

## Amideast Education Abroad Programs

### ARAB 116: Colloquial Tunisian Arabic Syllabus

**Program Location:** Tunis, Tunisia

**Credit Hours:** 1 Credit Hour

**Term and Year:**

#### **Aims and Objectives of the Course:**

Students are introduced to the alphabet, words, expressions, and structures used frequently in everyday life. Students will also be introduced to the cultural context of Colloquial Tunisian Arabic and the differences/similarities between Modern Standard Arabic and Colloquial Tunisian Arabic. Students will practice Tunisian Arabic in class and will have opportunities to engage with Tunisian culture.

This course aims to help students reach a level where they can successfully handle a limited number of uncomplicated communicative tasks in Tunisian Arabic in straightforward social situations. Conversation in this course focuses on real life exchanges with locals on common topics key to survival in the target language and culture. These topics relate to basic personal information covering, for example, oneself and family, some daily activities, and personal preferences.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

By the completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Converse on introductory and basic daily topics with native speakers.
- Narrate and read simple language (e.g., street and shop signs, menus, text messages).
- Utilize some of the basic structures of Colloquial Tunisian Arabic.
- Ask basic questions and understand the responses.
- Express basic facts and opinions in simple sentences.

#### **Knowledge:**

This course is designed to assist the students in acquiring and demonstrating knowledge about:

- Essential vocabulary in the local dialect.
- Basic grammatical forms in the local dialect.
- Culturally appropriate usage of the local dialect.

#### **Skills:**

This course is designed to assist students in acquiring or enhancing the following skills:

- Successfully handling a variety of basic communicative tasks and social situations in Colloquial Tunisian Arabic.
- Conversing about a variety of basic and social needs.
- Understanding some of the differences between formal and spoken Arabic.

**Attitudes:**

This course is designed to encourage development of the following attitudes:

- Appreciation of the Arabic language in general.
- Cultural awareness of appropriate behaviour and colloquial Tunisian Arabic phrases in various social situations.
- Confidence in linguistic and communicative abilities to interact with native speakers.
- Desire to pursue further study of the language.

**Required Texts:**

1. *Alif Baa Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds*, Third Edition, by Kristin Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, and Abbas Al-Tonsi
2. Supplemental materials selected by program faculty.

**Evaluation and Assessment –****Attendance and Participation (40%):**

Students are expected to attend all regularly scheduled classes and come prepared to participate fully in class activities. Students are further expected to be on time for all classes. Arriving late for class is disrespectful of both the instructor and fellow students. Beyond being in class on time, expectations of student engagement that are accounted for in this portion of the grade include both quality and quantity: full involvement in in-class exercises, class discussions, active listening and asking questions, and proactively seeking additional help if needed.

**For more on the attendance policy, please see the policy posted in the online course and on the Absence request site on the Student Portal.**

**Assignments (20%):**

There will be daily assignments due at the beginning of class on the day assigned by the instructor. Late homework assignments may be checked by the instructor but will not be given any credit. Students are encouraged to study and work on homework assignments together. Students should follow up on any instructor comments on the homework. It is the students' responsibility to come to office hours to see their instructors when questions arise.

**Quizzes (20%):**

There will be two oral quizzes (10% each).

**Final Presentation (20%):**

The final presentation will be on day 5 of the course.

**Course Schedule:**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Lesson Description</b>	<b>Homework Assignments/Materials</b>
<b>Session 1</b>	3 contact hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Greetings and Introductions</li><li>- Alphabet basics</li></ul>	Assigned exercise
<b>Session 2</b>	3 contact hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Key Differences/Similarities of MSA and Tunisian Arabic</li><li>- Getting around</li><li>- Review: Alphabet and Introductions</li></ul>	Assigned exercise
<b>Session 3</b>	3 contact hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Daily Schedules</li><li>- Numbers and Money</li><li>- Review</li></ul>	<b>Quiz:</b> Alphabet
<b>Session 4</b>	3 contact hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- At the Restaurant</li><li>- Families and Holidays</li><li>- Review</li></ul>	<b>Quiz:</b> Introducing Yourself
<b>Session 5</b>	3 contact hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Program-specific vocabulary</li><li>- Review</li></ul>	<b>Final Presentation to the Class in Tunisian Arabic</b>