity. The course will consider Arab culture through the lens of changing socio-cultural dynamics. Topics of artistic analysis might include family structures and how they are changing, national self-perceptions, pivotal moments in history, economic issues, social change and diversity.

## **Contemporary Arab Cinema 6001**

This course is designed to survey contemporary films and their social and linguistic impact on pan-Arabia. In this course, students will learn to analyze select movies and texts, exploring how Arab filmmakers represent social, political, and economic change and realities in different sub-Arab societies.

## **The Arab World in the Digital Era 7001**

This course discusses the emergence of Pan-Arab Media outlets (from newspapers to satellite channels) and their impact on the regional media scene. The course also includes the beginning of the digital era or liberal media with the advent and popularization of the Internet, social networks, and smart phones. The course will also explore the social and political impact of these platforms. Students will think through the roles that traditional and new/digital media have played in the region and reflect on their past, present and future roles.

## **Building Arabic Vocabulary through Reading 8001**

This course will further develop students' linguistic skills in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). It comprises more advanced reading materials. Students are expected to read the allotted material on their own outside the classroom, and then discuss the contents with their teacher in class. In class, students will learn to find, read, summarize, and interpret primary and secondary sources in Arabic, and to analyze them in the light of relevant research literature. They will improve their competence in understanding complex Arabic text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in their field of specialization.

## **Building Arabic Vocabulary through Reading 8002**

This course is a continuation of 8001. The course focuses on further developing advanced reading skills in modern standard Arabic through class discussion, reports, and presentations. The course includes readings from newspapers, journals, magazines, web sites, literary works, and other sources.

## **Public Speaking 9001**

This course provides instruction and experience in preparation and delivery of speeches within a public setting and group discussion in Arabic. The course aims to develop communication skills and strategies used in crafting and performing public speeches in the Arab World, including audience analysis; topic development and research; effective organization; effective argument development; appropriate visual aids; and the use of effective Arabic, verbal, and non-verbal strategies. This course will help students develop a better cultural understanding so that they could convey their ideas more effectively to an Arab audience. It also helps students develop critical listening and evaluation skills used in evaluating speeches.

