

CET Syllabus of Record

Program: Intensive Arabic Language in Amman

Course Title: Intensive Advanced Beginning Jordanian Dialect (summer)

Course Code: AM/LANG 211

Total Hours: 56

Recommended Credits: 3

Language of Instruction: Arabic

Prerequisites/Requirements: ACTFL Intermediate-Low or Intermediate-Mid level. Final placement at discretion of Academic Director.



Description

This course is offered to students who have completed approximately four semesters of Arabic language study or more. Students should be comfortable with the fundamentals of MSA grammar and have a decent vocabulary base with which to conduct conversations of limited complexity. Jordanian dialect course hours are front-loaded to build a foundation of communicative competency upon students' arrival in Amman. After the first week, course hours taper to an average of 5 hours per week.

Driven by the concept of communicative proficiency and the goal of functional competency, CET Jordan treats Arabic language as one system of communication, guiding students to employ the appropriate register to perform a variety of real-life communicative functions. CET's Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and Jordanian dialect courses focus on their respective registers, however; overlap is encouraged in a way that mirrors the diglossic nature of the Arabic-speaking world.

The course employs a student-centered approach and focuses on communicative competence through the completion of concrete tasks, both in and outside the classroom, including interaction with native Arabic speakers. In order to prepare students for daily interactions with local people and engagement with contemporary Arab culture, class sessions incorporate elements of written and aural media produced for native speakers. Students practice interactive functional skills such as listening comprehension and conversation strategies, (linguistic and cultural) working to communicate effectively on an increasing range of subjects and integrate Jordanian dialect into their preexisting knowledge of MSA.

Objectives

Upon successful completion, students:

- Distinguish between MSA and Jordanian dialect, recognizing basic phonological, lexical and syntactic differences
- Understand simplified grammatical rules of Jordanian dialect
- Pronounce Jordanian dialect letters and words correctly and utilize high frequency phrases and words with ease
- Functionally use Jordanian dialect to communicate in daily life situations (airport, home, *souq*, taxi, doctor, restaurant)

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- Integrate MSA vocabulary base with Jordanian dialect to discuss more advanced topics/issues when sociolinguistically appropriate
- Correctly construct simple paragraphs
- Understand and use the three tenses (past, present, future)
- Utilize vocabulary in simple contexts with proper subject-verb agreement, adjective agreement and tenses

Course Requirements

The pace of instruction is intensive. Students are expected to thoroughly prepare for each class and to actively participate. 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. Class attendance is critical for success in the course, as is learning how to engage and navigate Jordan's cultural environment.

In addition to time in class, students should expect to spend a minimum of one hour studying for every hour spent in the classroom.

Methods of Evaluation

Students are evaluated on the four skills (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) through quizzes, skits, written and oral exams and class participation.

The final grade is determined as follows:

- Attendance/Participation: 20%
- Homework: 20%
- Exams and Quizzes: 30%
- Monthly Projects: 10%
- Final Oral Interview: 10%
- Final Skit: 10%

All homework assignments are due at the beginning of class and late assignments are not accepted. Quizzes and pop quizzes are administered throughout the term. Each month, students prepare a project connecting to the subjects and learning objectives covered that month. 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 create and record an original skit, individually or in a group, to be submitted to the instructor during the final week of classes. Vocabulary used in the skit is prepared and distributed to the class prior to performance.

Primary Texts

Lughati Al-'Arabiyya Part One by Manal Yosef, Academic Director (Forthcoming, 2019).

CET course pack including primary source handouts, recordings and videos

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Outline of Course Content

Topic 1- Culture of Daily Life in Jordan (2 weeks)

- Pronunciation and grammatical differences between MSA and Jordanian Arabic
- Vocabulary for daily life situations such as expressing needs, getting to know someone conducting basic conversation
- Question words and their answers as they relate to buying, selling and negotiating in the *souq* (vegetables, fruits, clothes, shoes, kitchen and household goods)
- Food discourse and restaurant etiquette
- Travel concerns, including taxis, directions, hotels, airports and customs

Topic 2- Expressing Complaints, Refusals, and Acceptances in a Culturally Appropriate Way (1 week)

- Using and negating past tense verbs
- Reporting basic problems/complaints
- Conjugating various pronouns and verbs
- Using transitive and intransitive verbs in sentences

Topic 3- Long Narration in the Present Tense (1 week)

- Using and negating present tense verbs
- Learning to discuss daily routine, using present tense verbs

Topic 4- Long Narration in the Future Tense and its Application (1 week)

- Using and negating future tense verbs
- Using and negating verbs with “to be”
- Listening to songs which focus on the previously studied topics
- Scenario in which the student encounters a problem in the airport

Topic 5- Various Descriptions from a Cultural Lens (2 weeks)

- Simple descriptions of physical and personality characteristics
- Using nominal and verbal sentences
- Pharmacy and doctor visits, pain and body parts
- Using verbs “*yak*, *tla’a*, and *khala*”
- Scenario in which the student makes a hotel reservation, and encounters a problem with the reservation

Topic 6- Finals Week (1 week)

- Final exams, presentations, and interview