

# CET Syllabus of Record



**Program:** CET Middle East Studies & Internship in Amman

**Course Title:** Intensive Beginning Jordanian Dialect for Novices in MSA (summer)

**Course Code:** ARI151

**Total Hours:** 40

**Recommended Credits:** 2

**Language of Instruction:** Arabic

**Prerequisites/Requirements:** None

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## Description

This course is offered to students who have not previously studied Modern Standard Arabic or Jordanian dialect. It is the goal of this class to help students achieve the ability to put together simple sentences, express daily needs, and ask questions. Students will also learn grammar concepts, how to describe family, hobbies, work, and daily schedule. The class will also cover past tense and describing things such as colors, clothing, and the home.

Driven by the concept of communicative proficiency and the goal of functional competency, this course fits the diglossic nature of the Arabic speech community. Thus, Colloquial Arabic (Jordanian dialect) is the focus of this course; however, overlap with Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) is encouraged when appropriate (as used by native speakers to address more advanced topics/issues). This course aims to address the communicative functions the student will face in real-life situations outside of the classroom. The CET program treats Arabic as one system of communication with a common core including both a spoken side and a written side. This course is designed to build on the Arabic communicative language skills of listening and speaking using a variety of authentic Jordanian sources, including television, movie and radio.

A communicative and student-centered approach is used to encourage Jordanian dialect vocabulary acquisition. Students practice interactive functional skills such as listening comprehension and conversation strategies (linguistic and cultural) working to communicate appropriately on both high and low frequency daily subjects.

## Objectives

- Demonstrate command of the Arabic sound and writing systems with pronunciation understandable to natives who are accustomed to interacting with foreigners
- Understand elementary grammatical structures
- Utilize limited vocabulary in simple contexts with proper subject-verb agreement, adjective agreement and tenses
- Compose sentences and short paragraphs related to survival needs and daily life, primarily in the present tense

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- Read and comprehend Arabic texts with familiar vocabulary and simple discourse
- Guess with relative success at highly contextualized unfamiliar vocabulary
- Understand and participate in conversations about predictable daily life situations and topics of limited complexity

### Course Requirements

Students are expected to thoroughly prepare for each class at home and actively participate in each class. All assignments and preparatory work must be completed before class. In-class activities and homework may include listening to audio materials, memorizing new patterns and vocabulary, completing written assignments, reviewing material learned the previous day and activating new vocabulary during class, etc. Attendance and participation are required and considered in the calculation of the final grade. Students are expected to not only read and understand short paragraphs and texts, but also to produce their own short passages and short texts.

### Methods of Evaluation

Students are evaluated in the four language areas (speaking, listening, reading and writing) through quizzes, written and oral exams and class participation.

The final grade is determined as follows:

Attendance/Participation: 20%

Homework: 20%

Exams: 20%

Final Oral Interview Exam: 10%

Final Written Exam: 10%

Final Project and Oral Presentation: 20%

All homework assignments are due at the beginning of class and late assignments are not accepted. During the final week, students undergo an oral interview exam covering the depth and breadth of material covered throughout the summer. Individual interviews last approximately 15 minutes. Each student is required to present an original skit, individually or in a group, during the final week of classes. Vocabulary used in the skit is drawn from vocabulary previously covered in class.

### Primary Texts

CET course pack by Manal Yosef, Director of Arabic Curriculum, including primary source handouts, recordings and videos.

### Recommended Texts

*A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic* (Arabic-English) Hans Wehr. Ithaca, NY: Spoken Language Services, Inc., 1994

### Pace and Textbook Lessons Covered

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The pace of instruction is intensive. In addition to time in class, students will spend another three hours a week in a one-on-one setting with a language partner. Students should expect to spend a minimum of one hour studying on their own for every hour spent in the classroom.

Throughout the term, students cover the following topics and subjects:

- The alphabet and colloquial pronunciation of letters
- Simple phrases, pleasantries, and introductions
- Conjugation and usage of everyday verbs
- Construction of verbal and non-verbal sentences
- Asking questions
- Vocabulary for daily life situations such as expressing needs, getting to know someone and conducting basic conversation
- Visit the *souq*
- Question words and their answers as they relate to buying, selling and negotiating in the *souq* (vegetables, fruits, clothes, shoes, kitchen, and household goods)