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Fall 9-1-2021

ARAB 305.50: The Arab World

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Huthaily, Khaled Y., "ARAB 305.50: The Arab World" (2021). *University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025*. 879.

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ARAB 305: The Arab World

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Dr. Khaled Huthaily
 Email: khaled.huthaily@umontana.edu
 Office: LA 431
 Office Hours: Appointments by Email [Meetings Via Zoom]

Course Description:

ARAB 305 is an online course that is designed to help students explore the Arabic-speaking countries through readings about and discussions of their history, geography, peoples, economy, political systems, educational systems, and cultural components, such as music, cuisine, tradition, customs, gender relations, etc. This course is designed for everyone interested in the topic, and no previous knowledge of the Arabic language is required.

ARAB 305 is a fully online course (via Moodle: UMOonline). More info is on Moodle: <https://umonline.umn.edu>. Weekly assignments will be posted by 10:00 am on Mondays.

1. Knowing the Arab World
2. Language & Beliefs and Values
3. Friends and Strangers & Emotion and Logic
4. Getting Personal
5. Men and Women
6. Social Formalities and Etiquette ... food
7. The Social Structure & The Role of the Family
8. Weddings and Music
9. Religion and Society
10. Communicating with Arabs
11. Islamic Fundamentalism (Islamism)
12. Anti-Americanism
13. Arabs and Muslims in the West

Materials:

- *Understanding Arabs: A Contemporary Guide to Arab Society* (6th Edition) by Margaret K. Nydell
- Resources shared via UM Moodle

Topics:

1	Beliefs and Values	Basic Arab Values Basic Arab Religious Attitudes Basic Arab Self-Perceptions
2	Friends and Strangers	The Concept of Friendship Reciprocal Favors Introductions Visiting Patterns Business Friendships Office Relations Criticism Intermediaries Private and Public Manners
3	Emotion and Logic	Objectivity and Subjectivity Fatalism What is Reality? The Human Dimension Persuasion
4	Getting Personal	Personal Questions Sensitive Subjects Social Distance Gestures Names
5	Men and Women	Social Interaction Displaying Intimacy The Status of Women

		Women's Right to Vote Women in Government Positions Women's Power in the Family The Headscarf and the Veil Polygamy Traditional Gender Roles Western Women
6	Social Formalities and Etiquette	Hospitality Time and Appointments Discussing Business Sharing Meals Smoking Rules of Etiquette
7	The Social Structure	Social Classes Image and Upper-Class Behavior Dealing with Service People
8	The Role of the Family	Family Loyalty and Obligations Relations among Family Members Marriage Divorce Child-Rearing Practices Talking about Your Family
9	Religion and Society	Religious Affiliation Religious Practices The Religion of Islam Sunni and Shia The Sharia, Islamic Law The Qur'an and the Bible Passages from the Qur'an
10	Communicating with Arabs	Varieties of Arabic The Superiority of Arabic The Prestige of Classical Arabic Eloquence of Speech Speech Mannerisms Pleasant and Indirect Responses The Power of Words Euphemisms The Written Word Proverbs
11	Islamic Fundamentalism (Islamism)	Definitions and Numbers Jihad Islamists and Muslim Society Mainstream Muslims
12	Anti-Americanism	Reasons For Arab Anger Arab/Muslim and Some Western Views The Greater Middle East Proposal The Arab Media Some American Views Arab/Muslim Views On American Culture Views On Western-Style Democracy Islam Anti-Islam Comments Defense-of-Islam Comments
13	Arabs and Muslims in the West	Arabs in the United States Muslims in the United States and Canada Refugees Muslims in Europe The Image of Arabs and Muslims Image in America Image in Europe The Future of Islam in the West

Required assignments and tests:

Criteria	Points
Discussions	30
Article/Chapter Summaries/Reflection Papers	30
Quizzes	20
Final Project (Country Report)	20
TOTAL	100

Course guidelines and policies:**Student Conduct Code**

Student Conduct Code is available on: <https://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php>

Attendance

Attendance policy is available on: <http://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/attendance.php>

Course Withdrawal

Withdrawal policy is available on: <http://www.umt.edu/business-services/Students/Student%20Accounts/Withdrawal%20Policy.php>

Disability Modifications

Disability information is available on: <https://www.umt.edu/disability/default.php>

Grading policy

Grades will be assigned as follows:

Grade	Points	GPA
A	93-100	4
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	63-66	1
D-	60-62	0.7
F	0-59	0