

**LESSER TAUGHT LANGUAGES PROGRAM**  
**Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures**  
**University of South Alabama**

LTLP Director: Jenny Faile  
Office hours: By appointment (email)

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**Goals and Objectives:**

The Lesser Taught Languages Program offers courses in Arabic, Modern Greek, Chinese, Italian, Japanese, and Portuguese. The goal of this program is the development of basic interpersonal communication skills in the language. All four skills (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) will be taught, but the emphasis in this program is on speaking and listening. By the end of the course, the students should demonstrate basic survival skills in the target language appropriate to the level. See below for more information regarding individual courses.

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**Scheduling**

All LTL classes are offered on a TBA schedule. This requires the students enrolled in these language classes to report to the first organizational meeting, generally held on the third floor of HUMB at 9 a.m. on the Saturday before classes start each semester. At this meeting, the students enrolled in the class, along with the tutor of the class, will determine what days and time the class will meet for the semester. The LTLP Director has no control over the schedule of these classes.

**Methods of Instruction**

These languages are not taught in the same way as traditional language courses. Students purchase a textbook (available at the USA bookstore) that is coordinated with audio and media materials. Tapes and compact discs will be provided by the Foreign Language Department office if not available for purchase. Students must study with these materials on their own, and the responsibility for learning rests entirely with the students.

Students will be provided with a session leader (a tutor) who is a native speaker of the target language; these session leaders will conduct three hours of drill sessions each week. During these sessions students will be drilled intensively in the spoken language in order to perfect their pronunciation, mastery of grammar, and listening comprehension. This is an essential part of the program.

The primary focus of the program is appropriate mastery of the spoken language and listening comprehension. The final course grade for all languages will be determined almost exclusively on these two factors. We are less concerned with the written aspects of these languages, except when learning sounds includes learning a new alphabet—as is the case with Arabic—or when there is a character recognition component on the exams, such as with Chinese.

The National Association of Self-Instructed Language Programs (NASILP) requires that all students be highly motivated to pursue language study under a self-instructional format. All students must be diligent in their own study and must make a sincere effort to learn as much as possible from the audio materials and texts. All students are to come to the tutorial sessions prepared to practice the spoken language. They should not expect the tutors to teach them what can be easily learned from the textbooks. The tutors will spend class time speaking in the target language and will only resort to English to address genuine questions when the textbook is not clear. All students should listen to the audio materials for a minimum of one hour a day, seven days a week, and they should coordinate their listening with the textbook. For further information about NASILP, consult the website: <http://www.nasilp.org/>

**Attendance**

**Attendance is mandatory.** Tutors are required to report all student absences every week. Four absences will lower the final grade by one whole letter grade. Five absences will lower the grade by two letter grades. Upon the sixth absence, the student will receive an F and be expelled from the course. All students must sign a contract indicating that they have read and understood our policy.

### **Instruction and Grade**

Please understand clearly that you have elected to study a foreign language for which the University of South Alabama will NOT provide a trained linguist to offer instruction. The session leaders, or tutors, who conduct the drill sessions are native speakers of the target language and will practice the material that you have studied for each session. **THE TUTORS DO NOT DETERMINE YOUR FINAL GRADE.** The determination of your final grade will be based primarily on the evaluation of a professional external examiner who will administer mid-term and end-of-term oral examinations. Arabic grades are also based on midterm and final written exams. This is a standard required by NASILP.

Since all classes do not progress at the same rate, the instructor may wish to modify the above requirements or their timing as circumstances dictate. For example, the instructor may wish to change the number and frequency of exams, or the number and sequence of assignments. There may be homework assignments and/or quizzes given throughout the semester as deemed necessary by the tutor. However, the students must be given adequate notification. Moreover, there may be non-typical classes for which these requirements are not strictly applicable in each instance and may need modification. If such modification is needed, it must be in writing and conform to the spirit of this policy statement.

### **Mid-term & Final Exams and Over-all Grade**

For the fall 2009 semester, mid-term oral exams will be scheduled for the week of October 12th and will be conducted either over the phone with the examiner or will be a recorded interview with the tutor. Scores will count 25% of the total grade. By the end of the term, all students are expected to have developed basic skills in the target language, all of which will be tested on a comprehensive basis via a detailed phone interview, a recorded interview with the tutor or a face-to-face oral interview with the examiner. The exam date and time for the fall 2009 semester is Saturday, December 5th. There cannot be a make-up exam because examiners only come to campus one time. The final oral exam score will count 75% of the total grade.

*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with verified disabilities may be afforded reasonable accommodations. The Office of Special Student Services (Student Center, Room 270, 460-7212) will provide certification of a disability. This is to be turned into the Director, Mrs. Faile.*

### **TUTORS**

<b>ARABIC</b> Widad Halaweh	<a href="mailto:Widd11@yahoo.com">Widd11@yahoo.com</a>
<b>CHINESE</b> Connie Yu	<a href="mailto:cyu@jaguar1.usouthal.edu">cyu@jaguar1.usouthal.edu</a>
<b>GREEK</b> Mirella Chavez	<a href="mailto:mchavez@ums-wright.org">mchavez@ums-wright.org</a>
<b>ITALIAN</b> Roberta Bianchettin	<a href="mailto:robertabianchettin@hotmail.com">robertabianchettin@hotmail.com</a>
<b>JAPANESE</b> Mariko Ishige Chie Hagiwara	<a href="mailto:mi501@jaguar1.usouthal.edu">mi501@jaguar1.usouthal.edu</a> <a href="mailto:ch601@jaguar1.usouthal.edu">ch601@jaguar1.usouthal.edu</a>
<b>PORTUGUESE</b> Ruth Pappas	<a href="mailto:rnmarathoner@yahoo.com">rnmarathoner@yahoo.com</a>

## TEXT INFORMATION

### Introductory Arabic (2 texts)

- I. A) *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'alum al-'Arabiyya with DVDs. A Textbook for Beginning Arabic*. Part One, Second Edition. Brustad, Kristen; Abbas Al-Tonsi; Mahmoud Al-Batal. Georgetown University Press. ISBN: 9781589011045 or 158901104X
- II. B) *Alif Baa with Multimedia. Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*. Second Edition. Brustad, Kristen; Abbas Al-Tonsi; Mahmoud Al-Batal. Georgetown University Press. ISBN: 9781589015067 or 1589015061

### Intermediate Arabic

- I. *Functional Modern Standard Arabic for Beginners*. Second Edition. Alish, Mahdi. Yale University Press. ISBN: 9780300122725

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### Introductory Chinese

- I. *New Practical Chinese Reader 1*. Xun, Liu. Beijing Language and Culture University Press. ISBN: 7561910401
- II. *New Practical Chinese Reader 1*. (Wk bk). Xun, Liu. Beijing Language and Culture University Press. ISBN: 9787561910429

### Intermediate Chinese

- I. *New Practical Chinese Reader 2*. Xun, Liu. Beijing Language and Culture University Press. ISBN: 9787561911297
- II. *New Practical Chinese Reader 2*. (Wk bk). Xun, Liu. Beijing Language and Culture University Press. ISBN: 7561911459

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### Greek I

- I. *Greek Now 1+1*. Papacheimona, Demetra. Editions Nostos. ISBN: 9608513707
  - a. With accompanying CDs. ISBN: 9607317106
- II. *Greek Now 1+1*. (Wk bk). Papacheimona, Demetra. Editions Nostos. ISBN: 9607317114

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### **Introductory Italian**

- I. *Percorsi: l'Italia attraverso la lingua e la cultura*. Italiano, Francesca. Pearson (Prentice Hall). ISBN: 0131929690

### **Intermediate Italian**

- II. (Coming Spring 2010)

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### **Introductory Japanese**

- I. *Yookoso! An Invitation to Contemporary Japanese*. Third Edition. Tohsaku, Yasu-Hiko. McGraw Hill. (comes as a bundle in the USA bookstore: textbook, workbook and CDs).
  - a. Textbook (as separate purchase) – ISBN: 0072408154
  - b. Workbook (as separate purchase) – ISBN: 007249302X
  - c. CDs (as separate purchase) – ISBN: 007297186X

### **Intermediate Japanese**

- II. *Yookoso! Continuing with Contemporary Japanese*. Third Edition. Tohsaku, Yasu-Hiko. McGraw Hill. (comes as a bundle in the USA bookstore: textbook, workbook and CDs)

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### **Introductory Portuguese**

- I. *Ponto de Encontro: Portuguese as a World Language*. Klobucka, Anna. Pearson (Prentice Hall). ISBN: 0131894056
- II. *Ponto de Encontro: Portuguese as a World Language*. (Wkbk). Klobucka, Anna. Pearson (Prentice Hall). ISBN: 0131894080

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**\*\*** Arabic and Chinese students will be provided with the audio CDs that accompany the manuals and texts. Greek and Japanese students purchase the audio CDs at the bookstore. Italian and Portuguese materials are on-line and require a RealPlayer plug-in.