

For Immediate Release



Scholarships for Liberal Arts Programs at AUB

Beirut, Lebanon- 15/1/2016 - To promote Liberal Arts Education in Lebanon and the MENA region, the American University of Beirut is launching a new scholarship initiative to help fund undergraduate education in the following Liberal Arts programs at AUB:

Arabic Language and Literature; Archaeology; Art History; Education/Elementary; English Language; English Literature; History; Philosophy; Sociology-Anthropology; and Studio Arts.

Effective Fall Semester 2016, 40 incoming sophomore students majoring in the above-mentioned ten fields will be sponsored throughout their undergraduate education at AUB, provided they remain in good academic standing and major in these named fields. The scholarship covers 70% of the tuition fees.

Candidates interested in these academic fields are encouraged to apply for this scholarship by sending an email to Dr. Salim Kanaan, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid (961-1-350 000 | admissions@aub.edu.lb | www.aub.edu.lb/admissions) by **May 31, 2016.** All applicants should indicate their chosen field of study. Candidates are required to complete both an admissions and a financial aid application for the Fall 2016-17.

This initiative comes as part of the AUB Administration's vision that emphasizes the importance of the study of humanities and social sciences.

Unveiling the scheme, Interim Provost of the University, Dr. Muhamad Harajli, told us that while the job market might encourage professional specialization in higher education, a university should be about more than just an expanding number of students taking subjects like engineering and medicine.

"Over the past 150 years, AUB has been a pioneer in graduating leaders who have taken off to the region and the world and made a positive impact with their critical thinking, leadership skills, and excellence," he said.

"Through non-conventional methods, this initiative fosters building skills in the Liberal Arts and aims to add fine expertise to talent".

The Administration was keen to keep the selection criteria simple and the procedures undemanding: Selection is based on a combination of school grades (Years 10 and 11), the results of an English test (TOEFL, IELTS or the AUB English Entrance Exam), and financial need. SAT I scores are not required.

Since his appointment as AUB president, Dr. Fadlo R. Khuri, has spoken several times about the significance of humanities at the university.

“I’m a true believer that the humanities are transformative to people. We are part of a society of lifelong learners, and the humanities are essential to that,” Dr. Khuri said in his first public meeting with AUB faculty back in April.

The president, whose own training was in medicine, returned to the same theme in his speech on AUB’s 149th Founders’ Day on December 3, 2015 saying “We owe our understanding of the world, of who we are, and of how we fit into the big picture, individually and collectively, to our scholars and artists. They set their critical eyes to the society around us and help us know ourselves.”

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For more information please contact:

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Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 700 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,500 students. AUB currently offers more than 120 programs leading to bachelor’s, master’s, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full-service 420-bed hospital.

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