

For Immediate Release



Upcoming events at AUB

Beirut, Lebanon- 25/03/2014 - The following lectures and discussions will be taking place at AUB over the coming days:

- **Lecture on media and crowdsourcing**

The Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Media Studies at AUB is organizing a lecture entitled “The Future of Media: Does crowd-sourcing = exploitation? An anthropological view,” by Ian Condry, cultural anthropologist and professor from MIT’s Comparative Media Studies Department.

The lecture will take place on March 28 from 12.30pm to 2pm in West Hall, Auditorium A.

Abstract: Many of today’s leading media companies - Facebook, Twitter and much more - provide platforms for participation and depend on “the crowd” for content creation. Is crowd-sourcing a new form of exploitation? Shouldn’t people who provide value to these companies be compensated for their labor? This talk will explore the emerging, and sometimes paradoxical, ethics of crowd-sourced media worlds, with examples from Japanese popular culture and US social media.

- **Recital by piano students**

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences’ Department of Fine Arts and Art History is organizing a piano recital entitled, “Students Today, Pianists Tomorrow,” on March 29 at 6.30pm in Assembly Hall.

The recital will be given by Vartan Agopian’s students’. It will feature pieces by Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy, Rachmaninoff, Babajanian and others.

Free Admission

- **Panel discussion on geography and morality in Shiite south Beirut**

The Center for Arab and Middle Eastern studies is holding a panel discussion on Lara Deeb and Mona Harb’s book, *Leisurely Islam: Negotiating Geography and Morality in Shi’ite South Beirut* (Princeton, 2013).

The discussion will take place on March 28 from 4pm to 6pm in West Hall, Auditorium A.

Panelists will include Mona Harb (Urban Studies-AUB), Laleh Khalili (Politics-SOAS), Jean-Baptiste Pesquet (IFPO-Beirut), and Rasha Al Atrash (Al Modon).

Background (from Princeton Press): South Beirut has recently become a vibrant leisure destination with a plethora of cafés and restaurants that cater to the young, fashionable, and pious. What effects have these establishments had on the moral norms, spatial practices, and urban experiences of this Lebanese community? From the diverse voices of young Shiite Muslims searching for places to hang out, to the Hezbollah officials who want this media-savvy generation to be more politically involved, to the religious leaders worried that Lebanese youth are losing their moral compasses, *Leisurely Islam* provides a sophisticated and original look at leisure in the Lebanese capital.

You can find more information about the book at:

<http://press.princeton.edu/titles/10129.html>.

Copies are available for purchase at the AUB Book Store.

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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 100 programs leading to the 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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