## Overview

The SINARC Fall Program at the Lebanese American University offers three levels of intensive courses in Arabic language and culture: Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced. Each level provides a total of 8 semester credits of Intensive Classroom Instruction in Modern Standard Arabic – *fushá* (6 credits) and Lebanese Dialect (2 credits). Two additional courses, "Arabic Language Writing Skills" (3 credits) and "Middle East Challenges in the 21st Century" (3 credits) are also available.

**Course Offerings**

8 credits of Intensive Arabic Language in the following courses:

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|---|---|
| . Elementary, Intermediate or Advanced Arabic | 6 cr. |
| . Lebanese Dialect | 2 cr. |
| . Arabic Language Writing Skills | 3 cr. |
| . Middle East Challenges in the 21st Century | 3 cr. |
| **Total Semester Credits** | **14 Credits** |

Formal instruction in the language is enriched by immersion in an authentic cultural context. Cultural activities are abundant on campus during the fall semester and include lectures on topics related to Arab and Lebanese politics, history, society, and culture. Students will receive invitations to attend whenever these events are available. The institute also organizes a series of excursions to historic, touristic and cultural sites throughout Lebanon. The duration of this program extends between September 4–December 8, 2017.

## Courses

**SIN 101 - Elementary Arabic (6 cr.)**
Elementary Arabic was added to the SINARC program in 1998 to meet the needs of students at the novice to low intermediate levels. Students in this course will have completed approximately one semester of Arabic (or equivalent), and will have acquired a rudimentary ability to read and write using Arabic script. They should have a limited working vocabulary, and a basic understanding of sentence structure and other basic grammatical concepts such as adjective agreement and some verb conjugation. The course aims to bring students up to intermediate-level competency in reading, writing, speaking and listening.

**SIN 201 - Intermediate Arabic (6 cr.)**
Students placed in the Intermediate level should have taken at least one year of Arabic in college (or equivalent) and acquired a basic knowledge of the structure of modern standard Arabic. This course aims to teach students to read, write, speak and listen at a competency level equivalent to that of intermediate-mid on the ACTFL scale. Classroom instruction focuses on basic Arabic morphology, syntax and vocabulary building, as well as on reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. Students are asked to comment on most daily life situations, write descriptions and use argumentation, and read a variety of styles. Students at this level study units 11 through 20 of *Al-Kitab, Part One*, and the first two chapters of *Al-Kitab, Part Two*, as well as suitable authentic materials related to various aspects of Lebanese, Arab, and Middle Eastern cultures. Students registering for Intermediate Arabic must also register for Lebanese Dialect, Level I or Level II.

**SIN 301 - Advanced Arabic (6 cr.)**
Students placed in the advanced level should have completed the equivalent of two or more years of Arabic in college. They should have acquired a broad vocabulary and mastered basic Arabic syntax and morphology. Class sessions aim to help students attain proficiency in expository and argumentative discourses and to handle a variety of communicative tasks. Reading, writing, and listening activities combine lessons from the textbook *Al-Kitab, Part Two*, with readings of various styles dealing with language, literature, culture, history, and the social sciences. Students registering for Advanced Arabic must also register for Lebanese Dialect, Level I or Level II.

**SIN 311 - Arabic Language Writing Skills (3 cr.)**
Students placed in this intermediate-level course will work on improving their Arabic Language Writing Skills and sentence structure through the use of enriched vocabulary and terminology, with correct and adequate syntax, as well as journal writing activities, narratives and translations.

**Pol 205 - Middle East Challenges in the 21st Century (3 cr.)**
The topics covered in this course include: the Arabic-Israeli and Israeli-Palestinian conflicts; Arab Development and Integration: the Challenges of Globalization and Modernity; Islamism and Islamization; Islam and Democracy; the Question of Ethno-Religious Minorities in a Predominantly Islamic Region; Arab Self-Criticism; Human Rights in the Arab World; Minority Rights and Democratization; The Decline of the Arab Intellectual Elite, and much more.

**SIN 105 - Lebanese Dialect, Level I (2 cr.)**
No previous knowledge of dialect is required for this level. The course aims to provide students of modern standard Arabic with an opportunity to learn the basics of the Lebanese dialect. Students in this level will learn to communicate with native speakers in various daily situations.

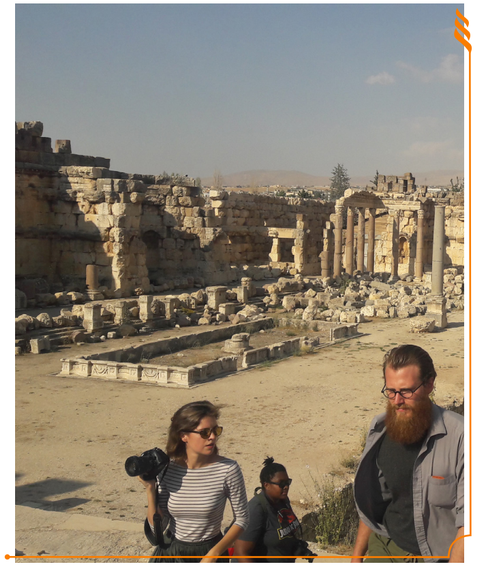
**SIN 106 - Lebanese Dialect, Level II (2 cr.)**
This course is designed for students who have had some exposure to the dialect. The classes will enable them to hone their speaking skills and improve their pronunciation and fluency. Students will converse on topics involving description, narration and argumentation.

## Transfer Credits

Students who register for and successfully complete all of the intensive courses receive 14 hours of university credits. On the basis of student performance, LAU provides letter grades, which can be transferred to the student's home institutions for credit evaluation. LAU is chartered by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York.

## Excursions

The Institute organizes a series of four weekend excursions to historic and touristic sites in Lebanon, such as the cities of Byblos, Tyre and Sidon; the Crusader, Arab and Roman ruins in Baalbek, Tripoli and Anjar; the Jeita Grotto; the Cedars of Lebanon; and the historic palaces in Beiteddine and Deir el-Qamar, in addition to a tour of South Lebanon. These tours are carried out as part of the culture unit in each of the courses and are mandatory for all students in the program. Excursion fees include transportation, entrance fees, and one overnight stay at a mountain resort.



## Lodging and Facilities

The program takes place entirely on LAU's Beirut campus. SINARC Students are housed in air-conditioned, double-occupancy rooms. If available, single occupancy is offered at an extra cost.

During the first week of classes, SINARC students are also issued student ID cards allowing them full access to all campus facilities, including the library, computer labs, language lab and recreational facilities (indoor Olympic-size swimming pool, indoor basketball court, tennis courts).

Students are also assigned free wireless accounts and have free access to the internet throughout the program. All dorm rooms are equipped with wifi and student lounges have computer stations available free of charge. Laundry facilities are also available in the buildings.

## Cost

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| Tuition (360$ per credit) | 5,032 |
| Dorm (Sharing) | 2,916* |
| Touristic entrance fees plus one overnight | 331 |
| Student Association fee | 88 |
| School Personal Accidents and Insurance Policy | 15 |
| **Total (USD)** | **$8,382** |

*Single Occupancy is $1,433 extra, depending on availability. Meals and round trip travel to Beirut, books, and supplies are not included.

Round trip tickets to Beirut cost approximately $1,200 from New York and approximately $600 from Europe. We urge participants to make travel plans as early as possible in order to take advantage of discounted prices. Participants are required to purchase emergency health insurance, unless they can provide evidence of comparable coverage. Health insurance for coverage over the duration of the program may be purchased through LAU upon arrival for $110.

The SINARC program costs are non-refundable, unless the program is canceled by the university for unforeseen reasons.

Non-refundable deposit – 14 weeks program $525.

## Class Schedule

All classes are held in air-conditioned classrooms and lecture halls, Monday through Friday.

- Elementary Arabic Intermediate
- Arabic Advanced
- Arabic Intermediate
- Writing Skills
- Advanced Writing Skills
- Lebanese Dialect
- Middle East Challenges in the 21st Century (seminar)

## Travel and Visas

The program lasts from September 4 to December 8, 2017. Students should plan on arriving in Lebanon at least one or two days before the beginning of classes for orientation. Transportation between Beirut-Rafic Hariri International Airport and LAU is free of charge for SINARC students residing on campus only.

U.S. and most European citizens can obtain visas at the airport for $35 or LL 50,000. **Please be aware that visas purchased at the airport must be paid in cash** (U.S. dollars are accepted). Visas can also be obtained in advance through the Lebanese consulates in the countries of origin. Citizens of countries other than the U.S. should check with their embassies for information concerning visas to Lebanon.

LAU
الجامعة اللبنانية الأميركية
Lebanese American University

# SINARC 2017

*Summer Institute for Intensive Arabic Language and Culture*

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**Fall Semester**
September 4 - December 8, 2017