

The MSU Muslim Studies Program presents

LANGUAGE ACCOMMODATION

Analyzing the Role of Attitudes in Interdialectal Arabic Encounters



featuring

Brahim Chakrani
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Tuesday, November 17
12:00pm-1:30pm on Zoom

Free registration at

<https://muslimstudies.isp.msu.edu/about/reg-links>

In this talk, I will examine patterns of interdialectal language accommodation among Arabic speakers in the U.S. This study contributes to Communication Accommodation Theory (CAT) by demonstrating that speakers' motivation to accommodate is predicated on their attitudes toward the different Arabic varieties. Using data from natural conversations, personal interviews, and ethnographic observations, this research shows that language attitudes affect the degree of a speaker's convergence or divergence toward their interlocutors. The theoretical undertaking of this study is to show the connection between micro-level accommodative strategies and macro-societal relationships that arrange the asymmetrical relationship between different Arabic varieties and their speakers.

Organized by the Muslim Studies Program and cosponsored by the Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian, and African Languages; Asian Studies Center; and James Madison College