

ARABIC 412 Colloquial Arabic II

Instructor: Dr. Joseph Zeidan
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Class schedule: MW 1:30 – 3:18
Class Location:
Class number:
Credit: U 5

Prerequisite: Arabic 411

Description

Continued study of the phonology and grammar of the everyday spoken language used in the Eastern Arab world.

Rationale

It has long been observed that Arabic usage exemplifies the sociolinguistic condition known as **diglossia**. Simply stated, diglossic speech communities have a High (i.e., literary or standard) variety that is very prestigious and a Low (i.e., colloquial or dialectal) variety with no official status which are in complementary distribution with each other; for instance the High variety might be used for literary and formal discourse and the Low variety for ordinary conversation and routine daily transactions. Arabic instruction at Ohio State focuses primarily on teaching Modern Standard Arabic, because this is the form of the language used by educated Arabic speakers throughout the Arab world. This course, however, will focus on teaching a widely used colloquial variety of Arabic, because this is the language used “on the ground.”

Expected Learning Outcomes

There are roughly four major dialect groups, a) Maghrebi (Morocco, Algeria, Tunis and western Libya), b) Egyptian (eastern Libya, Egypt and the Sudan), c) Levantine (Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine) and d) the Arabic of the Arabian Peninsula and Persian Gulf (Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE and Kuwait).

This course is the continuation of the course Arabic 411. Like its precursor, the course focuses on spoken Levantine rather than written Modern Standard Arabic, and will therefore target primarily the oral/aural skills, speaking and listening. By the end of this course, student skills of narration will be developed by means of describing past events and daily activities; placing themselves and others in time and space; giving directions; and expressing facts, desires, hopes, obligations, and future plans.

Student evaluation:

Class Presentation:	20%	(topic to be selected in consultation with the instructor)
Class Participation:	20%	
Quizzes (2)	10%	
Midterm Examination:	20%	
Final Examination:	30%	

Grading scale:

A (94-100) A- (90-93) B+ (87-89) B (83-86) B- (80-82) C+ (77-79) C (73-76) C- (70-72) D+ (67-69) D (63-66) D- (60-63) F (below 60)

Required Text and Audio materials (available from SBX):

Rice, Frank & Majed Sa'id, *Eastern Arabic with MP3 Files*. Washington, DC : Georgetown University Press, 2005.

SYLLABUS

- Week One** Introduction to the course
Rice and Sa'id, Unit 16: Buying Fruits and Vegetable
MP3 Files: Vegetables; Fruits; Meat and Fish; Collective Nouns; Unit Expressions
- Week Two** Rice and Sa'id, Unit 17: Invalids
Rice and Sa'id, Unit 18: A Political Figure
MP3 Files: *Nisbe* Adjectives and Nouns; Ordinal Numbers
- Week Three** Rice and Sa'id, Unit 19: Friends; Higher Numbers
Rice and Sa'id, Unit 20: A Radio Station-1
MP3 Files: Strict Agreement; Deflected Agreement; Relative Sentences with ('i) *lli*; Relative Sentences without ('i) *lli*
Four class presentations by students
(5 minutes each)
- *** Quiz # 1** (date)
- Week Four** Rice and Sa'id, Unit 21: A Radio Station – 2
Rice and Sa'id, Unit 22: Filling out Applications
MP3 Files: The Comparative; Comparative after *maa*
Months of the Year; Occupations and Professions;
Connective *maa*
Four class presentations by students
(5 minutes each)
- Week Five** Rice and Sa'id, Unit 23: Goods and Services
MP3 Files: At the Hotel; With the Maid; At the Barbar's;
At the Post Office; Active Participle of simple Verbs;
Active Participle of Complex Verbs
- *** Midterm Examination** (date)

Week Six Rice and Sa'id, Unit 24: From New York to Beirut
Rice and Sa'id, Unit 25: The Program of the New Cabinet –
MP3 Files: Passive Participle of Simple Verbs; Passive Participle of Complex Verbs; Verbal Forms: Form 1 Verbs; Verbal Forms: Form 11 Verbs
Four class presentations by students
(5 minutes each)

Week Seven Rice and Sa'id, Unit 26: The Program of the New Cabinet
MP3 Files: Verbal Forms: form 111 Verbs; Verbal Forms: Form 1V Verbs; Verbal Forms: Form V Verbs; Verbal Forms: Form VI Verbs
Four class presentations by students
(5 minutes each)

***** Quiz # 2 (date)**

Week Eight Rice and Sa'id, Unit 27: Telephone Conversations
Rice and Sa'id, Unit 28: A Juha Story
MP3 Files: Mr. Batte; Mr. Haddad; Maid; Mr. Key; Maid; Mr. Black; Khalil; Operator; Mr. Oakes; Secretary; Mr. Batte; Secretary; Read at Normal Speed
Four class presentations by students
(5 minutes each)

Week Nine Rice and Sa'id, Unit 29: A Village
Rice and Sa'id, Unit 30: Going Home
MP3 Files: An Invitation; In the Village; The Headman; Pattern Sentences
Four class presentations by students
(5 minutes each)

Week Ten General Review

*****Final Examination (date)**

Attendance Policy

Since colloquial Arabic is by definition not a written language, attending class in order to benefit from speaking and listening drills, dialogs, and conversational exchanges is essential to doing well in this course. Since things do come up (illness, family issues, other commitments), a student may be absent **two times** without penalty. After those two absences, each additional unexcused absence will lower the overall grade, up to 5% per unexcused absence. After two absences, the instructor must be informed **by email** if there is a need to miss class, preferably ahead of time. If a student is ill for a significant

period of time, or has other reasons that prevent her/him from attending class, please inform the instructor as soon as possible.

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct

(http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp).

Disability Services

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901;

<http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>