

# CET Syllabus of Record

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

**Course Title:** Intensive Advanced Modern Standard Arabic (summer)

**Course Code:** ARI501

**Total Hours:** 72

**Recommended Credits:** 4

**Language of Instruction:** Arabic

**Prerequisites/Requirements:** ACTFL Advanced-Mid or Advanced-High level, final placement at discretion of academic director

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## Description

This course is offered to students who have completed approximately eight semesters of Arabic language study. Students should be comfortable reading and comprehending a variety of authentic Arabic materials in a reasonable time frame without use of a dictionary. Students should be capable of writing essays and compositions of significant length and complexity employing a full range of structures to address a variety of cultural topics. Students should understand news broadcasts and be capable of discussing advanced practical, social and professional topics with native speakers.

Driven by the concept of communicative proficiency and the goal of functional competency, this course fits the diglossic nature of the Arabic speech community. It is designed to build on the Arabic communicative language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing using a variety of vocabulary drills, grammar activities and conversation task assignments. It is an integrated course, including study of Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and Media Arabic. Although Colloquial Arabic (Jordanian dialect) is the focus of a separate course, overlap is encouraged in order to address the communicative functions the student will face in real-life situations. 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 focuses on reading, writing and listening presented in MSA. Speaking activities are conducted primarily in MSA, but integration of the Jordanian dialect is encouraged when appropriate (as used by a native speaker).

A communicative and student centered approach is used to guide students into the superior level of proficiency. The focus is on communicative competence and the completion of concrete tasks, both within the classroom and in the surrounding environment, including significant interaction with native Arabic speakers. Class sessions incorporate appropriate advanced level elements of print, digital and recorded media Arabic. All course material is derived from authentic Arabic sources. Students practice interactive functional skills such as listening comprehension and conversation strategies (linguistic and cultural) working to communicate as near-native speakers on a wide variety of subjects.

## Objectives

Upon successful completion, students:

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- Understand various aspects of Arab societies including literature, media and culture through advanced reading of authentic Arabic materials including poetry, short stories and novels
- Organize discourse appropriately using advanced vocabulary and some native cultural references to engage in a broad range of debates and discussions with native speakers
- Write research papers that are clearly organized of significant length and complexity
- Follow major news broadcasts and understand the detailed ideas
- Progress from the ACTFL Advanced-Mid or Advanced-High level to Superior level

### Course Expectations

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 advanced audio materials, memorizing new patterns and vocabulary, completing lengthy daily written assignments, reading primary source materials, activating new vocabulary and rhetorical structures during class through extended individual and group presentations. Attendance and participation are required and considered in the calculation of the final grade.

### 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. The final written exam is comprehensive and includes all vocabulary and grammatical structures covered during the semester.

Each student is required to present a twenty-minute in-class oral brief on the subject of his/her final project, a written paper of no less than 2500 words.

### Primary Texts

This course relies exclusively on primary sources. Students are exposed to Jordan-specific and regional materials in an effort to advance reading skills, increase vocabulary, refine use of various sentence constructions, and widen cultural background and understanding. All listening exercises are taken directly from authentic sources. Readings and vocabulary pertaining to out-of-class activities are integrated into the course curriculum. These materials are complex and lengthy. The following primary sources are used:

- الجزيرة

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- العربية
- جريدة البعث
- صحيفة الثورة
- الوكالة العربية السورية للأنباء
- قصص قصيرة
- روايات
- قصائد

### Recommended Texts

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

### Outline of Topics Covered

The pace of instruction is intensive. In addition, students should expect to spend a minimum of one hour studying on their own for every hour spent in the classroom.

Students reading comprehension and writing skills are refined by studying the following:

- المتلازمات اللفظية
- الأساليب النحوية
- أدوات الربط

Student writing assignments and oral presentations include the following forms:

- عرض لكتاب
- النقد و نقد أدبي
- الافتراض
- المقارنة
- الوصف
- السرد
- رسائل رسمية و غير رسمية
- بيان الرأي
- التحليل
- الاستنتاج
- الإقناع