



مقرر اللغة العربية
أهلا وسهلا في صف اللغة العربية!

ARB 394- Colloquial Levantine Section 26048
Spring 2018

Instructor: Neimeh Mousa

Email: Neimeh.mousa@asu.edu

Class days: M W 1/8/2018 – 4/27/2018.

Class Time: 12:15 PM – 1:30 PM

Room: LL 109

Office Hours: M W 1:35 PM – 2:00 PM and T TH 1:20-2:00

Office: LL 172K

Congratulations in choosing to study Levantine Colloquial Arabic (LCA). This course is designed for native and non-native speakers who do have a good understanding of the structure standard Arabic. The course provides an introduction to (LCA), the Arabic

dialect spoken within a wide region of the Arab world, including: Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, and Syria. Students will learn the phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic particularities of LCA. Because Levantine Colloquial Arabic is mainly spoken rather than written, we will focus in speaking and revolve around scenarios that relate to everyday life and personal introductions. This course aids the student in understanding a limited set of introductory colloquial Arabic words as well as short phrases taught in the classroom. This class will help you improve your Arabic Levantine Colloquial language, gain confidence and develop your cultural competences!

Course Description:

The focus of the class is to expand your bilingual abilities by working on your all four skills: speaking, reading, listening and writing with more concentration on speaking. The students will achieve greater flexibility in their abilities in the Levantine through the course reading and listening activities, videos, class discussions, group work, written and oral presentations. The students will be able to understand a lot of colloquial Arabic words, passages, simple questions, and commands through repetition of common topics related to the surrounding environment.

Students in this course will learn new vocabulary related to daily life. They will be able to speak using very short phrases related to everyday needs. Some example topics that are typically covered in the course include acquaintances with daily activities such as shopping, food, going to the airport, giving directions....etc. Grammar will also be taught in this course as it relates to the above mentioned topics.

In addition to materials contained in the textbooks, there will be additional selected handouts provided by the teacher and websites designed to enhance the students' ability to read and speak the language continuously recommended by the teacher.

Course Introduction and Objectives:

At the end of the semester the students should be able to:

1. Recognize the differences between Modern Standard Arabic and different Arabic dialects such as Levantine. The students will understand some of the differences between formal and spoken Arabic.
2. Learn and understand the most common structures of colloquial Levantine. They will gain knowledge of the characteristics of colloquial language and how they are concretely manifested in the Arabic language.
3. Develop fundamental, basic conversation skills in Levantine Arabic with an emphasis on common everyday situations. They will talk about themselves, their friends, their families, their educations, and their personal interests.
4. Learn phonological particularities of the Levantine dialect to produce appropriate sounds. They will carry out basic transactions and tasks related to daily life and they will reflect on the basic mechanisms of colloquial language and the different factors which impact them.
5. Develop an awareness of major differences in pronunciation and usage among Jordanian, Lebanese, Palestinian, and Syrian speakers. They will hone listening comprehension skills in the Levantine dialect.
6. Become familiar with some very basic differences between Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and spoken Arabic dialects, particularly in terms of syntactic (grammatical) transformations. The students will write sentences and short paragraphs using grammar and vocabulary and show appreciation of the Arabic language in general.
7. Understand more cultural aspects of Levantine and other Arab communities in order to demonstrate appropriate sensitivity to basic courtesy requirements and be aware of the elements of their culture.
8. Confidence in linguistic and communicative abilities to interact with speakers and desire to pursue further study of the language.

Course Materials

- Shou fi ma fi? Intermediate Levantine Arabic. By Rajaa Chouairi , Mahdi Alish Editor. Yale University Press. New Heaven and London.
- In addition to materials contained in the textbooks, there will be additional selected handouts provided by the teacher.

Attendance and participation: Class attendance and participation are especially important. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Students are allowed to miss up to two classes with permission. Each absence after the third will result in reduction of the final grade for example from "A" to "B".

Tardiness: 3 = 1 absence, any 2 missed classes may affect your grade in this class. For any serious health or family problems, you should notify your instructor as soon as possible.

I encourage you to plan to be engaged. That is, in speaking, in participating in small group activities, in volunteering even if you are not sure of your abilities. Also, speaking Arabic as much as possible during class activities will affect your participation grade.

Homework: Homework: All homework assignments will be due immediately at the following date of assignment. It is expected that students will be diligent about turning homework in on time. Most homework assignments are online. All homework will be graded. Any homework that is not satisfactory should be redone and resubmitted, in order to have a better grade. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you have a good excuse. If you are absent, or you know you will be absent, you should contact the instructor if possible. **In order to have your homework graded, you should include your name, homework number and the due date of that assignment.**

Quizzes & Final Exam: There will be short quizzes (10 minutes) every now and then. You will have two exams and the final to test your vocabulary, grammar, and concepts that you have learned in class and at home. They are a way to assure that you are keeping up, as well as a means to reinforce subjects covered in a given week.

Oral Proficiency Test: Each student will be evaluated through an interview with his/her instructor on their listening comprehension, their ability to respond intelligibly and accurately to the questions generated by their instructor.

Students should demonstrate their mastery of the vocabulary, grammatical structures, and cultural knowledge they have acquired over the semester. These individual oral proficiency tests will be scheduled during the final week of the class.

Group Presentation: There will be an oral presentation, which will be scheduled at a time convenient to students and instructor. All the presentation should be in colloquial Levantine Arabic. Students will work in pairs or small groups to prepare an oral presentation, which they will deliver to their classmates and be graded on. Your presentation should be between 5-10 min per group. It will be about a cultural topic or a famous person that you admire or want to learn more about him/her. You can pretend that you are that celebrity. You must creatively engage the rest of the class in a dialogue with the persona you are playing

1) Group members, as cultural informants, will prepare and present to the class, essential information on their selected topic.

2) On your day of presentation, make sure everything is in working order (computer or VHS/ DVD player, overhead etc) before class starts. Discussion or other related activity must follow or accompany your presentation.

3) You can use a PowerPoint if you wish. At the bottom of your PowerPoint file, provide references of:

a) Two websites on your topic

b) Two reading list of journals in your topic area

c) Two pertinent video titles

4) This is a cooperative endeavor and all group members are required to participate equally and together in the preparation and presentation. Non-participants in the planning will lose points. Report non-participants to the instructor by email. Plan before your presentation so you are not in front of the class debating or deciding what to say and who should say what. Remember; inadequate preparation leads to poor presentation which leads to loss of points. There is no set format for your presentation. Please be creative in your discussion leading and activity/ presentation but make sure you cover all

requirements above. Make the activity/ presentation interactive and engage all members of the class in discussion and interaction.

For PowerPoint presentations, please project only outline or important facts that you are going to talk about. Keep your notes off the overhead. Also, do not read to us except where a direct quote is necessary. Regardless of the presentation mode(s), be sure to make the activity/ presentation interactive with ample opportunity for discussions and interactions.

Please make sure you do not use just stand around during your time while students are discussing or involved in activities, be involved!

Classroom Rules

- **Turn your cell phones off** before entering the class. Using cell phones would result in going one grade down, from A to B.
- **Audio/Video taping** of the class is not allowed without a written permission from the instructor.
- **Email Etiquette:** In the Arabic culture, communication with professors is formal and courteous. When emailing your professors, always greet using Arabic greetings and address them respectfully, mention your name and your class level, time and don't forget to sign your email. Lack of courtesy is lack of respect, and emails lacking proper decorum will not be answered.
- Talk to me before you withdraw from class, I might be able to help.
- If you have questions regarding certain problems, make every effort to take an appointment or email me.

Grading Scheme

In-class participation & Attendance: 15 %

Homework & Assignments: 35 %

Quizzes and Exams: 40 %

Presentation: 10 %

Grading Scale

98-100: A+

94-97: A

90-93: A-

60-69: D

87-89%: B+

84-86%: B

80-83%: B-

Less than 60: E

77-79: C+

74-76: C

70-73: C-

Rubric for Evaluation of Class Participation

"A" student (90 - 100%)	Initiates interaction, volunteers and participates actively in discussions and group activities. Uses only Levantine Arabic for asking/answering questions, in class discussions and group activities. Is always prepared, answers readily when called upon.
-------------------------	--

“B” student (80 - 89%)	Participates actively in group activities, but passively in discussions. Occasionally resorts to English, but only uses Levantine Arabic for asking/answering questions, in group activities and class discussions. Is almost always prepared, usually answers when called upon.
“C” student (70 - 79%)	Participates more passively than actively in group activities and discussions. Often resorts to English and is often not prepared for class, sometimes unable to answer.
“D” student (60 - 69%)	Rarely participates in group activities and class discussions, generally is unprepared for class. Speaks mostly English and is mostly unable to answer.
“E” student (0-59%)	Fails to engage in classroom activities, lacks any preparation for class, uses only English and unable to answer any questions.

University/College Policies

Students with Disabilities

Students who are registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) must submit appropriate documentation if they are requesting reasonable accommodations. DRC: <http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc/>

Course / Instructor Evaluation

The course/instructor evaluation for this course will be conducted online 7-10 days before the last official day of classes of each semester. Response(s) to the course/instructor are anonymous and will not be returned to your instructor until after grades have been submitted. The use of a course/instructor evaluation is an important process that allows our college to (1) help faculty improve their instruction, (2) help administrators evaluate instructional quality, (3) ensure high standards of teaching, and (4) ultimately improve instruction and student learning over time. Completion of the evaluation is not required for you to pass this class and will not affect your grade, but your cooperation and participation in this process is critical. About two weeks before the class finishes, watch for an e-mail with "ASU Course/Instructor Evaluation" in the subject heading. The email will be sent to your official ASU e-mail address, so make sure ASU has your current email address on file. You can check this online at the following URL: <http://www.asu.edu/epoupdate/>.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism

The ASU Student Handbook contains the following information: “The highest standards of academic integrity are expected of all students. The failure of any student to meet these standards may result in suspension or expulsion from the

university and/or other sanctions as specified in the academic integrity policies of the individual academic unit. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, cheating, fabrication, tampering, plagiarism, or facilitating such activities. The university and unit academic integrity policies are available from the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost of the University and from the deans of the individual academic units.” The rest of the code, which consists of several pages, is available at the following URL.

http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/academic_integrity.htm.

Religious Accommodations for Students

Students who need to be absent from class due to the observance of a religious holiday or participate in required religious functions must notify the faculty member in writing as far in advance of the holiday/obligation as possible. Students will need to identify the specific holiday or obligatory function to the faculty member. Students will not be penalized for missing class due to religious obligations/holiday observance. The student should contact the class instructor to make arrangements for making up tests/assignments within a reasonable time.

Military Personnel Statement

A student who is a member of the National Guard, Reserve, or other U.S. Armed Forces branch and is unable to complete classes because of military activation may request complete or partial administrative unrestricted withdrawals or incompletes depending on the timing of the activation. For information, please see:

<http://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/usi/usi201-18.html>

Proposed Study Schedule

Week 1 starting January 8th

Class Introductions, syllabus

Lesson 1 (وين درست العربي؟)

Week 2 Starting January 15th (Monday 15th no school Martin Luther King)

Lesson 1 (وين درست العربي؟)

Week 3 starting January 22nd

Lesson 2 (مين أنا؟)

Week 4 starting January 29th

Lesson 3 (شو عمبتعمل؟)

Week 5 starting February 5th

Lesson 3 (شو عمبتعمل؟)

Lesson 4 (شو بدك تاخدي)

Week 6 starting February 12th

Lesson (شو بدك تاخدي).

Week 7 Starting February 19th

Exam 1

Lesson 5 (شريعة بيت ولا خناقة)

Week 8 Starting February 26th

Lesson 5 (شريعة بيت ولا خناقة؟)

Lesson 6 (شو في ما في؟)

March 5-9 Spring Break

Week 9 Starting March 12th

Lesson 6 (شو في ما في؟)

Lesson 7 (وين بيصير البيت؟)

Week 10 Starting March 19th

Lesson 8 (أهلا و سهلا فيك)

Week 11 Starting March 26th

Exam 2

Lesson 9 (أهلا و سهلا فيك)

Week 12 Starting April 2nd

Lesson 10 (عندي حجز)

Week 13 Starting April 9th

Lesson 11 (راسها عم ببيو جعها)

Week 14 Starting April 16th

Presentations

Week 15 Starting April 23rd

Presentations

Review

**Last day of classes is April 27th.
Final Exams are April 30th to May 5th.**

This schedule is only a guideline and might be changed for reasons decided by the instructor. Do your best to be in class to know of any changes.