The Department of Surgery offers graduate clerkships to medical students. It also offers a year of internship which is required for any further specialization.

A four-year residency program in general surgery is structured to conform to the requirements of the Arab Board of Surgery. The trainees are allowed, on an individual basis, to sit for parts I and II of the examination of the Royal College of Surgeons.

The Department of Surgery offers a five-year training program in neurosurgery, a four-year training program in orthopedic surgery and urology, and a three-year training program in plastic surgery. One year of categorical internship and one year of general surgery residency are prerequisites to join the neurosurgery program, orthopedic surgery program, and the urology program; one year of categorical internship and two years of general surgery residency are prerequisites to join the plastic surgery program.
The third year surgery clerkship at AUBMC is a 12-week rotation consisting of 6 weeks on a core general surgical service, 3 weeks in the surgical ER and 3 weeks on subspecialty surgical services of the student's choice (orthopedic surgery, neurosurgery, urologic surgery, cardiothoracic surgery, or plastic surgery). The goal of the surgery clerkship is to introduce the student to the principles of caring for the surgical patient. This goal is accomplished by allowing the student to participate in the care of patients at the various stages of evaluation and treatment by surgeons. These stages include but are not limited to the preoperative office or clinic visit, inpatient admission, operative procedures, and inpatient and outpatient recovery.

The clerkship is structured on the principle that learning is an active process, which can be accomplished only by the student. The role of the faculty and housestaff is to provide guidance, stimulation, and example. The third year clerkship educational experience is supplemented by a core curriculum set of lectures covering all the basic topics in general surgery and the surgical specialties, as well as multiple problem-based learning sessions designed by various faculty members. Students are required to attend all educational activities held in the department.

Knowledge of English is necessary. Fourth year students may elect to rotate through one or more of the following disciplines: general surgery and peripheral vascular surgery, cardiothoracic surgery, neurosurgery, orthopedic surgery, pediatric surgery, plastic surgery, and urology. Open to AUB and non-AUB fourth year medical students. Non-AUB students act as observers only. One to two months.

Categorical interns are considered post-graduate first year trainees and are accepted by the Department of Surgery on a competitive basis. Workup and general care of patients are the major responsibilities of the intern, who functions as an integral part of the resident staff. The intern performs surgical procedures under supervision and actively participates in the various bedside rounds and teaching conferences of the department. The intern rotates through the Emergency Room and through other subspecialties. Categorical internship is considered the first year in the surgical training program. Eleven months.

A grand round is held once a month. Each division has its own weekly conference and teaching activities. Bedside teaching rounds are held at least once or twice a week. There is a trend toward bedside teaching rather than didactic teaching.

Special lectures are delivered as the occasions arise. Held on a monthly or bimonthly basis.

Currently there are four affiliations with the Department of Surgery based on agreements of cooperation:

- Makassed Hospital (since 4 March 1982)
- Rafic Hariri University Hospital (9 June 2005)
- Al Habib Hospital - S.A. / Dubai Project (10 August 2004)