

*Using Facebook to Bring Together Students in
the US and in Lebanon*

SUNY Global Center, March 19th, 2015
Seventh COIL Conference

Profs. Elizabeth Fonseca and Cara Tuzzolino-Werben,
Nassau Community College, NY

Prof. Sarah Guth, Universita' degli studi

Why Lebanon? A Project Overview

- ❖ LINCC program at NCC

- ❖ AKU/ITK partners in Lebanon

<http://www.aku.edu.lb/>

- ❖ Grant-funded project (BMENA>>USAID>>>HED>>ACE)

- ❖ SUNY COIL





Project Overview, continued

- ❖ Need for and focus on global awareness
- ❖ Students' savvy with social media + growing use of social media in education
- ❖ Students' need to know how to use academic English in social media environments to practice for life outside the classroom
- ❖ Language practice for English language learners
 - Selfies—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/563434523756953/>
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/991365460888946/>

Tasks

“21st-century pen pals”

Project Timeline

Week 1—Post Group Selfie AND Song-video Introduction for individual students within groups (formal activities are done in lab. Others can comment informally during remainder of the week)

Week 2—Post Group Selfie AND respond to your partner (unless you haven't already); Cultural question in groups (post) Don't post answer yet. Ss create questions in classroom.

Week 3—Group Selfie AND check responses and post answers

Week 4—Group Selfie AND holiday project—describe a holiday from your religion/culture/home country. Find a photo that represents part of your holiday and post/link it with your description.. Each student does this individually.

Week 5-Collaborative Project--Create a new holiday. That means, use something from each person's holiday, and create a new holiday. Give it a name. What food do people have? What time of year do you celebrate this holiday? What is the purpose of this holiday?

Issues to be Aware of

- ❖ Communications
- ❖ Flexibility
- ❖ Scheduling and Calendars
- ❖ Technological constraints

Finally, F2F: Travel to Beirut

Here is a sample cultural question (created by Rita Moukheiber, Beirut)

What is the signature Lebanese dish?

a: Moujaddara

b: Eclair

c: Tabbouleh

And Away We Go!









Q&A

Thank you for coming!

Prof. Cara Tuzzolino

Cara.Tuzzolino-Werben@ncc.edu

Prof. Elizabeth Fonseca

Elizabeth.fonseca@ncc.edu

LINCC Program: Language Immersion at Nassau Community College
Garden City, NY

Amine Mattar

amine.mattar@aku.edu.lb

Prof. Sarah Guth

lamericaana@gmail.com