



CET Syllabus of Record

Program: CET Jordan

Course Code / Title: (AM/LANG 360) Advanced Levantine Dialect

Total Hours: 56

Recommended Credits: 3

Primary Discipline / Suggested Cross Listings: Arabic Language / Culture Studies, Middle East Studies

Language of Instruction: Arabic

Prerequisites / Requirements: ACTFL Advanced-Mid level in MSA and Novice-High in any Arabic dialect, final placement at the discretion of academic director

Description

This course is open to students who demonstrate approximately advanced reading comprehension skills and a refined knowledge of sentence structure and the Arabic verb system. They can compose essays using the whole tenses (past, present, and future) and syntactic structures, and comprehend a variety of authentic Arabic materials within a normal range of speed. They understand the general ideas of news broadcasts intended for native speakers. 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.

The dialects of the Arabic language differ greatly from one another, even within dialect groups that have much in common like the Levantine dialects originating from Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and Jordan. Within the context of Amman, advanced speakers of Arabic require communicative proficiency in not only Jordanian Arabic, but also in the other Levantine dialects to interact with the diverse populations present in the city.

The course relies on MSA as the shared source for regional dialects and expands upon student knowledge through television, media, and social media from throughout the region of the Levant. The class also presents literature written in Levantine dialect and shines a light on several contemporary Arab bands that have dealt with taboos within society, politics and religion through their music, which is performed in their dialects. This course examines popular and religious expressions and proverbs, and places them in their religious, political, and economic contexts to build a deep understanding of the way the Levantine dialects have developed. Special attention is given to cultural and social themes which demonstrate the diversity of local perspectives and highlight the power dynamics that help shape them. The course handles some explicit or derogatory vocabulary with sensitivity to map the movement of ideas into language and cultural practice through a sociolinguistic lens.

Objectives

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Upon successful completion, students can:

- Discern differences and similarities between Jordanian and neighboring dialects
- Incorporate cultural references, pertinent vernaculars, idioms, socio-cultural expressions and proverbs from varying Levantine sub-dialects
- Understand salient aspects of regional culture through television programming from Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan
- Examine regional art, popular culture, and religious beliefs in context and extrapolate new vocabulary and build a linguistic understanding of how dialects develop and affect one another
- Comprehend speakers of Levantine sub-dialects in simple contexts

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 songs, watching TV programs, watching or reading plays, and giving impromptu oral presentations. Projects assigned throughout the term require students to synthesize information learned in class materials with their own research and interviews conducted with roommates, language partners and other locals, and present their findings to their classmates. With the help of their academic partners, students take turns leading a class session, dissecting an episode, song or proverb, and facilitating class discussion and analysis. Some assignments offer students the opportunity to engage in discussion with Jordanians via social media.

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 semester. Individual interviews last approximately 15 minutes. Each student is required to present as a recording 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.

Class attendance, as outlined in the CET Attendance Policy, 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. Field-based excursions, for which attendance is required, may include a cooking activity, café activity, and farm activity.

Grading

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:

Participation: 20%

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Homework: 20%
Exams and Quizzes: 30%
Monthly Projects: 10%
Final Oral Interview: 10%
Final Skit: 10%

Resources

Primary materials are selected from the following list.

TV shows

Boq'aa Dow'. "Berdaan." Season Fourteen. Directed by Seif Sheikh Najib. 2019.

بردان، بقعة ضوء، الجزء 14، المخرج سيف الشيخ نجيب، 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABvKJH1ES3A&list=RDQMsVjLp4cRiJA&index=1>

Boq'aa Dow'. "Vitaminat." Season Five. Directed by Fahad, Abed. Haju, Laith. Ta'ama, Naji. Sham Drama. Syria. 2001.

بقعة ضوء، المخرج عابد فهد والليث حجو وناجي طعمة، 2001، سورية، شام دراما فيتامينات، الجزء الخامس

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIVGv13_Sos

La Tjibu Seera. "Wida'a 'Aa'ily". Al Showaqfa, Mohammed. Jordanian Television. Jordan. 2001.

وداع عائلي، لاتجيبوا سيرة، محمد الشواقفة، 2001، الأردن، التلفزيون الأردني.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iTKxfQqWF5Q&list=PLJqtNQpqzxdEKz2HVbj5etZE6kKURKTg&index=5>

Al 'Ilm Noor. Season Three. Buqaily, Rafa'il. Roya Television. Jordan. 1985.

العلم نور، الجزء الثالث، مسلسل كامل، رفائيل بقبلي، 1985، الأردن، رؤيا والتلفزيون الأردني.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qd21vUUIGx8&list=PL1JqJUkeaiB65r3vuiO1K774kd2oehE8B>

Fi Mail. "Jarrah Tany". Season Three. Al Shomali, Teema. Roya Television. Jordan. 2014.

جرح تاني، الجزء الثالث، في ميل، تيما الشمولي، 2014، الأردن، رؤيا.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-rFEflq5DU8>

Youm Jadeed. Al Samadi, Juma; Al Yatam, Hussein; Al Juma'ani, Majid; Al Khawalda, Salem.

Jordanian Television. Jordan.

يوم جديد / (جمعة الصمادي، حسين اليثم، ماجد الجمعاني، سالم الخوالدة) - / الأردن / التلفزيون الأردني

Duniya Ya Duniya. Roya. Jordan. 2011.

--- / دنيا يا دنيا / --- / 2011 / الأردن / رؤيا

Plays

Al Showafqa, Mohammed. *Hayy Mowatun*. National Theater Troupe of Jordan. Jordan. 2012.

محمد الشواقفة، هاي مواطن، الأردن، فرقة المسرح الوطني الأردني، 2012

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6oRAGeqN6w>

Al Zo'abi, Ahmad Hassan. *Al'an Fehimtokom*. Kom Cinema. Jordan. 2011.

أحمد حسن الزعبي، الآن فهمتكم، الأردن، السينما. كوم، 2011.

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAn9X_xvRFw

Songs

Abou Fakher, Frias; Badr, Ibrahim; Gerges, Carl; Papazian, Haig; Sinno, Hamed. Meshrou' Leila. *Fasateen*. Be Roots.

(حامد سنو، فراس أبو فخر، هايغ بابازيان، كارل جرجس، إبراهيم بدر) / فساتين / مشروع ليلى / بي روتس

<https://youtu.be/6HqHdBIQEe8>

Additional Resources

TV Shows

Boq'aa Dow'. "Wa hayat Elli Khal'ak." Directed by Fahad, Amer. Haju, Laith. Ta'ama, Naji. Sham Drama. Syria. 2018.

وحياة اللي خلقك / بقعة ضوء / عامر فهد، الليث حجو، ناجي طعمة / 2018 / سوريا / شام دراما

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=%D8%A8%D9%82%D8%B9%D8%A9+%D8%B6%D9%88%D8%A1+%D9%88%D8%AD%D9%8A%D8%A7%D8%A9+%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%84%D9%8A+%D8%AE%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%82%D9%83

Taqaladu Hamish. "Arous Wa 'Arees." Directed by Mohammed Hasaki. Zein. Jordan. 2018.

عروس و عريس، تقلدو همش، إخراج محمد حسكي، إنتاج شركة الأردن وزين، 2018

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSdgS0x2bOY>

Songs

Abou 'Abdou, Nabil. *Bisaraha*. Julia Boutros. Online.

نبيل أبو عبدو / بصراحة / جوليا بطرس / --- / أونلاين

<https://youtu.be/ubLAuV1Ww-U>

Al Safi, Wadi'i. Sayegh, Georgette. *Ya Bou Mar'ai*. Online.

يا بو مرعي / وديع الصافي / --- / أونلاين

<https://youtu.be/Zy9b-2FVGI>

Blue, Luka. *Hashrab Hashish*. Do3 Souka. Online.

لوكا / هشرب حشيش / لوكا / --- / أونلاين

<https://youtu.be/DdVz2AaW4QQ>

Bou 'Asaaf, Mounir. *Intebih 'Ala Halak*. Wael Jissar. Arabica Music. Online.

منير بو عساف / انتبه ع الحالك / وائل جيسار / أرابيكا ميوزك / أونلاين

https://youtu.be/Mfi6tw_LjWw

Iskander, Fares. *Elbi 'Aal Yimeen*. Nader Al Atat. Artline. Online.

فارس اسكندر / قلبي عاليمين / نادر الاتات / ارت لاین / أونلاين

<https://youtu.be/P0ThrmEZFn8>

Kuweifaty, Samir. *Kithbak Helw*. Miyada Basilius. Sherika Sooriya Khasa. Online.

سمير كويفاتى / كذبك حلو / ميادة بسيليس / شركة سورية خاصة / أونلاين

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https://youtu.be/4_9zF5-P3Rw
Rahbani, 'Aasi. Rahbani, Mansour. *Hasayara Mish 'Am Timshy*. Fairouz. Virgin. Online.

عاصي + منصور الرحباني / هالسيارة مش عم تمشي / فيروز / فيرجن، إيمي / أونلاين

https://youtu.be/Vv_x2HBfSGs

Rahbani, 'Aasi. Rahbani, Mansour. *Tik Tik Ya Imm Sleiman*. Fairouz. Virgin. Online.

عاصي + منصور الرحباني / تك تك يا أم سليمان / فيروز / فيرجن، إيمي / أونلاين

https://youtu.be/aR9qjmd_40E

Rahbani, Elias. *Kulun 'Andun Siyarat*. Lila Television. UNESCO. Online.

إلياس الرحباني / كلن عندن سيارات / مجموعة من الأطفال / اليونيسف / أونلاين

<https://youtu.be/NDC1i0ky9y0>

Rahbani, Ghadi. *Al Rabi'a Al 'Arabi*. Heba Touji. Osama Rahbani. Online.

غدي الرحباني / الربيع العربي / هبة طوجي / أسامة الرحباني / أونلاين

<https://youtu.be/g93Jzxp9s>

Books

Yosef, Manal. *My Arabic Language, Level 1*. Publication forthcoming.

يوسف، منال. لغتي العربية المستوى 1

Outline of Course Content

During the semester, approximately two weeks are dedicated to each topic. In the summer term, topics are covered in one week at an accelerated pace.

Topic 1- Reviewing Dialect Basics

- Brainstorming about all the tasks necessary for students
- Getting used to area by discussing how to purchase items at the *souq* (fruits, vegetables, clothing), navigating the city (taxis and directions), clothing, descriptions
- Using past, present, and future tense verbs

Topic 2- The Art of Sarcasm

- Learning how to express sarcasm both directly and indirectly
- Watching episodes of لا تجيبوا السيرة

Topic 3- The Art of Jokes and Arabic Caricature

- Political, religious, cultural, and sexual jokes
- Humor and city-based/regional stereotypes
- Watching episodes of في ميل

Topic 4- The Art of Criticism and Responses to Criticism

- Freedom of expression
- The written and unwritten rules and boundaries of political, social, and cultural criticism
- Legal implications of dissent
- Exceptions to the rules
- Watching episodes of يوم جديد

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Topic 5- The Artful and the Insidious: Idioms and Popular Expressions

- Religious and cultural roots of common colloquialisms
- Bias, stereotypes, and prejudice in popular expressions
- Watching episodes of لا تجيبوا السيرة
- Watching episodes of دنيا يا دنيا

Topic 6- The Art of Comparison

- Learning complicated comparisons between two works of drama on religious, political, and social issues
- Watching the play هاي مواطن

Topic 7- Presenting Opinions in a Culturally Appropriate Way

- Power and the production of opinions in Jordanian and Arab societies
- Learning how to present one's opinion in various styles
- Viewing examples from TV shows

Topic 8- Presenting Assumptions in a Culturally Appropriate Way

- Learning how to present assumptions

Topic 9- Application of Learned Skills

- Reviewing previous topics
- Watching episodes of لا تجيبوا السيرة
- Watching episodes of رؤيا
- Watching episodes of في ميل