

# Resources on Colloquial Arabic at OSU

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## Printed books:

**Author:** [Abū al-'Alā' al-Ma'arrī, 973-1057, author](#)  
**Title:** [Risālat al-ghufrān / li-Abī al-'Alā' al-Ma'arrī ; tarjamat Nārīmān al-Shāmīlī](#)  
**Publication:** al-Qāhirah : al-Kutub Khān lil-nashr wa-al-tawzī', 2016  
**Note:** In Egyptian **colloquial Arabic**; translated from Classical **Arabic**  
**Location:** [Thompson Library Stacks 8th Floor PJ7750.A25 R573 2016](#)  
**OCLC #:** [960955660](#)

**Title:** [Alif baa \[videorecording\] : introduction to Arabic letters and sounds / Kristen Brustad, Mahmoud Al-Batal, Abbas Al-Tonsi](#)  
**Publication:** Washington, D.C. : Georgetown University Press, 2003?  
**Note:** Simple **Arabic** conversational phrases are introduced through a series of short situational skits. It is especially helpful in introducing the student to the **colloquial** dialect of Cairo  
**Location:** [Thompson Library 1st Floor Non-English Language DVDs PJ6123 .B78 2003](#)  
**OCLC #:** [53351848](#)

**Title:** [Approaches to Arabic linguistics : presented to Kees Versteegh on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday / edited by Everhard Ditters and Harald Motzki](#)  
**Publication:** Amsterdam ; Boston : Brill, 2007  
**Contents:** Inside the speaker's mind: speaker's awareness as arbiter of usage in **Arabic** grammatical theory / Ramzi Baalbaki -- Pragmatics and contractual language in early **Arabic** grammar and legal theory / Michael Carter -- Idmar in the ma'ani of al-farra' : a grammatical approach between description and explanation / Kinga Devenyi -- **Arabic** alla di as a conjunction : an old problem and a new approach / Werner Diem -- Les origines de la grammaire arabe, selon la tradition : description, interpretation, discussion / Pierre Larcher -- Sibawayhi's view of the zarf as an 'amil / Aryeh Levin -- Problems in the medieval **Arabic** theory of sentence types / Yishai Peled -- **Arabic** avant la lettre. Divine, prophetic, and heroic **Arabic** / Stefan Wild -- Inflection and government in **Arabic** according to Spanish missionary grammarians from Damascus (XVIIIth Century) : grammars at the crossroads of two systems / Otto Zwartjes -- Linguistics. The linguistic analysis and rules of pause in **Arabic** / Salman H. Alani -- The explanation of homonymy in the lexicon of **Arabic** / Georges Bohas and Abderrahim Saguer --

The periphrastic bilingual verb construction as a marker of intense language contact. Evidence from Greek, Portuguese and Maghribian **Arabic** / Louis Boumans -- Fa'ula, fa'ila, fa'ala : dispersion et regularites semantiques dans les trois schemes simples du verbe arabe / Joseph Dichy --Featuring as a disambiguation tool in **Arabic** natural language processing / Everhard Ditters -- **Arabic** on the media : hybridity and styles / Mushira Eid -- The use of morphological patterns in **Arabic** Grammars of Turkic / Robert Ermers -- Lexical gaps in **Arabic** : evidence from dictionaries / Jan Hoogland -- Masdar formation / Joost Kemers -- Methodologie linguistique : organisation de la langue arabe. Organisation generale des langues / Andre Roman -- Dialects. How to be KOOL in **Arabic** writing : linguistic observations from the side line / Gert Borg -- "Hello, I say, and welcome! where from, these riding men?" : **Arabic** popular poetry and political satire : a study in intertextuality from Jordan / Clive Holes -- Notes on the dialects of the 'legat and hamadah of southern Sinai / Rudolf de Jong -- Classical and **colloquial Arabic** / Archaisms Alan S. Kaye -- Do they speak the same language? language use in Juba local courts / Catherine Miller -- Paradigmatic stability and final laryngeals in Nigerian **Arabic** : why history repeats itself, without actually doing so / Jonathan Owens -- Some aspects of diglossia as reflected in the vocabulary of literary and **colloquial Arabic** / Judith Rosenhouse -- Everything you always wanted to know about ?al, yi?ul 'to say' in Egyptian **Arabic** / Manfred Woidich

**Location:** [Thompson Library Stacks 8th Floor PJ6024.V47 A67 2007](#)  
**OCLC #:** [175286440](#)

**Author:** [Becker, Valerie, 1936-](#)  
**Title:** [A transfer grammar of the verb structures of modern literary Arabic and Lebanese colloquial Arabic](#) / by Valerie Becker  
**Publication:** [New Haven : s. n.], 1964, c1965  
**Location:** [Book Depository PJ6141 .B4 1964 A](#)

**Author:** [Elias, Edward Elias](#)  
**Title:** [Elias' practical dictionary of the colloquial Arabic of the Middle East : English-Arabic](#) / compiled by Edward E. Elias  
**Publication:** Cairo : Elias' Modern Pub. House, [1979?]  
**Location:** [Book Depository PJ6737 .E4](#)

**Author:** [Furayhah, Anīs, 1903-](#)  
**Title:** [The essentials of Arabic; a manual for teaching classical and colloquial Arabic](#)  
**Publication:** [Beirut] Khayat's, 1958

**Note:** "Book is meant primarily to be an aid for the teacher. It is not a guide to [Arabic](#) self-taught."  
English or Arabic

**Location:** [Thompson Library Stacks 8th Floor PJ6111 .F8 1958](#)

**OCLC#:** [52217](#)

**Author:** [Haak, Martine, 1959-](#)

**Title:** [The verb in literary and colloquial Arabic / by Martine Cuvalay-Haak](#)

**Publication:** Berlin ; New York : Mouton de Gruyter, 1997

**Location:** [Thompson Library Stacks 8th Floor PJ6145 .C88 1997](#)

**OCLC #:** [36798561](#)

**Author:** [Lyons, M. C. \(Malcolm Cameron\)](#)

**Title:** [The poetic vocabulary of Michel Trad; a study in Lebanese colloquial poetry, by M. C. Lyons \[and\] E. I. Maalouf](#)

**Publication:** Beirut, [Librairie du Liban] 1968

**Note:** "Published in association with the Cambridge Middle East Centre." English and Arabic

**Location:** [Book Depository PJ7864.R3 Z8 L8](#)

**OCLC #** [58987](#)

**Author:** [Maston, Robert E](#)

**Title:** [Lebanese spoken Arabic; a sequence of colloquial Arabic lessons based on modern linguistic theory, by Robert E. Maston and the spoken Arabic research staff](#)

**Publication:** Beirut, American University, 1956

**Subjects:** [Arabic language -- Dialects -- Lebanon](#)

**Location:** [Book Depository PJ6810 .M26 1956](#) V. 1-3

**Author:** [McLoughlin, Leslie J., 1935-](#)

**Title:** [A further course in colloquial Arabic / by L.J. McLoughlin](#)

**Location:** Beirut : Librairie du Liban, 1979

**Subjects:** [Arabic language -- Dialects -- Lebanon](#)  
[Arabic language -- Dialects -- Syria](#)

**Location:** [Thompson Library Stacks 8th Floor PJ6810 .M282](#)

**OCLC #:** [10007962](#)

**Author:** [Palva, Heikki](#)

**Title:** Artistic [colloquial Arabic](#) : traditional narratives and poems from al-Balqā' (Jordan) / transcription, translation, linguistic and metrical analysis by Heikki Palva  
**Publication:** Helsinki : Finnish Oriental Society, 1992  
**Location:** [Book Depository PJ8067 .P348 1992](#)  
**OCLC #:** [28309998](#)

**Author:** [Spiro, Socrates](#)  
**Title:** [An Arabic-English dictionary of the colloquial Arabic of Egypt : containing the vernacular idioms and expressions, slang phrases, vocables, etc., used by the native Egyptians](#) / by Socrates Spiro قاموس اللهجة العامية المصرية  
**Publication:** Beirut : Librarie du Liban, 1980  
**Location:** [Book Depository PJ6640 .S635 1895a](#)  
**OCLC #:** [8397612](#)

#### Sound Recordings:

**Author:** [McGuirk, Russell H., 1946-](#)  
**Title:** [Colloquial Arabic of Egypt \[sound recording\]](#) / Russell H. McGuirk  
**Publication:** London ; New York : Routledge, 1990, c1986  
**Location:** [Book Depository PJ6779 .M43 1990 Phonotape cassette](#) v.1 and v.2  
**OCLC #:** [25403369](#)

**Author:** [McLoughlin, Leslie J., 1935-](#)  
**Title:** [Colloquial Arabic \(Levantine\) \[sound recording\]](#) / Leslie J. McLoughlin  
**Publication:** London ; New York : Routledge, 1990  
**Location:** [Thompson Library Bound Journals 3rd Floor PJ6813 .M34 1990 Phonotape cassette](#) v.2book  
**OCLC #:** [25403248](#)

#### Articles for the [Education Research Complete](#) – EBSCO host

Azmi, A. M., & Aljafari, E. A. (2015). [Modern information retrieval in Arabic - catering to standard and colloquial Arabic users.](#) *Journal Of Information Science*, 41(4), 506-517.  
doi:10.1177/0165551515585720

Kuntz, B. (2013). [Using Twitter, Blogs and Other Web 2.0 Technologies and Internet Resources to Enhance Arabic as a Foreign-Language Reading Skills.](#) *Proceedings of The International Conference On E-Learning*, 224-230.

Albirini, A. (2014). [The Role of the Colloquial Varieties in the Acquisition of the Standard Variety: The Case of Arabic Heritage Speakers](#). *Foreign Language Annals*, 47(3), 447-463. doi:10.1111/flan.12087

ATTIEH, A. M. (2011). Colloquial Arabic (Levantine): The Complete Course for Beginners by MCLOUGHLIN, LESLIE. *Modern Language Journal*, 95(3), 461-463. doi:10.1111/j.1540-4781.2011.01212\_7.x

## Free resources from the Web:

1. [Jordanian Arabic audio course](#) from NMEELRC. Great, simple & v useful dialogues with Ammani locals involving an Australian lady with excellent pronunciation. I'm gradually making some worksheets to accompany these and make them a little more accessible, as there are no transcripts provided. For each of the 8 dialogues there is an accompanying vocabulary file, where the speaker rattles through the words that come up and a few others fairly quickly, and without translating into English. This makes this course a little tricky without a teacher, but they're definitely worth a listen.

2. [Aamiya Arabiya](#) youtube channel: Fantastic quality Jordanian and Lebanese videos – teenagers and young Ammanis talking about their everyday lives. Really short and sweet with excellent sound quality.

3. [Jordanian Arabic Grammar – an introduction for beginners](#) (from Peace Corps). I've just been teaching a beginners' course (30 hours *ta'reeban*) of Levantine Arabic and happily I've found this reference guide includes everything we just covered. Perfect revision material, though it might be less accessible for a complete beginner to learn from without a teacher.

4. Arabic-language films from the Levant. Many are on Youtube, some with subtitles, eg.

\* [West Beirut](#) (with English subtitles)

\* [Paradise Now](#) / الجنة الان (with English subtitles)

\* [The Lemon Tree](#) (with English subtitles)

\* [Caramel](#) (can't find it on YouTube with English subtitles, so [buy the DVD](#) instead!)

5. [Arabic Music translation blog](#) – it's just amazing. Tags for individual artists or click on Lebanese, Syrian, etc. Good ones to start with include [Elissa](#), [Sabah](#), [Nancy Ajram](#), [Fairuz](#), [Majdi el Roumi](#) and [Haifa Wehbe](#). NB. Even Lebanese singers such as Nancy do often sing in a more Egyptian way to target that bigger audience, but this blogger Chris is brilliant at pointing out differences in vocab and pronunciation like this.

6. [Jordanian course from LangMedia Five Colleges](#). The videos aren't great quality but they're authentic conversations, and there are transcripts in English and Arabic. You can download the videos or watch them online with Quicktime. Good range of topics covered – tourism, transport, shopping, directions, emergencies, socialising, etc.

7. [ArabicPod Levantine podcasts](#) – this should perhaps be number one of every list of Arabic resources. Wonderful, very accessible podcasts which focus on a very short dialogue each time and break it down into admirable detail. Just a few Levantine ones but they're all worth a listen. Transcripts available for paying subscribers but you can listen for free.

8. The [Arabic Student blog](#): Loads of [Levantine colloquial activities](#) on this brilliant blog. My favourites for beginners are the [Baba Tilifoon](#) kids' song (warning – highly addictive and irritating earworm) and the [Minal clip about champagne](#) from Lebanese MTV's lovely [series of mini videos about everyday life](#), presented by Al (meen al? = who's Al?), with simple animations to help with the context. [Minal](#) is also all over Youtube

9. Dalil USA Syrian Colloquial course (but also Palestinian): pay-to-view lessons, but there are 2 free samples. Was impressed with the [Restaurant](#) lesson and the [My childhood](#) one (Palestinian man talking about his life, his school, hobbies etc). These are brilliant because the audio comes with a full transcript in colloquial Arabic and an MSA version of the same text

10. [Palestine Remembered](#): the Nakba oral history project. More for the advanced learner than beginners, as some of the interviews are very long, but this is an amazing collection of narratives and memories of villages from which Palestinians were expelled in the 1948 war (known as النكبة, the disaster). Ideal for students who want to delve into the social history and politics of Palestine as well as the language.