Frequently Asked Questions

STUDYING AT AHLAN WORLD

2019-2020
Upon this land is that which deserves life.

Mahmoud Darwish, Arab Poet
Ahlan World is comprised of Arabic language centers in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, and Italy. Each of the centres shares Ahlan World’s philosophy, which views foreign language not merely as a goal, but also as a tool that enables and encourages greater understanding between cultures. Accordingly, Ahlan courses combine language learning with an introduction to local customs and cultures in order for the student to have a comprehensive experience that goes beyond that of a traditional language class. Outside the classroom, students are offered the opportunity to take part in initiatives with local organisations, attend seminars, and participate in weekly extracurricular activities or trips. Through this multi-faceted approach, students at Ahlan World develop both linguistically and personally during their experience.
Arabic students from around the world come to study Arabic in Jordan, and with good reason. Jordan is a modern, safe country which hosts many foreigners choosing to visit for study, work, or travel. The capital Amman, where the Ahlan center is located, is a vibrant and diverse city which offers a variety of cultural destinations, cuisines, and activities across its seven hills. On weekdays, students often enjoy visiting the markets downtown, relaxing in cafes or restaurants, or exploring the historic landmarks. Amman also serves as an ideal hub from which to visit Jordan’s many fascinating sites, which range from beaches along the Red and Dead seas to ancient castles and ruins to vast desert landscapes. There are also a range of exciting destinations in the region, such as Cairo, Jerusalem, and Beirut, all within a few hours travel by car or plane.

In addition to the beautiful sites and scenes in Jordan, the local population is welcoming, friendly, and always eager to offer a helping hand to guests in their country. Interacting with Jordanians is a great way to practice Arabic and learn about Arab culture first hand. Furthermore, the colloquial dialect spoken in Jordan is very similar to Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). Students who have taken classes in MSA prior to arrival will find many familiar words and grammatical structures in the dialect, which is used by most Jordanians in their day-to-day lives.
Mansaf, the Jordanian national dish, in our garden
Ahlan World offers courses for Arabic students of all levels, taught by professional, highly qualified teachers who are experienced in teaching non-native speakers. Classes can be taken in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), Jordanian Colloquial Arabic (JCA), or both, and in a group or one-to-one setting. Ahlan World’s group courses generally have 2-8 students, to allow for tailored instruction and personal attention. In some cases, a student enrolled in one of our group courses may be the only one in their particular level. In such a situation, Ahlan will arrange one-to-one classes for the student and the number of hours in the course will be halved.

Ahlan World’s teaching methods are based on the principle that foreign language enables communication in everyday situations, and that practice is essential to master new skills. The learning process at Ahlan therefore includes role-plays, group discussions, and games on a daily basis, as well as the incorporation of media, literature, poetry and songs that enforce vocabulary usage and comprehension skills.

MSA courses will utilize the textbook *Al-Kitaab fii Ta’allum al-‘Arabiyya*, 2nd edition, in addition to supplementary materials prepared by the teachers. JCA courses utilize texts and other materials arranged by the teachers and administration at Ahlan Jordan.

In addition to classes at the center, Ahlan encourages all of its students to embrace using the Arabic language outside of class, with staff, students, and locals. Doing so will help students make the most progress during their time in Jordan.

Réservez au plus bas prix dans le monde entier à https://www.languagecourse.net/cours-de-langues/ecole-ahlan-amman.php3
+44-330 124 03 17 - support-fr@languagecourse.net
MODERN STANDARD ARABIC (MSA)
Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) courses give students the linguistic essentials of the Arabic language, with a focus on the foundations of Arabic structure, grammar rules, and key vocabulary. MSA is primarily used in Arabic media, academic texts, literature and in formal settings, rather than on the streets and in everyday conversations. Most Arabs will nonetheless understand and be able to use MSA, regardless of where they are from and which dialect they use most frequently. MSA is most closely related to the classic, original form of the Arabic language upon which the many different dialects were initially based and formed. For this reason, many students choose the study of MSA at the start of their Arabic careers and then later take on a specific dialect that fits with their particular interests or location in the Arab world.

MSA courses are 3 hours per day, 5 days per week. Courses are a minimum of two weeks. Note: if there is only one student per course the class time will be halved.

INTENSIVE MSA
Ahlan World’s intensive MSA course encompasses all of the material in the standard MSA course listed above, but with an additional focus on vocabulary and grammar specifics, comprehension activities, games that test various linguistic skills, and conversation practice. The intensive course is one of the best options for those students wishing to make the most out of their time in Jordan.

Intensive MSA courses are 5 hours per day, 5 days per week. Courses are a minimum of two weeks and are not available to absolute beginners.

Note: if there is only one student per course the class time will be halved.

JORDANIAN COLLOQUIAL ARABIC (JCA - dialect)
Jordanian Colloquial Arabic (JCA) courses offer students an immersive study of the Jordanian dialect, which is used by locals for everyday interactions and conversation. The Jordanian dialect is very similar to other Levantine dialects, which include those spoken in Lebanon and Syria, and is also closer to MSA than many other Arabic dialects, especially those used in northern Africa. Study of JCA focuses less on universal aspects of the Arabic language (which would be found in an MSA course) and instead provides the essentials of navigating life in an Arab country, including important vocabulary, phrases, and sayings that students may hear on a daily basis while living abroad.

JCA courses are 2 hours per day, 5 days per week. Courses are a minimum of two weeks. Note: if there is only one student per course the class time will be halved.

AHLAN LINGUIST PACKAGE
The Ahlan Linguist Package combines the advanced linguistic study and universalism of Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) with the specific knowledge of the local Jordanian dialect (JCA), providing students with a comprehensive understanding of the Arabic language and its varied uses. Students in the course will gain unique proficiency in the language as well as flexibility regarding future study, as they will have experience with both MSA and a local dialect.

Ahlan Linguist Package MSA classes are 3 hours per day, 5 days per week, while the JCA classes are 2 hours per day, 5 days per week. Courses are a minimum of two weeks, are not available to absolute beginners.

Note: if there is only one student per course the class time will be halved.

ONE - TO - ONE CLASSES
One-to-one and small group classes (2-3 persons) are also available year-round at the school and via Skype, upon request. These classes can be held at a time that best suits the student (between Sunday and Thursday, from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm), but will also depend on teacher availability. Students wishing to request specific times for one-to-one classes must do so during registration or at least one week before the course begins. If preferences are not expressed ahead of time, Ahlan World will select the class times.

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+44-330 124 03 17 - support-fr@languagecourse.net
CALLIGRAPHY WORKSHOP
In Ahlan’s Arabic calligraphy workshop, students will be introduced to the 7 Arabic styles of calligraphic writing: al-riqa’, al-naskh, al-thulth, al-diwani, al-farsi, and al-ijazi. With the guidance of an expert, each student will then choose one style to develop and practice during the course. The course concludes with the completion of a piece of calligraphic art in the selected style, as a final project.

Minimum number of course participants: 6. Schedule to be determined according to demand.

HOW TO WRITE ESSAYS AND REPORTS
In this seminar, an expert journalist will guide students through the Arabic writing styles used and found in the Arab world. Through writing their own essays and reports on a variety of subjects, students will improve their ability to write in Arabic and grow accustomed to expressing themselves in the language.

Minimum and maximum number of course participants: 2-5. Schedule to be determined according to demand.

HOW TO WRITE SHORT STORIES
This course, taught by famous writer Jamal Naji, will expose students to the Arabic short story, an essential genre in Arabic literature. Looking at the styles, imaginations, and motivations behind this genre, students will learn about great writers including Ghassan Kanafani, Zakaria Tamer, and Khalil Gibran.

Minimum and maximum number of course participants: 3-5. Schedule to be determined according to demand.

MEDIA AND JOURNALISM
Ahlan Jordan offers three unique media courses that provide students with an ideal opportunity to experience what it is like to work as a journalist in the Arab world.

1. Media Taster

The Media Taster course provides a basic introduction to Arabic media sources, common vocabulary used in the Arab press, and popular journalistic techniques. The Media Taster course is held for one hour per day, five days per week.

Note: if there is only one student per course the class time will be halved.

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+44-330 124 03 17 - support-fr@languagecourse.net
2. In-Depth Media

The In-Depth Media course provides a comprehensive study of Arabic media, covering common vocabulary and journalistic techniques as well as theory, linguistic styles and best practices.

The In-Depth Media course is held for three hours per day, five days per week.

Note: if there is only one student per course the class time will be halved.

3. 10-Week Intensive Journalism Course with Petra News Agency

Ahlan World partners with Jordanian outlet Petra News Agency to offer a 10-week, intensive journalism course for students seeking to immerse themselves in the world of Arabic media and press. This unique opportunity combines a comprehensive study of Arabic media with practical experience gained through courses at the Petra News Agency and a tailored internship at a local media organization.

The course is broken down as follows:

4 weeks of MSA + JCA courses: Students begin with an intensive schedule of daily Arabic classes at Ahlan World. Each day will include three hours of MSA study, focusing on the standardized language used in Arabic media and press, followed by two hours of JCA study, which will familiarize students with the local dialect spoken in Jordan and used in less formal situations and conversations.

2 weeks of media courses: Students will take two weeks’ worth of an in-depth media course at Ahlan World. This course will focus more specifically on the Arabic language as it is used in the media, covering vocabulary, technique, and linguistic styles. The course will be held three hours per day if in a group, or half that if a student is alone.

2 weeks of theoretical and practical courses at Petra: Students will then begin two weeks at Petra News Agency, where they will take 40 hours-worth of lectures and workshops designed and delivered by expert journalists at the agency. In the theoretical portion, students will learn about the operating methods and best techniques used by an Arabic agency. Afterward, in the practical portion, students will collaborate in teams to complete exercises related to the techniques discussed, putting new skills to work.

2 weeks of an internship with a local media organization: In the final portion of the program, each student will complete a 2-week internship at a local media organization which will be determined in-country and according to availability. The internship will be an ideal opportunity for students to combine everything they learned at Ahlan and Petra News to contribute to the work of an organization producing media in Jordan, under the supervision of organization staff and Ahlan World teachers. During this final portion, students will also take 8 one-to-one classes at Ahlan World to support work done at the internship and allow for students to address any questions from throughout their experience. Note: if there is only one student per course the class time will be halved.

*Ahlan World will be happy to work with students to arrange for evaluations or feedback regarding the internship that may be required for certain degree programs.*
Ahlan courses begin every two weeks on Sunday, with some exceptions. Start dates for 2019/2020 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WINTER 2018/2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 6th</td>
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<td>January 20th</td>
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<td>February 3rd</td>
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<td>February 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 3rd</td>
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<td>March 17th</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>SPRING /SUMMER 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 31st</td>
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<td>August 4th</td>
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<td>August 18th</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2nd</td>
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<td>September 15th</td>
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<tr>
<th>FALL/WINTER 2019</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>September 29th</td>
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<td>October 13th</td>
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<td>October 27th</td>
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<td>November 11th*</td>
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<td>December 8th</td>
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<td>December 22nd</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 5th, 2020</td>
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HOLIDAYS 2019

- May 1st - Wed: Labor Day
- May 25th - Sat: Independence Day
- June 5th – Thurs 6th (Wed-Thurs)**: Eid el-Fitr
- August 12th -August 15th (Mon to Thurs)**: Eid el-Adha
- September 1st - Sun: Islamic New Year
- November 10th - Sun: The Prophet's Birthday (PBUH)
- December 25th - Wed: Christmas
- January 1st - Wednesday: New Years Day

In the case of a public holiday at any point during a course, missed days will be discounted from the overall course price.

In the case of bad weather conditions (snow or heavy rain), the government sometimes declares all public and non-public offices closed, normally not more than a week per year, not even every year. In such circumstances, we cannot take responsibility for cancelled classes and rescheduling is not guaranteed.

**These Holidays may vary according to the Lunar Calendar/Cycle.

SPECIAL PROGRAM: Ahlan runs classes in different cities at the same time.
If a student chooses a program of longer than six weeks, he/she can move at any time between Alexandria, Cairo, Amman, Rabat and vice versa.
This special offer allows you to change cities and explore new experiences while still following the study program!

Students enrolled in one-to-one or small group classes can schedule classes at a time that suits them (between Sunday and Thursday, from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm), but timing will also depend on teacher availability.

If students have specific time preferences, they must be specified during registration or at least one week before courses begin. If preferences are not expressed ahead of time, Ahlan will select the class times.
### GROUP COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>16 weeks</th>
<th>24 weeks</th>
<th>36 weeks</th>
<th>48 weeks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Modern Standard Arabic MSA</td>
<td>US$ 170</td>
<td>US$ 2,600</td>
<td>US$ 3,800</td>
<td>US$ 5,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSA Intensive</td>
<td>US$ 260</td>
<td>US$ 4,000</td>
<td>US$ 5,900</td>
<td>US$ 8,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordanian Colloquial Arabic JCA</td>
<td>US$ 120</td>
<td>US$ 1,800</td>
<td>US$ 2,600</td>
<td>US$ 3,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahlan Linguist Pack (MSA+JCA)</td>
<td>US$ 280</td>
<td>US$ 4,300</td>
<td>US$ 6,400</td>
<td>US$ 9,400</td>
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### INDIVIDUAL AND SKYPE CLASSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>1-to-1</th>
<th>2-to-1</th>
<th>3-to-1</th>
<th>1-to-1 (advanced)</th>
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### SEMINARS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seminar</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calligraphy</td>
<td>10 hours / 20 hours</td>
<td>US$ 115 / US$ 220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to write essays and reports</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
<td>US$ 176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to write a short story</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
<td>US$ 212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Taster</td>
<td>5h/week</td>
<td>US$ 60/week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Depth Media</td>
<td>15h/week</td>
<td>US$ 240/week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalism</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
<td>US$ 2,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CANCELLATION POLICY

The following percentages of the total price of the package will be charged to the client, in case of cancellation, based on the number of days prior to the scheduled date of departure that the written notice of cancellation is received (the exact date of cancellation will be considered to be the first day after receipt of the written notice):

- **Cancellation**
  - from 30 to 40 days prior to departure: 40% of the total of the package
  - from 21 to 29 days prior to the date of departure: 50% of the total of the package
  - from 15 to 20 days prior to the date of departure: 70% of the total of the package
  - from 0 to 14 days prior to the date of departure: 100% of the total of the package

**NB:** Students are always welcome to change destination at any time and go to another Ahlan School! Also, you can convert the amount of the tuition fees into Skype classes!
On the first day of your course, Sunday, you will be given a placement exam to determine your course level. The exam will take place at 8:45 am, and should not take more than an hour and a half. Due to the exam, students should expect that classes on the first day may be abbreviated. A regular schedule will commence on the second day.

Absolute beginners do not need to attend a placement exam and should arrive at the scheduled time your schedule will be shared with you, along with an explanation of how it works, the week before.

On the first day, we will also complete any necessary administrative tasks. Please bring your passport with you.

Standard lessons are held five days per week, Sunday through Thursday. Class hours are:

> MSA: 9:00 am to 12:15 am (break from 10:30 to 10:45 am)
> MSA Intensive: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm (breaks from 10:30 to 10:45 am and 12:15 pm to 1:00 pm)
> JCA: 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Please note: In the case that you are assigned to a level that does not have any other current students, we prefer to organize one-to-one classes which will be equivalent in material and price, but which will be shorter in time, as follows:

> MSA: 1.5 hours/day
> MSA Intensive: 2.5 hours/day
> JCA: 1 hour/day

One-to-one Class Hours:
Students enrolled in one-to-one or small group classes can schedule classes at a time that suits them (Sunday to Thursday, from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm), but timing will also depend on teacher availability.

If students have specific time preferences, they must be specified during registration or at least one week before courses begin. If preferences are not expressed ahead of time, Ahlan will select the class times.

After and in-between classes:

Students are welcome to spend time in Ahlan Jordan’s common room or garden during breaks and after class. Students will also find a wide collection of Arabic books that can be borrowed from the school.
CAN I GET A DETAILED ESTIMATE?

Of course! If all components of the customer questionnaire are completed, then Ahlan will be able to provide you with an estimate for your course. The customer questionnaire is not binding, but will allow us to calculate the precise cost for the content and timing requested.

HOW DO I REGISTER?

After receiving your application via email, Ahlan will return a contract to you with a summary of all services to be provided and the related costs. Payment must be made by the date indicated in the contract.

HOW DO I PAY?

Payment can be made via bank transfer, PayPal, or cash. Ahlan does not accept payment via debit or credit card. Bank transfer fees will be paid by the SENDER!

The procedure for transferring funds to Ahlan Jordan (and related banking information) will be included in the contact mailed to prospective students. Students will be required to pay for half of course costs and the total of the accommodation at least two weeks prior to arrival in Jordan, via bank transfer or PayPal. The remaining half can be paid in cash (or bank transfer or PayPal) upon arrival.

Should a student wish to add private classes or courses following initial registration, this can be done and paid for in Amman.

Prospective students who are already in Jordan can come directly to the center to enroll or inquire about courses.
Course examinations are held every two weeks and a course certificate will be given to each student on their last day. The certificate will show the number of class hours attended, the level and type of course, and the final evaluation of progress. The final evaluation will be determined as follows: 60% for your final exam and 40% for the mid-course exam, attendance, and class participation. For special classes or seminars, the certificate will be signed by Ahlan Jordan and any partner organizations involved.

If a student cannot attend the final day, arrangements will be made to send the certificate by e-mail.

Many universities will award credits for courses taken at Ahlan Jordan, although it is each student’s responsibility to confirm their universities policies and requirements before registration to ensure expectations are met.
Ahlan Students on a weekend trip in Petra
Visiting Jordan’s most famous sites is very easy from our central location in the country’s capital. Ahlan organizes weekend trips for students, to destinations including Petra, Wadi Rum, Aqaba, the Dead Sea, Jerash, and the desert castles. Ahlan also organizes special hiking trips depending on demand and seasonal options.

Ahlan Jordan will organize other events on a weekly basis, such as cultural visits, walking tours of the city, debates and cooking nights. Students will also have the opportunity to practice Arabic with locals during our weekly Language Exchange. A schedule of all activities is released monthly.

Students are of course welcome to organize their own trips and activities around Jordan. The Ahlan staff will be more than happy to offer recommendations and travel tips. Suggestions for new activities or events at the school are also welcome at any time.

Jordan also provides easy access to regional destinations such as Israel/Palestine and the many famous sites there. The border crossing is just an hour away from Amman, and buses to the border leave daily. Students should check with their embassies regarding visa requirements and plan for delays at the border, which are common.

Egypt is another popular destination for Ahlan Jordan students. Students can take a quick flight to Cairo or travel by boat from Jordan’s southern port city of Aqaba to resort towns along the Red Sea. Other options include Turkey, Lebanon, and the Gulf States, all easily accessible with flights from Amman’s airport.
WHAT TYPES OF ACCOMMODATION WILL BE AVAILABLE?

Ahlan Jordan is pleased to offer students the option to stay in a flat share arranged by the school. All Ahlan Jordan flats are in areas near to the school such as Jabal Al-Webdeh or Jabal Amman, and many students will be able to walk to the center. Flats are fully furnished, equipped with kitchen facilities, and have Wi-Fi (password will be found posted on the wall in each apartment). Apartments DO NOT include towels or bedding, so please bring these or they can be purchased in country. All accommodation are mixed-gender!
Students will be notified of their flat’s exact location about one week prior to arrival. Check-in to flats is anytime AFTER 4:00 pm on the Friday BEFORE your course begins. Check-out will be BEFORE 11:00 am on the Friday following the end of your course.

For early check-in or late check-out, please contact us to make arrangements. We will do our best to accommodate all requests, but this will depend on flat availability. Do note that any additional nights requested will be charged accordingly.

If, upon arrival, you find any issues with your flat or if there is anything additional you require, please contact the school straight away and we will do our best to address your needs as quickly as possible.

On the last day of your stay, the school will inspect your flat to ensure that nothing was damaged during your stay and that the apartment is generally left as it was when you arrived. A cleaner will come to the apartment every two weeks, but students are also expected to keep flats in decent condition. If the apartment is found in unacceptable conditions at the end of the stay, or if any items are found damaged or missing, students will be charged accordingly.

**FLAT PRICES (from April until October)**

- 1 week: single room 140 US$ / double room 80 US$
- 2 weeks: single room 280 US$ / double room 160 US$
- 3 weeks: single room 420 US$ / double room 240 US$
- 4 weeks: single room 550 US$ / double room 300 US$
- 16 weeks: single room 2,100 US$ / double room 1,120 US$
- 24 weeks: single room 3,000 US$ / double room 1,620 US$
- 36 weeks: single room 4,275 US$ / double room 2,340 US$
- 48 weeks: single room 5,700 US$ / double room 3,290 US$
- Extra nights: single room 20 US$ per night / double room 12 US$

**FLAT PRICES (from November till March)**

- 1 week: single room 155 US$ / double room 90 US$
- 2 weeks: single room 310 US$ / double room 180 US$
- 3 weeks: single room 465 US$ / double room 270 US$
- 4 weeks: single room 610 US$ / double room 330 US$
- 16 weeks: single room 2,300 US$ / double room 1,250 US$
- 24 weeks: single room 3,300 US$ / double room 1,800 US$
- 36 weeks: single room 4,700 US$ / double room 2,600 US$
- 48 weeks: single room 6,300 US$ / double room 3,290 US$
- Extra nights: single room 25 US$ per night / double room 15 US$

Heating is essential during the winter months. Due to these increased heating costs, accommodation prices are higher from November until March.

If the stay is between these two periods (November-March and April-October), the price will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly.

**Electricity and Water**

Students are not charged separately for electricity costs, although we kindly ask students to be mindful of their consumption, taking care not to leave appliances on when not in use and to limit use of fans or AC to a minimum. Furthermore, Jordan is an extremely water-scarce countries and each household is allotted a set amount of water per week. It is unlikely that you will face any shortages, but do keep this in mind and try not to use excessive amounts of water.
AHLAN JORDAN is also able to offer a limited number of carefully-selected homestays to its FEMALE students. This is a great opportunity for students to practice Arabic outside of the classroom and immerse themselves in the Jordanian culture. Students in homestays will be provided with breakfast as part of the accommodation. Some homestays may also have the option of dinner as well (at an additional cost), although this will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Ahlan Jordan will provide students with specific information regarding their homestay location about a week before arrival. Students will receive their host family’s contact information and Ahlan will also inform the family of the student’s arrival time.

HOMESTAY PRICES
> 140 US$ per week (up to 15 weeks)
> 130 US$ per week (more than 16 weeks)
HOW DO I GET TO MY ACCOMMODATION?

TRANSFER WITH AHLAN JORDAN

If you are arriving from the airport or through King Hussein/Allenby Bridge, your transfer can be arranged through Ahlan Jordan for 45 $US.

If you book a transfer with us, you will find one of our drivers waiting for you at the airport with a sign with your name and Ahlan Jordan’s logo. The driver will be waiting in the arrivals hall after passport control, visa purchase, and baggage claim. The driver will bring the keys for your accommodation if you are staying in an Ahlan flat and take you directly there, helping you with your luggage, if needed.

Should there be any changes to your flight in the final 48 hours before you depart, please call Ahlan Jordan or one of the emergency numbers if the office is closed, so that any necessary adjustments can be made. If for any reason you do not see the driver waiting for you at the airport, please call us and wait near the Starbucks in the entrance hall.

Note: Transfer is one-way. Return transfers can be booked in-country at the school.

TRANSFERRING ALONE

We highly recommend that you book a transfer with Ahlan for convenience purposes, especially if you are staying in one of our flats. When a transfer is booked, the driver will know your flat’s address and will provide you with the key. However, if you decide to arrange arrival by yourself and you are staying in an Ahlan flat, please come to the institute during working hours (from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm, Sunday through Thursday) in order to pick up your keys.

If you plan to arrange a transfer by yourself, please also make sure to let us know about your arrival we can ensure your flat is ready upon your arrival!

The handling of the keys is NOT possible during the weekend.

If you are staying in a homestay, we will provide you with the family’s phone number and address then inform them of your arrival time.
TRAVEL
HOW TO GET TO AMMAN

Many international airlines fly directly to Amman including Royal Jordanian, Air France, Iberia, Austrian, British Airways, Lufthansa and RyanAir.

Students who choose to take special courses in both Egypt and Jordan can fly with Egypt Air or Royal Jordanian on direct flights from Cairo. There are also some buses that make the long journey between Amman and Cairo, by way of ferry across the Red Sea.

Jordan can also be easily reached from nearby Lebanon, with daily direct flights with Middle East Airlines (MEA) and Royal Jordanian, and from Israel/Palestine via land crossings. The fastest route to/from Jerusalem is via Allenby/ King Hussein Bridge. Buses from near Damascus Gate in Jerusalem depart frequently for the border. If travelling from Amman, the JETT bus company makes daily trips in the opposite direction as well. Exit taxes are charged in both directions and closings or delays at the bridge are common, so make sure to check on the status of the border before travel. Also note that Jordanian visas cannot be purchased at Allenby/ King Hussein Bridge or in the south at the Wadi Araba crossing, so they must be acquired ahead of time. Visas can however be purchased at the northern Sheikh Hussein border crossing. For further details, see www.visitjordan.com.

Airport Transfers and Costs:
Ahlan Jordan will be pleased to arrange for an airport pick up or drop off for 45 $US, one-way.

More information on this process can be found in the “How Do I Get to My Accommodation?” section above.

Students arriving at the airport can also take the designated airport taxis. These can be arranged at a booth outside the airport and have set prices depending on your destination (~20 JD to get to Jabal Al-Webdeh). A destination receipt can be acquired from the booth to ensure the set price is adhered to. Buses also run frequently from the airport to the North Bus Station in Amman for around 3 JD per person. The bus can also be taken in reverse from the North Bus Station or 7th circle in Amman. Buses depart every half an hour during the day and every hour at night. More information and a full schedule can be found at www.sariyahexpress.com/en/
Enjoying Mansaf in the garden

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Students are expected to contact the Jordanian consulate or embassy of their own country for information regarding the necessary documentation required for entry into Jordan. In general, most students will need a visa stamp in their passports. Visas for many countries can be obtained upon arrival to the airport in Amman. The cost of a tourist visa is 40 Jordanian Dinar and must be paid in Dinar. There is an ATM and an exchange office inside the airport.

The visa purchased at the airport is a tourist visa which lasts one month. After your first month, you will need to make a trip to the police station closest to your accommodation in order to extend the visa to three months (and then to the Ministry of Residency and Borders after three months to extend to six). You will require the following documents and information:

- Your passport
- Your Amman address
- Your landlord’s name, ID number, and contact details

If you are staying at at Ahlan Jordan flat, we will provide the above information and can direct you to the correct police station.

It is important to extend your visa in Jordan before it expires, otherwise you will have to pay a fine for each day in country without a valid visa: 1JD overall tax plus 1.5 JD per day you stayed beyond the expiration date.

For students who plan to stay longer than six months: please note that tourist visas cannot be extended beyond six months. In order to remain in Jordan, you will need to exit the country and return on a new tourist visa (which will re-start your stay).

For further information or clarification on the above processes, please do not hesitate to ask our experienced staff.

THE JORDAN PASS

Jordan offers a special tourist pass which can be purchased online before arriving to Jordan. The Jordan Pass includes admission to many of Jordan’s famous sites, including Petra, as well as the initial entry visa that you would otherwise need to purchase upon arrival. Prices range from 70 to 80 JD, depending on which sites you wish to include in your visit. If you are definitely planning to visit Petra, the pass is a great option to save money. More details can be found at www.jordanpass.jo.

Please read the conditions carefully to avoid paying any unnecessary fees here in Jordan. It is advisable to buy the Jordan Pass if you stay in Jordan for less than a month. Otherwise, it is more economical not to buy it because you will have to pay an extra 40 JD at the police station when you extend your visa.

EXCHANGE IN JORDAN

The currency used in Jordan is the Jordanian Dinar (JD or JOD), which is fixed to the U.S. Dollar. In October 2018, one Dinar was equivalent to 1.4 Dollars and 1.25 Euro.
WEATHER IN JORDAN
During the summer months (Apr-Oct), the climate in Amman is very hot and dry, with average daily highs around 30˚C. However, nights can be a bit cooler and a light sweater or jacket might be needed.

In the winter (Nov-Mar), weather can be quite cold and rainy, with occasional snow. Average highs are in the low teens. Heavy clothes are recommended! Further, many buildings in Amman do not have central heating systems; because of this, we suggest bringing additional warm clothing to wear at home, as it can be very cold indoors as well.

LOCAL CUSTOMS
Typical dress in Jordan can vary widely, ranging from western styles to much more conservative, traditional wear. Some of the more-revealing styles found in other countries are often not considered acceptable in Jordan. In order to show respect for the local customs, women should refrain from wearing low-cut tops, skirts, and shorts. There are some exceptions, such as at resorts and in certain venues (i.e. hotels, bars), where these restrictions may not apply.

We ask that all students adhere to these advisories while in country.

TRIPS IN JORDAN
Many of our students enjoy taking trips outside of the city that may involve swimming, camping, and hiking. If this interests you, we suggest bringing the appropriate footwear, swimwear and related items, as they may be hard to find here.

PLUGS AND ELECTRICITY
The electrical voltage in Jordan is 220V. Most outlets take two-pin plugs, although some take three. Adapters are easy to find if needed.

TELEPHONE SERVICE
Most students will choose to purchase a Jordanian SIM card (less than 10 JD) for their stay in country. Students can choose from several service providers (Zain, Umnhia, and Orange) which will offer plans with and without data packages. Once a SIM card is acquired, minutes and data are easily recharged as needed with credit purchased at any supermarket.

Students staying for a short period may wish to use calling cards or international plans with their regular cell phone providers if desired.

INTERNET
Free Wi-Fi can be found at the school and at many cafes in the neighborhood and around the city. Flats provided by Ahlan all come equipped with Wi-Fi and passwords will posted on the wall in each apartment.

If needed, personal Wi-Fi connections can be purchased (i.e. with a portable router or USB stick) at any of the main cell service providers mentioned above.
EATING OUT

Food and drink prices in Jordan can vary widely. Cheap options are certainly available; a falafel sandwich or a cup of coffee from a street vendor, for example, could cost as little as 0.25 or 0.50 JD (less than $1). However, eating in sit-down restaurants and western-style cafes can be pricier, with meals ranging from a few JD to as high as 10 or 15 JD at some of the fancier options. Alcohol is available for purchase in stores at bars, but can be quite expensive due to custom fees. Groceries can be purchased at small markets found in every neighborhood or at larger supermarkets such as Carrefour, which can be reached by taxi. Large fruit and vegetable markets are also found downtown and offer the largest variety of goods. Prices for groceries also vary depending on the vendor, but can be similar to those found in many western countries.

TRANSPORTATION

Taxis are the most common form of public transportation in Amman. Yellow taxis can be hailed from the street and will take riders anywhere within the city. Most rides will cost between 1 and 3 JD. Taxi drivers are required to use a meter for all customers, although some drivers will try to avoid its use in order to get a higher fare. At the start of any ride, check that the meter is running and that it has started from the base fare of 0.25 JD during the day and 0.35 JD at night. If a driver gives you a hard time or refuses to use the meter, it is sometimes best to get out and find another taxi. You may also choose to negotiate a price if you are familiar with the prices and location to which you are traveling, although this should always be done at the start of a ride. Shared taxis are also a common option used by many Jordanians. These white taxis, referred to as “service,” run on set routes through various areas of the city and also to other areas of Jordan. They will take up to four people at one time and will stop along the route to let out or pick up new passengers. Rates can vary but are usually 0.30 or 0.35 JD within Amman. Buses will similarly run on set routes throughout the city, often waiting to fill up before starting their routes. Using shared taxis and buses in Amman can be frustrating as there is no set schedule for departure and arrival times, but they are certainly the cheapest modes of transport in the city.
Ahlan leaving its mark in the desert!
Ahlan World Jordan

17 Kharija al-Ashja’i Street
Jabal Al-Webdeh, Amman

Near Terra Santa College and Kuliat al-Sharia Mosque
Our exact address can be found on Google Maps (Ahlan World Jordan for Arabic Language)

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