

**ARAB 140: Colloquial Moroccan Arabic IB  
Syllabus****Credit Hours:** 1 credit**Program Location:** Rabat, Morocco**Course Description:**

This course is intended for students who have no previous experience with Moroccan dialect and possess an intermediate to advanced proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic. Students are introduced to a range of vocabulary, expressions, and grammar structures used frequently in the local environment. This course aims to help students reach a level where they are able to navigate a number of communicative tasks in colloquial Arabic in straightforward social situations. Conversation in this course focuses on real life exchanges with host country nationals on common topics key to functioning in the target language and culture. Some example topics that are typically covered in this course include introducing oneself in-depth, food and drinks, habits, hobbies, and directions and places. Grammar will also be taught in this course as it relates to the above mentioned topics. By the end of the course, students are able to ask questions and understand the responses, express facts and opinions in simple sentences, and engage in conversations in colloquial Arabic with native speakers. This course builds on vocabulary and concepts studied in previous Arabic courses which allows for quicker progression with the colloquial dialect.

**Learning Outcomes**

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

- Communicate and function competently, confidently, and independently in most Arabic language situations.
- Converse about variety of topics with greater breadth and accuracy.
- Utilize all of the basic structures of colloquial Arabic.
- Interact and communicate with native speakers on issues related to daily life and some more complicated topics of personal interest.
- Participate in social interactions, with sensitivity to cultural issues.
- Understand a wide variety of colloquial Arabic vocabulary and proverbs.

**Knowledge**

This course is designed to assist the students to acquire and demonstrate knowledge about:

- Vocabulary in the local dialect at an advanced level, including both the vocabulary used in daily interactions with native speakers as well as the terminology associated with academic study.
- The grammatical forms of the local dialect at an advanced level.
- Culturally sensitive usage of language in all situations.

**Skills**

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

- Recognition and application of subtle communication techniques used by native speakers.

- Comprehension of segments on Arabic radio and television programs that use both Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and colloquial Arabic such as interviews, short lectures on familiar topics, news items, and reports primarily dealing with factual information.
- Confidently presenting in colloquial Arabic on topics of interest.
- Understanding main ideas and most details of connected discourse on a variety of topics.

### Attitudes

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

- Appreciation of the Arabic language in general.
- Cultural awareness of appropriate behavior and colloquial 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. Locally produced materials, selected by program faculty
2. Selected materials from a variety of authentic media (e.g. newspapers, internet)

### Assessment Overview

Description	Weight	Due Date
Engagement	25%	Continuous
Assignments	25%	Continuous
Quizzes	25%	Quiz 1: Week 2, Tuesday Quiz 2: Week 3, Friday Quiz 3: Week 4, Friday
Final Exam	25%	Week 5, Tuesday

### Attendance and Engagement

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.

#### *Overview of Attendance Policy*

For Modern Standard Arabic, students are allowed to miss only 4 contact hours (1 full day of instruction) unexcused before their overall grade is reduced. A student's grade for the course will be lowered by one "mark" for each additional unexcused absence (2 contact hours is equal to one absence). Being absent for more than 4 contact hours will result in one letter grade deduction from the student's final grade for every 2 hours of unexcused absence beyond the allowed limit. In other words, if a student misses an additional 2 hours of instruction (for a total of 6 hours of unexcused absences) an "A" will become "A-", after 8 total hours of unexcused absence an "A" becomes a "B+"; after 10 total hours of unexcused absence an "A" becomes a "B", etc.; etc.

For Colloquial Arabic, students are allowed to miss only 2 contact hours unexcused before their overall grade is reduced. A student's grade for the course will be lowered by one "mark" for each additional unexcused absence (1 contact hour is equal to one absence). Being absent for more than 2 contact hours will result in

one letter grade deduction from the student's final grade for every 1 hour of unexcused absence beyond the allowed limit. In other words, if a student misses an additional 1 hour of instruction (for a total of 3 hours of unexcused absences) an "A" will become "A-", after 4 total hours of unexcused absence an "A" becomes a "B+"; after 5 total hours of unexcused absence an "A" becomes a "B", etc.; etc.

An unexcused absence is one not caused by illness or otherwise not approved by AMIDEAST staff. An excused absence means written approval from the Program Manager (and sometimes a doctor) justifying the absence. Arriving late to class may also count towards an absence.

The engagement grade will depend on both the quality and the quantity of student's comments and questions and shall account for a portion of the total course grade.

### *Summary of Attendance Policy*

1. Three occurrences of tardiness are equivalent to one unexcused absence; each subsequent instance of tardiness is considered an additional unexcused absence.
2. Students are expected to do the required reading before class, volunteer for presentations and participate actively in class discussions.
3. Excused absences are determined by the lead AMIDEAST staff member; in some instances a doctor's certification may be required.
4. Deadlines must be respected, even in cases of excused absences.
5. Students are responsible for getting homework assignments they miss and submitting it in a timely manner. Assignments turned in after the due date will result in a penalty to be determined by the instructor.
6. Any assignments not submitted will result in that assignment being given a grade of 0 (zero).
7. The Attendance Policy is applied until the last day of the program.

### **Assignments**

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:** There will be three oral quizzes, which will last about 10 minutes each.

**Final Exam:** The final examination will cover material studied during session 1.

### **Grading Scale**

Numerical	Grade	Basic Grade Point	Grade Range
93-100	A	4.0	3.86-4.00
90-92	A-	3.7	3.46-3.85
87-89	B+	3.3	3.16-3.45
83-86	B	3.0	2.86-3.15
80-82	B-	2.7	2.46-2.85
77-79	C+	2.3	2.16-2.45
73-76	C	2.0	1.86-2.15
70-72	C-	1.7	1.36-1.85
60-69	D	1.0	0.51-1.35
Below 60	F	0.0	0.00-0.50

### Course Schedule

Date	Activity	Homework assignments	Exams
<b>Week 1, Thursday</b>	<b>Greetings and courtesies</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saying hello</li> <li>Presenting yourself</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subject pronouns</li> <li>Yes / no questions</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	
<b>Week 1, Friday</b>	<b>Greetings and courtesies</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presenting others</li> <li>Family Members</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gender: (fem.- masc. nouns)</li> <li>Possessive pronouns</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	

<b>Week 2, Monday</b>	<b>Restaurant</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Giving orders</li> <li>• Drinks</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definite article / Nationalities</li> <li>• Numbers</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	
<b>Week 2, Tuesday</b>	<b>The weather</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seasons &amp; adjectives</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WH questions</li> <li>• Plurals</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	Quiz 1
<b>Week 2, Wednesday</b>	<b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food (breakfast, lunch, dinner)</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrative adjectives</li> <li>• Demonstrative Pronouns</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	
<b>Week 2, Thursday</b>	<b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call a cousin / help / friend</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjectives</li> <li>• Present tense</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	
<b>Week 2, Friday</b>	<b>The weather</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I like summer</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The possessive word "dya"</li> <li>• The construct phrase (Idaafa)</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	
<b>Week 3, Monday</b>	<b>Shopping for food and drinks</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shopping at different stores</li> <li>• Visiting a weekly sook</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflexive verbs (to please, to like)</li> <li>• Past tense</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	

<b>Week 3, Tuesday</b>	<b>Shopping for food and drinks</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparing a Moroccan Tajine</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pronouns with prepositions &amp; verbs</li> <li>Measures (Kg., g., l...)</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	
<b>Week 3, Wednesday</b>	<b>Excursion to Fez and Volubilis</b>	No Class	
<b>Week 3, Thursday</b>	<b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I like / dislike</li> <li>Desire &amp; wishes</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The possessive word "dya"</li> <li>The construct phrase (Idaafa)</li> <li>Numbers: continuous</li> </ul>	Prepare for the quiz	
<b>Week 3, Friday</b>	<b>The weather</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My favorite weather</li> <li>How is the weather in your city?</li> <li></li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nominal sentences</li> <li>Present tense</li> </ul>		<b>Quiz 2</b>
<b>Week 4, Monday</b>	<b>Daily Activities</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Telling time</li> <li>My favorite hobby</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Past tense (regular verbs)</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	
<b>Week 4, Tuesday</b>	<b>Daily Activities</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daily activities</li> <li>The week activities</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Negating Present tense (regular verbs)</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	



<b>Week 4, Wednesday</b>	<b>Directions &amp; Places</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where is my pen...?</li> <li>Locations of cities</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepositions (في - على - من - مع ... - بين)</li> <li>Conjunctions (باش، ولكن، قبل ... (ما، غير، و خا</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	
<b>Week 4, Thursday</b>	<b>Directions &amp; Places</b> <b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading / drawing a map</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future tense</li> <li>present tense (regular &amp; irregular verbs)</li> </ul>	Assigned Exercise	
<b>Week 4, Friday</b>	<b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expressing wishes and desires</li> <li>Cultural expressions</li> </ul> <b>Grammar:</b> Present & Past tense ( <b>Review</b> )	Prepare for the exam	Quiz 3
<b>Week 5, Monday</b>	<b>Speaking &amp; listening:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review</li> <li>Review</li> </ul>	Prepare for the exam	
<b>Week 5, Tuesday 11:30am-12:30pm</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>		Final Exam
<b>Week 5, Wednesday MCA Reflection: 10:45-11:45am</b>	<b>Reflection Day</b> (for students that are only doing Session 1. Students also doing Session 2 are off this day)		