

CET Syllabus of Record

Programs: Intensive Arabic Language in Amman, Middle East Studies and Internship in Amman

Course Title: Intensive Intermediate Jordanian Dialect (Fall/Spring)

Course Code: AM/LANG 260

Total Hours: 75

Recommended Credits: 4

Language of Instruction: Arabic

Prerequisites/Requirements: ACTFL Intermediate-High or Advanced-Low level in MSA. Final placement at discretion of Academic Director.

Description

This course is offered to students who have completed approximately four semesters of Modern Standard Arabic language study. 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:

- Productively integrate MSA and Jordanian dialect to discuss advanced topics/issues as sociolinguistically and culturally appropriate
- Incorporate cultural references, pertinent vernaculars, idioms, socio-cultural expressions and proverbs in the appropriate contexts
- Understand multiple aspects of Jordanian society as displayed through Jordanian television
- Utilize an expanded vocabulary with improved grammatical accuracy
- Correctly construct paragraphs of at least seven sentences with advanced connecting words
- Learn to create questions and answers, then advance to creating more advanced conversations
- Understand and use the three tenses (past, present, future)
- Utilize vocabulary in simple contexts with proper subject-verb agreement, adjective agreement and tenses

CET Syllabus of Record

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

The TV series *بقعة ضوء*, the series *لا تجيبوا السيرة*, the series *العلم نور*, the series *نهفات عيتنا*, various songs depending on current pop culture, each with instructor-prepared handouts detailing new vocabulary, idioms, and proverbs.

Supplementary Texts

Additional primary source handouts, recordings and videos

Outline of Course Content

Topic 1- Culture of Daily Life in Jordan (1 week)

- Identifying the differences between MSA and dialect
- Participating in activities present in daily routines that distinguish these linguistic differences

CET Syllabus of Record

Topic 2- Culture of Food, Addresses, and Parties (1 week)

- Learning how to use the present tense verb by describing their daily routines
- Familiarization with traditional Jordanian foods
- Directions to various locations in Jordan
- How to prepare for a party
- Cultural differences in these things between Jordanian and American cultures

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

- Learning narration in the past
- Describing travel using past tense verbs
- Describing first day of college or work using past tense verbs, stating how to commute to work

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

- Learning how to use the near future and far future tense verbs

Topic 5- Simple Description from a Cultural Lens (1 week)

- Describing physical and personality characteristics in people
- Describing various locations
- Cultural differences between the use of physical characteristics between Jordan and America

Topic 6- Building the Culture of Conversation (1 week)

- Creating an advanced conversation between two or more individuals, as well as questions and answers relating to the conversation, and connecting the conversation to personal topics
- Learning the customs, manners, and culture of conversation in Jordan

Topic 7- Application of Previous Topics and Lessons (1 week)

- Participating in intermediate-level scenarios such as creating conversations about places, describing housing or university, talking about restaurants and foods, describing markets, etc.

Topic 8- Viewing Jordanian Culture Through Comedic Shows (2 weeks)

- Watching 3 episodes of *في ميل*
- Watching 3 episodes of *لا تجيبوا السيرة*

Topic 9- Viewing Syrian Culture Through Comedic Shows (1 week)

- Watching 3 episodes of *بقعة ضوء*

Topic 10- Viewing Levantine Culture Through Popular Music (1 week)

- Listening to Arabic music

Topic 11- Viewing Cultural Criticism Through Shows (2 weeks)

- Watching 3 episodes of *العلم نور*
- Watching 3 episodes of *نهفات عيتنا*

CET Syllabus of Record

Topic 12- Finals Week (1 week)

- Final exams, presentations, and interview