

**Descriptions of Target Student Abilities: First-Year Arabic**  
**Arabic Language Objectives, 2008**

<b>Interpersonal Communication Skills</b>	<b>AMELANG 120A (Beginning Arabic, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter)</b>	<b>AMELANG 120B (Beginning Arabic, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter)</b>	<b>AMELANG 120C (Beginning Arabic, 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter)</b>
<p>First-year students of Arabic will be able to engage in simple phrases and exchange of information on a variety of everyday life topics using appropriate forms and basic grammatical structures in Modern Standard Arabic. They will demonstrate awareness of socially appropriate behavior and cultural norms.</p>	<p>During the first quarter of language study, students learn the Arabic alphabet and begin to use basic vocabulary and phrases, participate in simple exchanges of personal information (greetings, catch phrases, etc.) and list their basic daily activities in the present imperfect tense only.</p> <p>At the end of the quarter, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet, greet and introduce themselves using rehearsed utterances and memorized formulae.</li> <li>• Identify and name certain objects, places and entities in their surroundings and everyday life such as cities, homes and countries.</li> <li>• Give simple descriptive phrases in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) using a very basic list of vocabulary terms.</li> <li>• Use possessive pronouns and learn the basic structure of interrogatives.</li> <li>• Make and understand simple requests.</li> <li>• Use a limited number of widely used Form 1 verbs in the present tense (to live, to learn, to eat, etc.)</li> </ul>	<p>During the second quarter, students are introduced to more vocabulary and short phrases which they can use in familiar contexts. They are able to pronounce longer words and phrases in MSA with or without case endings (nominative, accusative, genitive). They are also able to recognize the root of common verbs and distinguish between the present and the past.</p> <p>At the end of the quarter, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask and respond to basic questions in MSA that use basic interrogative structures in the present tense.</li> <li>• Understand and respond to culturally relevant speech expressions related to course material (<i>Assalamu alaykum, marhaba, Allah yirhamu</i>, etc.), using stock phrases and rehearsed structures.</li> <li>• Use most Form 1 simple verbs in the present tense.</li> <li>• Use the future tense in the affirmative for a selected number of familiar verbs beyond Form 1 (to teach, to watch, to like, to want, etc.).</li> <li>• Talk about their daily surroundings in a culturally appropriate manner without placing the applicable case endings on the last letter of most words.</li> </ul>	<p>During the third quarter, students continue to expand their vocabulary and begin forming basic sentences that go beyond simple catch phrases. They will also begin employing the past tense on a more regular basis.</p> <p>At the end of the quarter, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and pronounce all words in MSA (textbook materials) with or without case endings present</li> <li>• Use basic adjectives and memorized sentences to express certain feelings and emotions such as sadness, joy, loneliness, etc.</li> <li>• List facts about themselves and others using simple sentences.</li> <li>• Use simple verbs (mostly Form 1) with most subject pronouns in the present tense as well as in the Perfect (past) tense.</li> <li>• Switch between the Perfect and Imperfect tenses for most subject pronouns in a limited, pre-rehearsed context, using words and phrases they have already learned.</li> <li>• Express basic opinions, both affirmative and negative, in a culturally appropriate manner.</li> </ul>

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<b>Interpretive Skills</b>	<b>AMELANG 120A (Beginning Arabic, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter)</b>	<b>AMELANG 120B (Beginning Arabic, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter)</b>	<b>AMELANG 120C (Beginning Arabic, 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter)</b>
<p>Students will be able to go from learning the alphabet; to word recognition, study, and building; to phrases and sentences as they learn to communicate in MSA on a limited number of familiar, rehearsed topics. They will learn to respond to common social questions with stock phrases and practiced structures. They will be able to read for general meaning and recognize familiar words in sentences and simplified passages on a limited range of cultural topics while picking out specific, memorized information from authentic materials.</p>	<p>During the first quarter, students learn to read, pronounce, and write the Arabic alphabet. They begin to familiarize themselves with different Arabic styles of calligraphy and forming letters by utilizing Internet resources and visual aids. They can then demonstrate comprehension of short and simple Arabic words and phrases (with visual triggers) as well as short utterances drawn from familiar material. They will be able to read cognate-based, vocalized words and phrases and confirm understanding in English.</p> <p>At the end of the quarter, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize, read, and pronounce all the letters in the Arabic alphabet in all positions.</li> <li>• Distinguish between statements and questions in conversation.</li> <li>• Understand simple social encounters, and respond with stock phrases in a rehearsed, practiced setting.</li> <li>• Read basic sentences that include case endings (vocalized words and phrases)</li> <li>• Read and pick out certain words in authentic materials such as: maps, signs, schedules, theater listings, newspaper classified ads, etc.</li> </ul>	<p>During the second quarter, students demonstrate comprehension of simple phrases, short and simple Arabic sentences, and can recognize familiar speech patterns drawn from familiar material. They will be able to read simple sentences and confirm basic understanding in Arabic, using English for a more detailed account.</p> <p>At the end of the quarter, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain a better control and understanding of phonetic conventions.</li> <li>• Read and recognize foreign words written in Arabic as well as pronounce multi-syllabic Arabic words, such as verbal nouns for Forms III-X (<i>istiqbaal</i>, <i>infi3al</i>, etc.), active participles (<i>mustashriq</i>, <i>mutakallim</i>, etc.) and passive participles (<i>mustaqbal</i>, <i>maftuuH</i>, etc.).</li> <li>• Find the root of various Arabic words in an attempt to use the past tense.</li> <li>• Observe and point out (in English) certain textual features and basic differences in common Arabic words and phrases used on a regular basis (verbs, adjectives, nouns) e.g.: non-human and human plurals, feminine, masculine, and plural endings</li> <li>• Develop analytical reading skills and identify familiar words in a wider variety of selected authentic materials.</li> </ul>	<p>During the third quarter, students demonstrate comprehension of short and simple sentences strung together in chronological order. They are able to pick out unfamiliar words from a text by recognizing the root of common verbs. They will be able to read selected text samples and translate the main idea into simple English.</p> <p>At the end of the quarter, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the root of most Arabic words with relative accuracy.</li> <li>• Gain a basic understanding of the way the root of Arabic verbs features in the formation of regular adjectives and common nouns.</li> <li>• Demonstrate basic comprehension of others' use of Arabic related to the most common daily topics and based on course material.</li> <li>• Interpret basic conversations and respond by adding new information in the form of stock phrases and other rehearsed structures.</li> <li>• Understand simple sentences in short passages (50-100 words) created for this level and resembling authentic material.</li> </ul>

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<b>Presentational Skills</b>	<b>AMELANG 120A (Beginning Arabic, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter)</b>	<b>AMELANG 120B (Beginning Arabic, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter)</b>	<b>AMELANG 120C (Beginning Arabic, 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter)</b>
<p>Students will be able to present information, orally and in writing, comprised of a number of basic words, catch phrases and rehearsed sentences that they have practiced on a regular basis.</p>	<p>During the first quarter, students are able to present rehearsed information orally or in writing about themselves and their families, and participate in basic activities using a limited number of familiar words.</p> <p>At the end of the quarter, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orally utter a rehearsed series of words or phrases about family, friends, university, city, etc. while commenting in English about basic aspects of Arabic grammar and syntax.</li> <li>• Respond in the affirmative and negative to short questions posed in the present tense, using a variety of mostly form 1 verbs.</li> <li>• Write out and spell the basic vocabulary words which they have used in their presentations.</li> </ul>	<p>During the second quarter, students will be able to present mostly rehearsed information orally or in writing on a limited range of topics using different subject pronouns in the Perfect <i>or</i> Imperfect tenses for mostly Form 1 verbs.</p> <p>At the end of the quarter, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present more formally rehearsed statements on topics of personal interest that are strictly related to course materials by using stock phrases and simple sentences.</li> <li>• Ask and answer mostly binary questions about the prepared presentation topic, using simple affirmative and negative sentences.</li> <li>• Write and recite a list of short sentences related to personal information in chronological order (e.g. daily routine) or a list of familiar objects used in immediate surroundings.</li> </ul>	<p>During the third quarter, students will be able to present rehearsed information as well as more spontaneous information drawn from their sociolinguistic experience on many common everyday topics in both the Perfect and Imperfect tenses.</p> <p>At the end of the quarter, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present rehearsed and structured reports (2-3 minutes) on topics of personal interest and immediate experiences using a list of strung phrases and short sentences.</li> <li>• Respond in a mostly binary manner to questions about their oral reports.</li> <li>• Write and present a list (2-3 complete sentences) on one of the topics related to personal information in the Perfect and Imperfect tenses.</li> </ul>