The University

The American University of Beirut (AUB) is a private, independent, non-sectarian institution of higher learning founded in 1866. It functions under a charter from the State of New York and is governed by a private, autonomous Board of Trustees.

The University has six faculties: Agricultural and Food Sciences, Arts and Sciences, Engineering and Architecture, Health Sciences, Medicine (including the Rafic Hariri School of Nursing), and the Suliman S. Olayan School of Business. At present, AUB offers programs leading to Bachelor, Master, MD, and PhD degrees.

The University became co-educational in 1922. The language of instruction is English.

Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS)

Degrees awarded by the American University of Beirut are officially registered with the Ministry of Higher Education in Lebanon and with the New York State Department of Education in the United States. AUB has been accredited as an institution since 2004 by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, Tel. 267-284-5000). The University's accreditation was most recently reaffirmed in June 2009, after the completion of an extensive self-study that was reviewed by educational experts chosen in consultation with Middle States. Over the last several years, a number of AUB faculties, in addition to the Medical Center, have also sought accreditation with more specialized bodies. In September 2006, the Graduate Public Health Program of the Faculty of Health Sciences became the first such program to be accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) outside of North America. One year later, the Rafic Hariri School of Nursing became the first nursing school beyond American territories to have its nursing programs accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE); it was reaccredited for 10 years in 2012 (see www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation). In 2008, the AUB Medical Center received official accreditation from Joint Commission International (JCI), the international arm of the US-based Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). The Medical Center had previously been accredited by JCAHO from 1965 until 1983; however, the outbreak of the Civil War in Lebanon prevented periodic site visits by review teams. The Medical Center is also accredited by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) as a provider of continuing nursing education. ANCC's Magnet Recognition Program B granted AUBMC its prestigious Magnet designation in June 2009, making the Medical Center the first healthcare institution in the Middle East and the third in the world outside of the United States to be recognized in this way. Also in 2009, undergraduate and graduate programs offered by the Suliman S. Olayan School of Business were accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). Most recently, in April 2014, undergraduate and graduate programs at the Suliman S. Olayan School of Business were reaccredited by the AACSB. In July 2010, four undergraduate programs at the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture were accredited by ABET, Inc. (the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology). The Nutrition and Dietetics Coordinated Program (NDCP) at the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences has received accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) in November 2013.

The University or its representatives are members of the American Council on Education (ACE); the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS); the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU); the Association of American International Colleges and Universities (AAICU); the Global Liberal Arts Alliance (GLAA); the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions

Officers (AACRAO); the Arab Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (Arab ACRAO); the Association for Institutional Research (AIR); the College Board; the Association of International Educators (NAFSA); Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education (NASPA); the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO); the National Association of College and University Attorneys (NACUA); the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA); the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE); the American Society for Quality (ASQ); the American Productivity and Quality Center (APQC); the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC); the Overseas Association for College Admission Counseling (OACAC); and the American International Consortium of Academic Libraries (AMICAL). Members of the AUB administration regularly attend meetings and professional development activities organized by these and other international organizations, as well as associations, syndicates, and other formal groupings located in Lebanon and the region.

Mission Statement

The American University of Beirut (AUB) is an institution of higher learning founded to provide excellence in education, to participate in the advancement of knowledge through research, and to serve the peoples of the Middle East and beyond. Chartered in New York State in 1863, the University bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. The University believes deeply in and encourages freedom of thought and expression and seeks to foster tolerance and respect for diversity and dialogue. Graduates will be individuals committed to creative and critical thinking, life-long learning, personal integrity, civic responsibility, and leadership.

History

In 1862, American missionaries in Lebanon and Syria, under the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, asked Dr. Daniel Bliss to withdraw from the evangelical work of the mission in Lebanon to found a college of higher learning that would include medical training. It was felt that this college should have an American educational character, should be administered independently from the mission, and should be maintained by its own funds. Dr. Bliss traveled to the United States in the summer of 1862 to solicit funds for this new enterprise. By August 1864, he had raised $100,000 but, because of inflation during the Civil War, it was decided that he should raise a sterling fund in England to start the operations of the college, leaving the dollar fund to appreciate. After collecting £4,000 in England, Dr. Bliss traveled to Beirut in March 1866.

On April 24, 1863, while Dr. Bliss was raising money for the new school, the State of New York granted a charter under the name of the Syrian Protestant College. The college opened with its first class of 16 students on December 3, 1866.

The cornerstone of College Hall, the first building on the present campus in Ras Beirut, was laid on December 7, 1871, by the Honorable William E. Dodge, Sr., then Treasurer of the Board of Trustees. At the ceremony, President Daniel Bliss expressed the guiding principle of the college in these words:

"This college is for all conditions and classes of men without regard to color, nationality, race or religion. A man, white, black or yellow, Christian, Jew, Mohammedan or heathen, may enter and enjoy all the advantages of this institution for three, four or eight years; and go out believing in

one God, in many gods, or in no God. But it will be impossible for anyone to continue with us long without knowing what we believe to be the truth and our reasons for that belief."

College Hall and the first medical building were completed and put to use in 1873, and the bell in the tower of College Hall pealed for the first time in March 1874. However, College Hall was extensively damaged by a savage explosion in the early morning of November 8, 1991, and the building had to be demolished. It was later rebuilt, and the new College Hall was inaugurated in June 1999.

Since the earliest years, the University has continually expanded and developed new faculties and programs. In 1867, it started the School of Medicine. Four years later, in 1871, both a school of pharmacy and a preparatory school were added. The latter became independent in 1960 and is now known as International College. In 1900, the University established a school of commerce which was later incorporated into the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. In 2000, it regained its independence and was later named the Suliman S. Olayan School of Business. When the hospital (currently the American University of Beirut Medical Center) opened in 1905, a school of nursing—today the Rafic Hariri School of Nursing—was also established. In 1910, the University opened a School of Dentistry, which operated for thirty years. In the early years of the 1950s, several program expansions took place. The Faculty of Engineering and Architecture was established in 1951; the Faculty of Agriculture—now the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences—first opened its doors in 1952; and the School of Public Health—now the Faculty of Health Sciences—was founded in 1954.

On November 18, 1920, the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York changed the name of the institution from the Syrian Protestant College to the American University of Beirut; other charter amendments expanded the functions of the University.

At the end of June 2015, the number of degrees and diplomas awarded since June 1870 totaled 85,710.

President	Dr. Daniel Bliss	1866−02
President	Dr. Howard S. Bliss	1902−20
Acting President	Dean Edward F. Nickoley	1920−23
President	Dr. Bayard Dodge	1923−48
President	Dr. Stephen B.L. Penrose, Jr.	1948−54
Acting President	Dr. Constantine K. Zurayk	1954−57
President	Dr. J. Paul Leonard	1957−61
President	Mr. Norman Burns	1961−65
President	Dr. Samuel B. Kirkwood	1965−76
Interim President	Dr. James Cowan	1976−77
President	Dr. Harold E. Hoelscher	1977−81
Acting President	Mr. David S. Dodge	1981−82
President	Dr. Malcolm H. Kerr	1982−84
Acting President	Dr. Samir K. Thabet	1984
President	Dr. Calvin Plimpton	1984−87
President	Dr. Frederic P. Herter	1987−93
President	Dr. Robert M. Haddad	1993−96
President	Mr. David S. Dodge	1996−97
President	Dr. John Waterbury	1998−08
President	Dr. Peter F. Dorman	2008−15
President	Dr. Fadlo R. Khuri	2015 −

Marquand House, completed in 1879, is the campus residence of the president of the University. All presidents have lived there during their presidencies, except for Dr. Calvin Plimpton, Dr. Frederic Herter, Dr. Robert Haddad, and Mr. David Dodge.

Three presidents died while in office: Dr. Howard Bliss, Dr. Stephen Penrose, and Dr. Malcolm Kerr. Dr. Kerr, the ninth president, was assassinated outside of his College Hall office on January 18, 1984.

Location and Climate

The University is situated in Beirut, Lebanon, at the crossroads of the Middle East. The campus on the Ras Beirut peninsula stretches along the Mediterranean shore and overlooks St. George's Bay toward northern Lebanon and the snow-capped mountains to the east. The campus of around 61 acres has 64 buildings, including faculty and administrative buildings, five libraries, three museums, the Charles W. Hostler Student Center, two men's and five women's dormitories, and the Medical Center. The luxuriant flowers, shrubs, and trees make it one of the most beautiful campuses in the world.

Lebanon enjoys a Mediterranean climate and is pleasant and sunny for eight months of the year. The winter rainy season from November to March, however, is at times damp and cold. Although most Beirut buildings are centrally heated, warm clothing is recommended for the winter months. The average annual rainfall of 86 cm (34 inches) comes chiefly in the winter when the temperature may drop below 7˚C (50˚F).

Academic Services

Archaeological Museum

Founded in 1868, the University Archaeological Museum is the third oldest museum in the Near East. It was established with a donation from General Cesnola, the American Consul in Cyprus, and the collection has since grown steadily. In 2006, the Museum was completely renovated with the construction of an additional mezzanine and an extensive reorganization in a chronological and thematic treatment of its collections. Today the museum exhibits a wide range of artifacts (15,000 objects; 10,000 coins) from Lebanon and neighboring countries. It traces humankind's progress in the Near East from the Early Stone Age to the Islamic period. The collections on display provide educational benefits to students and scholars in Near Eastern archaeology.

The museum runs a research program including field excavations and publications of museum collections. Several types of educational activities (e.g., lectures, exhibitions, children's programs, trips) are also organized in collaboration with the Society of the Friends of the Museum, which also runs the Museum Shop. The museum may be enjoyed by the public free of charge.

Opening hours are Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. The museum is closed during official and AUB holidays.

Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) promotes and supports high quality teaching and learning in keeping with AUB's mission of excellence in education and its commitment to independent thinking and life-long learning. The Center is an independent, multipurpose, interdisciplinary unit that serves all of the faculties at the University. It is administrated under the Office of the Provost. The CTL works in collaboration with AUB's academic support services, especially the University Libraries, IT Academic Core Processes and Systems, and the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment.

Office of Information Technology (OIT)

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) is AUB's and AUBMC's central information technology service provider and a regional leader in technological initiatives for institutions of higher learning. The OIT strives to provide members of the AUB community, vendors, partners, affiliates, and others across the globe with secure, state-of-the-art and cost-effective information technology solutions that empower stakeholders to excel in the pursuit of their goals and in achieving leadership in education and healthcare. The OIT performs its duties in a team-empowered environment with integrity, transparency, and innovation. It is composed of specialized IT departments that are responsible for revamping, deploying, and maintaining systems and infrastructure services aimed at enhancing user productivity through seamless access to services and resources. The IT departments implement innovative solutions focusing on functionality, flexibility, manageability, standardization, security, and data safety. The IT organization manages, through its various departments, the hardware, software, and applications supporting many of the University's academic and administrative functions. These include the Student Information System (AUBsis) operated by the Office of the Registrar; the Library Information System operated by the University Libraries; the Financial Information System operated by the Office of the Comptroller; the learning management system (Moodle) operated by the academic units; and the integrated hospital information system operated by the hospital administration and departments. The smooth and efficient functioning of these systems is overseen by a team of professional and experienced IT staff. You can view the services provided by the IT organization by visiting: www.aub.edu.lb/it/.

IT Academic Support Services

The OIT provides the AUB community with an IT-enabled environment and innovative solutions that facilitate creative teaching, high quality research, effective learning, and professional collaboration and development. The OIT performs its duties transparently to empower stakeholders to advance and lead in education, research and decision-making. OIT also supports the academic units and the academic administration in selecting and implementing state-of-the-art technological systems and facilities for teaching and research. The service catalogue includes, but is not limited to, services related to e-Learning & instructional design, plagiarism prevention, survey management, faculty IT support, implementing academic IT projects, and IT consulting. It also provides stakeholders with face-to-face and self-paced online training in order to help them acquire confidence and capacity in e-Learning, instructional design, and other related IT topics. OIT also provides Ad-Hoc workshops to students of computer science and computer engineering around various cutting edge IT topics. It also provides stakeholders with face-to-face training sessions that help them acquire confidence and skills in a wide variety of computer applications. You can view the services provided by this department by visiting: http://www.aub.edu.lb/it/acps.

Intranet and Internet Services

The OIT provides a wired and wireless network infrastructure ensuring high-speed, secure, reliable, and widespread access for AUB users across the entire campus and hospital, including all dorms and faculty apartments. AUB students can connect to the AUB network from public computer labs or personal laptops and mobile devices via the campus-wide wireless network. Using any web browser, students can take over a hundred online e-learning courses, most of which are computer-based.

With an AUBnet account, all students, faculty, and staff have full access to the internet, email, personal websites and other services such as network printers, intranet applications, and the High Performance Computing (HPC) system.

Computer Labs

There are several computer labs on campus which provide internet access and a variety of other resources such as printers, CD burners, and secure network storage for personal data. Students may also request access to servers hosting applications such as Microsoft Office, special software for statistics and graphics, and various programming languages.

Help Desk

Friendly and knowledgeable IT help desk specialists are always ready to support students, faculty, and staff. For IT-related support, contact the IT help desk by email at it.helpdesk@aub.edu.lb, dial ext. 2260, or visit in person.

For more information, visit our website: www.aub.edu.lb/it.

Medical Center

The American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC) is a private, non-profit, in-patient and out-patient teaching facility of the Faculty of Medicine. As a state-of-the-art tertiary/quaternary medical facility, it operates 386 beds, serving 34,282 in-patients per year, and an out-patient facility receiving 332,310 visits (254,350 private; 28,809 general outpatient department; and 49,151 emergencies) per year. It provides a wide spectrum of medical, nursing, and paramedical training programs at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels in different specialties and subspecialties with 407 residents and fellows (63 Fellows, 2 PGY VII, 16 PGY VI, 45 PGY V, 68 PGY IV, 78 PGY III, 81 PGY II, 117 PGY I). It is served by 340 predominantly US-trained highly-credentialed physicians. AUBMC is considered the primary and tertiary/quaternary referral medical center in Lebanon and neighboring countries. It is fully equipped and hosts a number of centers of excellence.

IT Medical Center Processes and Systems

The IT Medical Center Processes and Systems (IT MCPS) department serves the Faculty of Medicine and AUBMC communities by providing IT servers and solutions to address business, clinical and financial automation needs. AUBMC is presently going through a fast-paced process re-engineering effort focused on improving medical care through enhancements of its business and clinical operations in line with JCI and MOH accreditation standards. Information technology plays an essential role in achieving these goals.

Major areas of the Medical Center now have IT solutions. The current homegrown Hospital Information System (HIS) is comprised of dozens of business, clinical, and financial applications accessible through a web portal although they may have been developed on different platforms. This architecture has allowed AUBMC to gradually use new technologies to significantly improve operations. This has also facilitated the ability to integrate with procured third party solutions.

The IT MCPS team continues to leverage emerging technologies to creatively meet the growing needs by expanding, upgrading, or building new solutions until a new HIS is purchased.

Libraries

AUB libraries consist of the following: Jafet Memorial Library (the central library of the AUB campus), the Engineering and Architecture Library, Saab Memorial Medical Library, and the Science and Agriculture Library, with its annex AREC (Farm) Library.

The libraries have a long history in Lebanon and in the region, which is reflected in the rich collections that they house. The collections consist of 390,000 books in 470,000 volumes and 6,750 print periodicals (1,800 in Arabic) in 180,000 volumes. The libraries also own 350,000 electronic books and 550,000 volumes of electronic serial backfiles, and provide access to 135,000 electronic periodicals. The libraries currently subscribe to 4,000 electronic periodicals, 780 print periodicals (318 in Arabic), and 302 databases. There are about 36,000 audiovisual items of all formats, the majority of which are microforms of a substantial number of local and regional journals and newspapers dating back to the late 19th century and early 20th century. The Archives and Special Collections contain 700 linear feet of archival material; 1,400 manuscripts, most of which are in Arabic and some of which are uniquely and/or rarely held resources; 8,500 volumes of theses, projects, and dissertations dating back to 1907; 5,000 posters, 1,000 postcards, and 2,000 maps; as well as 51,000 photographs of unique and historical nature. These print and electronic collections are developed and enriched on a regular basis to support the academic and research programs of the University.

The libraries are fully automated and most of their resources, databases, electronic books, and references are remotely accessible, providing a modern and virtual environment that is conducive to research. They are equipped with a state-of-the-art electronic classroom and computer lab. Secure and reliable wireless connections are available in all the libraries. The libraries provide customized reference and instruction services through e-mails, walk-ins, and in classes, in an active program of user education, which promotes a culture of information literacy at all levels. Researchers from Lebanon, the region, and beyond continuously seek out the libraries for their unique, rich, and historical collections, particularly on Lebanon and the Middle East. The libraries open a total of 106.5 hours per week and 24/7 during reading and exam periods.

The Saab Memorial Medical Library (SML), (http://smlweb.aub.edu.lb/) is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Nicholas Saab (AUB School of Medicine graduate, 1959). The library has been functioning in its present quarters as part of the Medical Center since 1975, and qualifies as one of the best medical libraries in the Middle East. Its collection consists of 150 printed periodical titles; over 100,000 volumes of electronic serial backfiles; more than 5,000 e-textbooks; and nearly 50,000 books, over 2,000 of which are of historical value (such as Avicenna's Canon of Medicine, 1593). SML now acts as a hybrid library that is constantly increasing its e-resources while maintaining traditional services. It has a large number of the most important bibliographic medical and allied health databases, and provides access to more than 6,000 medical and health sciences e-journals. In 1978 SML was designated by the World Health Organization as the National Focal Point for Lebanon. The library has a special collection called the Lebanese

Corner, which includes publications about Lebanon, or by Lebanese authors, in the fields of medicine and other health related topics. SML also started a Medical Institutional Repository in 2007. SML services are provided mainly to an AUB clientèle, but also to all other medical and allied health users throughout Lebanon. The library opens for a total of 106.5 hours per week. With its rich, up-to-date medical collection, SML aims to promote research, education, and patient care in the medical and allied health fields. SML is a member of three consortia in Lebanon and the Arab world, and it provides training to medical librarians and healthcare professionals in Lebanon and the region.

Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA)

The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA) coordinates institutional assessment and research activities. It is responsible for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of accurate and timely information about the University's environment and performance. This information supports institutional operations, management, decision-making, and planning functions, and sustains excellence in student learning and community service.

The office also develops and conducts assessments for various purposes at institutional, regional, and international levels.

More specifically, the functions of OIRA are to

- act as a resource and repository for official institutional statistics, information, and policies;
- coordinate assessment and evaluation of University programs and processes (e.g., registration, admissions, advising) to support planning, decision-making, and improvement;
- formulate and implement data-gathering activities such as surveys, interviews, and focus groups for a wide variety of internal (e.g., accreditation) and external (e.g., comparison with peer institutions) uses;
- develop, administer, and report assessments required by the University for admissions, placement, program review, and other educational purposes;
- serve as a testing center for various international bodies and organizations; and
- administer instructor and course evaluations, and provide feedback to faculty members to improve teaching.

Office of University Advancement

The Office of University Advancement supports the mission of AUB by developing and strengthening relationships with key constituencies including alumni, donors, and friends. It raises money for University priorities such as scholarships, academic programs, and building projects; develops and strengthens relationships among AUB's worldwide alumni and between alumni and the University; and is responsible for communicating news and information about the University through print and electronic media to both internal and external constituencies. The Office of University Advancement includes Development, Communications, Alumni Relations, and Advancement Services.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

AUB encourages a diverse student body and workforce, and is committed to the principle of equal opportunity in education and employment. In the administration of its educational, admissions, and employment policies, and other university programs and activities, AUB does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, national or ethnic identity, gender or gender identity, marital status, disability, genetic predisposition or carrier status, alienage or citizenship status, political affiliation, or any legally protected characteristic, except as required by Lebanese law.

In addition, in compliance with Title IX of the US Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits sex discrimination in education and interprets sex discrimination as including sexual harassment and sexual violence, the University maintains a Title IX coordinator in the Office of the Provost and may appoint deputy Title IX coordinators as needed. Inquiries and complaints regarding sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual violence may be directed to the Title IX coordinator, College Hall, 5th Floor, Beirut, Lebanon, or by email at integrityofficer@aub.edu.lb. The Office of the Provost maintains a resource page on Non-Discrimination, Harassment, and Title IX at www.aub.edu.lb/titleix.

AUB will provide reasonable accommodation consistent with the law to members of the AUB community with a disability. What constitutes a reasonable accommodation depends on the circumstances and, thus, will be addressed by AUB on a case-by-case basis.