



ENGAGE. EXPERIENCE. EMBRACE. EDUCATE.

Study Center in Amman, Jordan

Course Name:	Arabic Short Stories
Course Number:	ARAB 3001 AMJO
Program:	Language and Culture
Language of instruction:	Arabic (at ACTFL level Intermediate II and above)
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Semester:	Fall 2017

Course Description

This course focuses on modern Arabic literature and different models of short stories. It is designed for students who test into Intermediate II and above on CIEE's Arabic placement exam.

This course will use short stories to introduce the students to the most prominent contemporary Arab writers who have had a significant impact upon and beyond modern Arabic literature, including Khalil Gibran, Naguib Mahfouz, Tayeb Salih, and many others. Students will also read short stories written in Colloquial Jordanian and other related dialects of Bilad al-Sham to increase their facility with the local spoken language and their depth of knowledge of the regional cultural context.

The course will explore examples of short stories that reflect a clear representation of the societies in which their authors lived and wrote. These examples will offer students exposure to Arab art and society generally, and to the specific contexts in which and for whom these stories were written.

Course Objectives:

At the end of this course, students will:

1. Know in depth the biographies of some of the most prominent contemporary Arab writers;
2. Have developed a significant amount of new vocabulary in both its literal meaning and metaphorical sense, including the sophisticated vocabulary used for talking and writing about literature;

3. Read fluently, depending on the student’s level, the examples of short stories presented in the class;
4. Write their own short story in Arabic, using their new vocabulary and contextual knowledge;
5. Analyze a short story thoughtfully;
6. Identify examples of Colloquial Arabic short stories and compare them with Classical Arabic short stories.

Assessment and Final Grade:

Attendance and Participation	10%
Weekly Reading Quizzes	10%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Homework (due for every class)	10%
Short Story Writing	10%
Short Story Analysis (due for each story)	20%
Final Exam	20%

Sample Weekly Plan

Week 1	Introductions
Weeks 2 & 3	Laila Uthman, “The Departure”
Weeks 4 & 5	Zakariyya Tamir, “The Thunder”
Weeks 6 & 7	Tayyib Salih, “A Handful of Dates”; midterm exam
Weeks 8 & 9	Naguib Mahfouz, “The Devil Preaches”
Weeks 10 & 11	Nabil Hawasli, “A Moroccan Love Story”; short stories due
Weeks 12 & 13	Sami Naseem, “The Cemetery,” “The Contradiction,” “Fatwa”
Weeks 14 & 15	selected stories in Jordanian colloquial Arabic from the collection, <i>The Jinn’s Rooster</i> ; final exam due

Course Materials

All readings and detailed weekly plans will be provided by the instructor.