

Intermediate Colloquial and Modern Standard Arabic

4 credit hours

Dr. Lior Laks

Course Description and Goals

This course is a direct continuation of “Introduction to Colloquial and Modern Standard Arabic”. Students will acquire more vocabulary and more knowledge of fundamental grammatical topics in order to attain a higher level of communication.

Focus will be on texts that will introduce the relevant vocabulary and grammatical topics. Students will also practice reading and translating different types of texts using a dictionary.

Course requirements

- Assignments and class participation (10%)
- Weekly quizzes (oral and written) (15%)
- Final Exam (oral and written) (75%)

Selected References

Note that the course does not follow a specific book but is based on various sources, including the following:

Abboud, P.F. and E.N. Markus (eds.). 1983. *Elementary Modern Standard Arabic*. Cambridge University Press.

Brustad, K., Al-Batal, M. and Al-Tonsi, A. 2004. *Alif Baa with DVDs: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*. Georgetown University Press.

Elihay, J. 2004. *To Speak Arabic*. Miverva.

McLooughlin, L. 1982/2009. *Colloquial Arabic (Levantine). The Complete Course for Beginners*. Routledge.

Othman, O. 2008. *Let's Speak Arabic*. Al-Quds University.

Younes, M. 2006. *Living Arabic: A Comprehensive Introductory Course*. Language Resource Center, Cornell University.

Advanced Colloquial and Modern Standard Arabic

Michael Guggenheimer

Course Description and Goals

The Arabic language consists of a number of varieties: Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), which is the official language of 26 states and used mainly in written texts and formal settings, and various dialects of colloquial Arabic, one of which is the native language of every Arab. This course is intended for graduates of TAU International's intermediate course in Arabic, or any students who have a basic knowledge of the Arabic verbal and nominal systems.

It teaches the irregular verb, some adverbial constructions, and complex sentences. The goal of this course is to familiarize students with irregular verbs and compound and complex Arabic sentences, and provide a more advanced vocabulary in MSA. At the end of the course students will be able to read and understand simple news items and other simple texts with the help of a dictionary. In addition the course will teach basic elements of Palestinian colloquial Arabic.

Students will be trained to acquire the following skills:

1. Intermediate grammar and vocabulary of MSA.
2. Reading and translating simple MSA texts.
3. Simple conversations in colloquial Arabic.

Emphasis is on basic reading comprehension skills in MSA.

Each session (four academic hours) will consist of three main elements: (i) MSA – learning and practicing aspects of MSA grammar; (ii) Reading texts in MSA; (iii) simple conversations in colloquial Arabic.

Grading system

Homework and class participation 30%

Final exam 70%

Selected References

The course does not follow a specific book but is based on various sources, including the following:

Abboud, P.F. and E.N. Markus (eds.). 1983. Elementary Modern Standard Arabic. Cambridge University Press.

Abu-Chacra, Faruk. 2004. Arabic around the World: Grammar and Exercises. Ammatour Press, Finland.

McManus, Ernest, H. Kafisheh and R. Rammuni. 1978. A Course in Levantine Arabic. Department of Near Eastern Studies, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Piamenta, Moshe. 1968. Dabber 'Arvit: An Introduction to the Spoken Arabic of Palestine. Maariv Publishing House, Tel-Aviv.