

**AMIDEAST Education Abroad Programs**  
**Arabic 310: Colloquial Moroccan Arabic III**

**Credit Hours:** 1 credit

**Program Location:** Rabat, Morocco

**Course Description**

By the end of the course, students are able to ask questions and understand the responses, express facts and opinions in complex sentences, and engage in conversations in colloquial Arabic with native speakers about a wide range of topics, both academic and non-academic.

Students will strengthen their all-around fluency and conversational skills in a wide range of daily situations and common tasks, whether in the home, school, markets, workplace and leisure activities, as well as to events of current, public, and personal interest. Students will also learn to converse and describe all major time frames (past, present, and future) as well as to contribute to conversations on a variety of familiar topics, with a high degree of accuracy, clarity and precision.

This course aims also to make students readily understood by native speakers unaccustomed to dealing with non-natives and able to state an opinion or cite conditions. This course builds on words and concepts studied in the students' MSA classes and allows for more practice using the local dialect, therefore students with a strong background in Modern Standard Arabic are introduced to vocabulary, expressions, and structures used frequently in everyday life. Students practice them in class before they are given assignments to carry out with native speakers in real situations. Evaluation combines performance in class and successful interaction with native speakers. Reading and writing are not the primary focus of the class.

**Learning Objectives**

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 more complicated topics of personal interest
- Participate in social interactions, with sensitivity to cultural issues
- Use 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.

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## Skills

This course is designed to assist students in enriching the following skills:

- Ability to recognize and use subtle communication techniques used by native speakers
- Ability to follow segments of Arabic radio and television programs that use both Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and colloquial Arabic such as interviews, short lectures on familiar topics and news items and reports primarily dealing with factual information
- Ability to confidently give presentations in colloquial Arabic on topics of interest
- Ability to understand main ideas and most details of connected discourse on a variety of topics

## Attitudes

This course helps develop the following attitudes:

- Appreciation of the Arabic language in general
- Cultural awareness to behave appropriately and use the proper 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

## Course Materials

1. Locally produced materials, selected by program faculty
2. Selected materials from a variety of authentic media (e.g. newspapers, internet)

## Evaluation and assessment

Description	Weight	Due Date
Attendance and Engagement	20%	Continuous
Assignments	25%	Continuous
Quizzes	30%	Quiz 1: Week 2 Quiz 2: Week 3 Quiz 3: Week 4
Presentations	10%	• <u>Presentation 1</u> : by the end of week one • <u>Presentation 2</u> : By the end of week three
Final Exam	15%	Week 5, Tuesday

## Assignments

There will be daily assignments due at the beginning of class on the day designated by the instructor. Late homework assignments may be checked but will not be given any credit. Students are encouraged to study and work on homework assignments together. It is important to follow up on any instructor's comments on the homework, and it is the students' responsibility to come to office hours or make an appointment to see their instructors.

## Final Project

You are responsible for a project due on the fourth week of this term. The project should be done either individually or in groups. The project could be anything (video, acting scene, book...) that covers some of the subjects discussed in class and also the cultural knowledge you acquire during your stay in Morocco. You will be presenting your project during the last week before the final in class. This project counts in your assignments grade.

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### Quizzes:

There will be three quizzes (15 minutes each).

### Presentation

By the end of the first week, all students should present a topic they would like to discuss and consult with their instructors. The presentation should be about fifteen minutes in length. By the end of week three, students should present another main topic to their instructors. These presentations will be videotaped. Instructors will highlight mistakes and give students the feedback for corrections.

### Final Exam:

The final examination will cover material studied during the term.

### **Grading Scale**

<b>Numerical</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Basic Grade Point</b>	<b>Grade Range</b>
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

### **Attendance and Engagement**

Students are expected to attend all regularly scheduled classes and come prepared to participate fully in class activities. This means listening to the DVDs and learning new vocabulary and structure so that they can actively use them in class.

#### *Overview of Attendance Policy*

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 20% of the total grade.

#### *Summary of Attendance Policy*

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1. Students are expected to do the required reading before class, volunteer for presentations and participate actively in class discussions.
2. Excused absences are determined by the Program Manager; in some instances a doctor's certification may be required.
3. Deadlines must be respected, even in cases of excused absences.
4. Students are responsible for getting homework assignments they miss and submitting them in a timely manner. Assignments turned in after the due date will result in a penalty to be determined by the instructor.
5. Any assignments not submitted will result in that assignment being given a grade of 0 (zero).
6. The Attendance Policy is applied until the last day of the program.

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### Course Schedule

Date	Activity	Homework assignments	Exams
<b>Week 1, Tuesday</b> First lesson			
<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 1, Wednesday</b> First lesson			
<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 1, Thursday</b> First lesson			
<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 1, Friday</b> First lesson			
<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 2, Monday</b> First lesson			
<b>Second lesson</b>			

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<b>Week 2, Tuesday</b> <b>First lesson</b>			
<b>Second lesson</b>			

<b>Week 2, Wednesday</b> <b>First lesson</b>			
<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 2, Thursday</b> <b>First Lesson</b>			
<b>Second Lesson</b>			
<b>Week 2, Friday</b> <b>First lesson</b>			
<b>Second lesson</b>			

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<b>Week 3, Monday First lesson</b>			
<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 3, Tuesday First lesson</b>			

<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 3, Wednesday First lesson</b>			
<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 3, Thursday First lesson</b>			
<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 3, Friday First lesson</b>			
<b>Second lesson</b>			

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<b>Week 4, Monday</b> <b>First lesson</b>			
<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 4, Tuesday</b> <b>First lesson</b>			

<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 4, Wednesday</b> <b>First lesson</b>			
<b>Second lesson</b>			
<b>Week 4, Thursday</b> <b>First lesson</b>			
<b>Second lesson</b>			

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<b>Week 4, Friday First Lesson</b>			
<b>Second Lesson</b>			
<b>Week 5, Monday First Lesson</b>			
<b>Second Lesson</b>			
<b>Week 5, Tuesday</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>		<b>Final Exam</b>
<b>Week 5, Wednesday,</b>	<b>Reflection Day</b>		

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