Admissions

The American University of Beirut seeks students of sound character and demonstrated academic achievement and promise. In accordance with the policies of its founders and with its equal opportunity policy, the University admits students regardless of race, color, religion, gender, disability, or national origin. While it attracts students from more than sixty countries, AUB primarily serves applicants from Lebanon, the Arab world, and other countries of the Middle East, and seeks to maintain geographic distribution within the region. The University values its strong ties with its alumni and considers the attendance of alumni children important to the maintenance of these ties and to the continuation of its traditions.

Graduate Studies

Study leading to the master's degree was begun at the American University of Beirut in 1904; the first master's degree was awarded in 1905. Study leading to the degree of doctor of philosophy was initiated in 1961; the first PhD degree was granted in 1966.

Graduate study is under the direction of the graduate committees of the various faculties and the Board of Graduate Studies. The Board of Graduate Studies is accountable to the University Senate.

New programs may be added upon recommendation by the faculty graduate committee and approval of the faculty(ies) concerned, the Board of Graduate Studies, the University Senate, and the Board of Trustees.

Areas in Which Graduate Study Is Offered

The University offers both the master's degree and the degree of doctor of philosophy.

Master's Degrees

Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences

Agricultural Economics (MS)
Agricultural Extension (MS)[1]
Animal Science (MS)
Eco-system Management (MS)
Food Technology (MS)
Irrigation (MS)
Mechanization (MS)
Nutrition (MS)
Plant Protection (MS)
Plant Science (MS)
Poultry Science (MS)
Soil Science (MS)

1 Temporarily frozen

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Anthropology (MA)
Arabic Language and Literature (MA)
Archaeology (MA)
Biology (MS)
Chemistry (MS)
Computational Science (MS)
Computer Science (MS)
Economics (MA)
Education (MA)
English Language (MA)
English Literature (MA)
Financial Economics (MA)
Geology (MS)
History (MA)
Mathematics (MA and MS)
Middle Eastern Studies (MA)
Philosophy (MA)
Physics (MS)
Political Studies (MA)
Psychology (MA)
Public Administration (MA)
Sociology (MA)
Statistics (MA and MS)[1]

Suliman S. Olayan School of Business

Master of Business Administration (MBA)
Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA)
Corporate Executive Master of Business Administration (CEMBA)

Faculty of Engineering and Architecture

Applied Energy (MME)
Civil Engineering (ME)
Electrical and Computer Engineering (ME)
Environmental and Water Resources Engineering (ME)
Master of Engineering Management (MEM)
Mechanical Engineering (ME)
Urban Design (MUD)
Urban Planning and Policy (MUPP)

Faculty of Health Sciences

Public Health (MPH)[2] General and with concentrations in:
- Health Promotion and Community Health
- Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Health Management and Policies
- Epidemiology (MS)
- Population Health (MS)

1 Temporarily frozen
2 For more information on MPH rules and regulations, please refer to the FHS section, p.314

Faculty of Medicine

Biochemistry (MS)
Human Morphology (MS)
Medical Sciences (Interdepartmental) non-thesis (MS)[1]
Microbiology (MS)
Pharmacology and Therapeutics (MS)
Physiology (MS)

School of Nursing

Advanced Nursing Practice, Adult Care (MSN)
Nursing Administration (MSN)

Interfaculty Programs

Neuroscience (MS): Arts and Sciences, Engineering and Architecture, and Medicine
Nutrition (MS): Arts and Sciences, Health Sciences, and Medicine
Environmental Sciences (MS):
- Ecosystem Management (MSES): Agricultural and Food Sciences
- Environmental Policy Planning (MSES): Arts and Sciences
- Environmental Technology (MSES): Engineering and Architecture
- Environmental Health (MSES): Health Sciences

PhD Degrees

AUB offers the Doctor of Philosophy degree in eight disciplines. The programs have been designed for students whose academic background and interest in specific research areas suggest a potential for scholarly success and significant contribution to the regional body of knowledge. Students will work on a specific research plan with a contributing scholar and mentor in their department.

PhD programs include the following:

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Arabic Language and Literature
Cell and Molecular Biology
Arab and Middle Eastern History
Theoretical Physics

Faculty of Engineering and Architecture

Civil Engineering
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Environmental and Water Resources Engineering
Mechanical Engineering

All PhD candidates at AUB will receive full tuition and a generous stipend covering living expenses and books. Research funding will also be available.

Further information on programs, research possibilities, requirements for candidacy, and specific requirements for the PhD degree are on the corresponding faculty's section in this catalogue and on their webpage.

Combined Degree Programs

Faculty of Medicine: MS-MD and MD-PhD[1]

1 Temporarily frozen

Application Procedures

Applications are available at the Office of Admissions at either of the addresses below, and are mailed to applicants upon request. Applications may also be downloaded from the AUB website: www.aub.edu.lb/~webadmit/

Applicants Outside North America

Office of Admissions
American University of Beirut
PO Box 11-0236
Riad El-Solh 1107 2020
Beirut, Lebanon
E-mail: admissions@aub.edu.lb
Telephone: 961-1-374374/374444
Ext: 2590/2585/2596
Fax: 961-1-750775

Applicants in North America

American University of Beirut
3 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10017-2303
Telephone: 1-212-583-7600
Fax: 1-212-583-7650

Applications received by the Office of Admissions will be reviewed prior to the deadlines stated below (and indicated on the Application Form) and decisions of the department/program and the Graduate Studies Committee will be normally announced by the Office of Admissions within six weeks of deadlines of applications. Accepted applicants are given one month to decide whether to accept, defer, or decline admission.

1. Applications for regular admission to graduate study should be received by the following dates for consideration in subsequent semester(s):
   - February 20 for Summer where applicable or Fall admissions.
   - November 15 for Spring admission where applicable.
2. Late applications for admission to graduate study received between February 21 and May 1 will be considered for Summer or Fall admissions pending availability of places. Decision will be communicated to the applicant within six weeks of deadline of application and not later than June 30. Applications received after the deadline of **May 1** will not be considered for Summer or Fall.
3. Admission decisions and awards of graduate assistantships are announced at the latest by the following dates:
   - April 15 for Summer or Fall admissions on applications received by February 20.
   - June 30 for Summer or Fall admissions on late applications received between February 21 and May 1.
   - January 15 to 30 for Spring admission.

English Language Proficiency Requirement (ELPR)

Applicants to the graduate program, other than AUB graduates and graduates of recognized colleges or universities in North America, Great Britain, Australia, and New Zealand, must meet the English Language Proficiency Requirement (ELPR).

A score of 550 on the English Entrance Examination (EEE), or 600 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or 250 on the computer-based TOEFL or 97 on the Internet-based TOEFL, or 7.0 on the IELTS, or 500 on the Verbal Part of the GRE, or 25 on the Verbal Part of the GMAT is required for admission of new applicants to graduate study, or prospective graduate study, from recognized institutions of higher education. Those who score between 375 and 499 on the EEE, or between 490 and 570 on the TOEFL (between 163 and 227 on the computer-based TOEFL or 57-87 on the Internet-based TOEFL), may join the Intensive English Course (Eng 100A or Eng 100B, see Admissions section in the Undergraduate Catalogue) if approved by their respective faculties. Those who score between 500 and 549 on the EEE or 573 and 599 on the TOEFL (between 230 and 249 on the computer-based TOEFL or 88-96 on the internet-based TOEFL) are required take English 300 during their first semester of registration as graduate students.

Summary

Test	Graduate Students
TOEFL (computer-based)	250
TOEFL (paper and pencil)	600
TOEFL (internet-based)	97
EEE	550
IELTS	7.0
GRE General (Verbal Part)	500
GMAT (Verbal Part)	25

Upon registering for these tests, applicants must specify that results be sent to the AUB Office of Admissions.

- Information and application forms for the TOEFL can be requested from
  Educational Testing Service
  Rosedale Road, P.O. Box 6155
  Princeton, NJ 08541-6155

  AMIDEAST
  Riad El Solh, Bazerkan Building
  Beirut, LEBANON

  Applicants who take the TOEFL must use the institutional code number for AUB: 0902, when registering for the test.
- For information pertaining to IELTS, applicants should contact the British Council in their respective countries.

Further Requirements

An applicant's scores on the tests below must be made available to the appropriate departments and faculty graduate committees in time for graduate study admission selection. It is the responsibility of applicants to register for, and to take, the required tests on the appropriate dates to ensure that the Office of Admissions receives the scores in time for admission selection.

- Applicants for graduate study in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences are required to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test and submit the test scores along with the application form. Some Departments in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences recommend that applicants present GRE Subject tests. Applicants are advised to check with the department or program to which they are applying regarding this requirement.
- Applicants for graduate study in Electrical and Computer Engineering, at the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture are required to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test and submit the score along with the application form.
- Applicants for graduate study in the School of Business are required to take the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) and submit the scores not later than one month after the application deadline.

Some faculties and departments have additional requirements regarding admission to their programs. Prospective applicants should ascertain from the faculty/department/program concerned whether they meet all requirements. For detailed information regarding admission to a particular faculty or department, see the sections on graduate study in the relevant faculty and department sections.

Admission

Admission to Master's Programs

Graduate study is offered on a selective basis to students who have shown distinct academic ability. Applicants for graduate study may be considered for admission in one of three categories:

Admission to the Master's Degree Programs

To be considered for admission to the graduate programs at AUB, applicants must hold a Bachelor's degree from AUB or its equivalent from a recognized institution of higher learning. Applicants who have a good record of academic achievement, and a potential for creative and independent work, may be admitted into one of the following categories:

- Admission as a Regular Graduate Student, with the possibility of financial assistantship as a graduate assistant
- Admission on Probation
- Admission as Prospective Graduate Student (FAFS, FAS and FEA)

The minimum admission requirements for all categories are described below. Additional requirements may be set by the individual departments/programs as approved by Faculty Graduate Studies Committee. Applicants are advised to check with the concerned department or program to which they are applying or with the Office of Admissions for additional requirements.

Admission to the Master's program at AUB is competitive, based on the academic record and achievements of the applicant. Departments may also recommend admission for those students with particular research interests or characteristics, which are compatible with the areas of expertise of the faculty or the faculty goals within that program.

Applicants who hold degrees from institutions other than AUB must present, along with their official transcript, a letter from the institution awarding the degree indicating the denotation of their

grading system in terms of its equivalence on a 4.0 GPA scale, or in terms of letter grades A, B, C with +/- scales. Alternatively, applicants may present an official letter from the Office of the Registrar of their respective institutions indicating the graduating class average of previous years along with standard deviation and class size.

Admission as a Regular Student

An applicant is considered for admissions as a regular student to a graduate program if he/she meets the following minimum admission requirements:

1. An undergraduate average of at least 80 percent (or standardized equivalent from other institutions of higher learning) in the major field of study and a cumulative average of at least 75 percent (or standardized equivalent) for all work done at the undergraduate level leading to a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent from AUB or other recognized institutions of higher learning. In the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture and the Interfaculty Graduate Environmental Sciences Program (IGESP), an average of at least 80 percent is required for the last two years of undergraduate study or its equivalent at AUB or other universities as determined by the Faculty.
2. Students who hold a minor in a field of specialization with at least 80 percent average may be considered for admission as regular students in that field.
3. General GRE or GMAT test scores if required in the specific department/program/track. Scores up to three years old will be accepted in most programs requiring the GMAT or GRE scores. No minimum test score is required, but departments may set minimum required scores [refer to the specific program for more information].
4. At least two letters of recommendation.
5. A detailed statement of purpose (~400-500 words) for each choice (major or concentration) indicating the purpose for pursuing graduate study in the particular field at AUB, and specifying the applicant's research interests and/or practical experience in the field.
6. Additional requirements that are specific to each graduate program as included in the department or program listings.
7. Students from non-English-speaking countries must show proficiency in the English language. A minimum score of 600 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) (or 250 on the computer-based TOEFL) exam is required, or its equivalent.

In selecting students to the Master's program, the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee recognizes other evidence of achievement—whenever present—such as research potential or experience, work experience, publications, or other creative work or scholarly activity. In considering such criteria, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty will give serious consideration to departmental recommendations for admission in some cases to applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements of the undergraduate grade point average indicated above, but instead have presented clear evidence of creative activity and academic potential. Departments must present to the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee a justification of such admission recommendations. The Graduate Studies Committee will review these cases, and will make its final recommendation to the dean on a case-by-case basis.

Admission on Probation

An applicant is considered for admission on probation if he/she meets the following minimum admission requirements:

1. An undergraduate average of at least 75 percent (or standardized equivalent from other institutions

of higher learning) in the major field of study and a cumulative average of at least 75 percent (or standardized equivalent) for all work done at the undergraduate level leading to a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent from AUB or other recognized institutions of higher learning. In the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture and the Interfaculty Graduate Environmental Sciences Program (IGESP), an average of 75 percent is required for the last two years of study or its equivalent at AUB or other universities as determined by the Faculty.

2. The requirements for application and the governing regulations for admission recommendations as presented under "regular admission" remain the same in this case.

In addition an applicant who does not meet the above minimum requirements but appears to have reasonable potential for success as a graduate student, as manifested by appropriate practical experience or a high score on relevant standardized exam such as GRE, may be admitted on probation.

A student admitted on probation must complete nine credits of graduate level courses during the first two semesters of graduate studies, must pass all courses, and must attain a minimum cumulative average of 80 in order to achieve the status of a "regular" student. If the student fails to meet any of these conditions, s/he will be dropped from the program. Students admitted on probation are not considered for financial assistantship until they achieve the status of a "regular" student.

Admission as a Prospective Graduate Student (FAFS, FAS, and FEA)

Applicants who hold a Bachelor's degree in a major field of study other than the one to which they are applying, and who do not have sufficient academic preparation in the field, may be admitted as prospective graduate student who must complete certain undergraduate course requirements. Guidelines governing such course requirements are presented below.

To be considered for admission as a prospective graduate student, the applicant must have attained an undergraduate average of 75 percent (or standardized equivalent) in all work done at the undergraduate level leading to a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent from AUB or another recognized institution of higher learning. In the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, an applicant is considered for admission as a prospective graduate student if s/he attains an average of 75 at AUB for the last two years of undergraduate study or its equivalent at other universities, as determined by the Faculty, and has demonstrated good performance in courses related to the field being sought.

The requirements for application and the governing regulations for admission as presented under "regular admission" are the same in this case.

The following policies relate to undergraduate course requirements for students admitted into the prospective student category:

- Prospective students are normally required to take a minimum of 15 credits of undergraduate courses in the major field of study to which they are applying and must achieve an average of at least 80 percent in these courses to be admitted to the graduate program and begin work towards their Master's degree.
- Departments may recommend to the Graduate Studies Committee reducing the 15 credits minimum requirements for prospective students subject to the provision of supporting evidence and justification. Students who have taken courses in the intended field of study or in areas judged by departments as relevant to the intended field of study may have their requirements reduced. In considering undergraduate courses as prerequisites towards beginning an MA/MS/ME degree in a field of study, departments may recommend to the Graduate Studies Committee consideration of courses in other than the strictly defined field of study that they consider relevant. Outstanding work and/or research experience relevant to the intended field of study may (in exceptional cases) be considered in partial fulfillment of required courses. All recommendations to reduce

the requirements below 15 credits require the approval of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty following departmental justification.
- Departments may recommend to the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee waiving of some course requirements after the student's first semester, subject to justification and outstanding performance.
- For undergraduate courses taken prior to acceptance as prospective student to be considered as part of the 15 credit minimum requirements in the intended field of study, the average grade in these courses should be at least 80 percent or equivalent in other grading systems. For the purpose of change of status (admission after completion of requirements) to regular graduate student, a minimum average of 80 percent will be required in all 15 credits of undergraduate courses in the field (including the ones taken prior to acceptance). If an average of 75-80 percent is attained, the student may have his/her status changed to graduate on probation pending department recommendation and approval of the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee.

Prospective graduate students who have completed all undergraduate prerequisite courses except one, may begin taking one graduate course along with the last undergraduate course requirement, upon the approval of their department and the Graduate Studies Committee.

Admission to PhD Programs

Applicants who have an excellent record of academic achievement, and a potential for creative and independent work, may be admitted into one of the following categories:

- Admissions for Students Holding a Master's Degree
- Admissions for Students Holding a Bachelor's Degree

The minimum admission requirements for the two categories are described below. Additional requirements may be set by the individual programs as approved by the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee and the Board of Graduate Studies. Applicants are advised to check with the department/program administration to which they are applying or with the Office of Admissions for additional requirements.

Admission to the PhD program at AUB is competitive, based on the academic record and achievements of the applicant, and the research foci of the department/program.

Applicants who hold degrees from institutions other than AUB must present, along with their official transcript, letter/s from the institution/s awarding the degree/s indicating the denotation of their grading system in terms of its equivalence on a 4.0 GPA scale, or in terms of letter grades A, B, C with +/- scales. Alternatively, applicants may present an official letter from the registrar's office of their respective institutions indicating the graduating class average of previous years along with standard deviation and class size.

Admission for Students Holding a Master's Degree

Applicants to the PhD programs are expected to have demonstrated distinct academic ability. An applicant is considered for admissions to the PhD program if s/he meets the following minimum admission requirements:

1. Holds a Master's degree in any of the disciplines approved by the department/program to which the candidate is applying from AUB or other recognized institution of higher learning with a minimum cumulative average of 85 over 100 or its equivalent.

2. Submits a complete application including:

   - Transcripts of academic record from all the institutions that were attended after high school.
   - General GRE test scores. Scores up to 3 years old will be accepted in most programs requiring the GRE scores. The departments may set minimum required scores [refer to the specific program for more information].
   - A written statement of purpose (~400-500 words) indicating the purpose for pursuing graduate study in the particular field at AUB, and specifying the applicant's research interests and/or practical experience in the field.
   - Three letters of recommendations.
   - A portfolio that includes a resume and samples of work if required by the specific program.

3. Complete an interview either in person, by phone, or over the internet.

4. Students from non-English-speaking countries must show proficiency in the English language. A minimum score of 600 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) (or 250 on the computer-based TOEFL) exam is required, or its equivalent.

Admissions for Students Holding Bachelor's Degree

Applicants who have an excellent record of academic achievement, and a potential for creative and independent work at the Bachelor level, may be admitted into a PhD accelerated track at the Bachelor level if this track is available at the department/program.

An applicant is considered for admissions into a PhD track student if s/he meets the following minimum admission requirements:

1- A bachelor degree in any of the discipline approved by the department to which the candidate is applying from AUB or other recognized institution of higher learning with a minimum major and cumulative average of 85 over 100 or its equivalent.

2- The requirements for the application apply also for the accelerated PhD track.

The student should consult with specific programs to learn about minimum requirements for completion of the accelerated PhD track degree. It is possible that some programs will require that the student complete his/her Master's degree before starting the PhD degree.

In selecting students to the PhD program, the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee recognizes other evidence of achievement – whenever present - such as research potential or experience, work experience, publications, or other creative work or scholarly activity. In considering such criteria, the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty will give serious consideration to departmental recommendations for admission in some cases for applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements of grade point average indicated above, but instead have presented clear evidence of creative activity and academic potential. Departments must present to the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee a justification of such admission recommendations. The Graduate Studies Committee will review these cases, and will make its final recommendation on a case-by-case basis.

Admission as a Special Graduate Student not Working for a Degree

This category applies to those who wish to take some graduate courses at AUB without working for a degree as part of the Continuing Education program. Applicants must hold at least a Bachelor's degree from a recognized institution of higher learning. Applications should be submitted to the Office of Admissions along with the degree and transcript of record by June 30 if applying for fall or November 1 if applying for spring (those deadlines are rolling up till one month prior to the beginning of the semester). GRE test scores are not required in this case. Applicants should specify their intended course of study during their visiting status. Applications are reviewed by departments where courses are to be taken on a case-by-case basis. Recommendations for admission as Special student not working for a degree require the approval of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty. Admission is offered normally for one semester, but may be extended for another semester following the approval of the department(s) where courses are taken and the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee.

Admission as a Visiting Graduate Student

This category applies to students who are on study abroad or as part of an exchange program. Applicants must be a student at another recognized institution of higher learning pursuing graduate studies at Master's or PhD level. Applications should be submitted to the Office of Admissions along with the degree and transcript of record by April 1 if applying for fall or October 30, if applying for spring. GRE test scores are not required in this case. Applicants should specify their intended course of study during their visiting status. Applications are reviewed by departments where courses are to be taken. Recommendations for admission as visiting students require the approval of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Faculty. Admission is offered normally for one semester, but may be extended to one year depending on the specific agreement and following the approval of the department(s) where courses are taken and the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee.

Deferred Registration of Admitted Students

Graduate applicants who are offered admission for a semester and who do not register for that semester may be eligible for admission the following semester pending availability of places. A petition should be submitted to the Office of Admissions by July 31 for fall, and December 15 for spring.