

# Rural Community Development MS Program

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## Highlights

1. The RCODE MS program initiated the recruitment process for one assistant professor, RCODE faculty position, and voted to approve three short listed candidates.
2. RCODE approved the appointment of Dr. Giuliano Martiniello, for a full-time faculty position
3. The Program proposed new course, as elective MEST 317S : Political Ecology and Social Change: focus on the Arab region (minutes, march 13, 2015), cross listed under electives
4. Approved to transfer elective courses from the diploma of food security to the RCODE Ms program: FSEC 300, 305, 310 /or 315 as graduate elective courses
5. The proram offered 4 core graduate courses during the report period, in addition to the enrolment of 7 graduate students (6 thesis and one non-thesis).

## Personnel

### Full-time Faculty / RCODE committee members

Shady Hamadeh	Chairman / Professor
Giuliano Martiniello	Assistant Professor
Rami Zurayk	Professor
Ali Chalak	Associate Professor
Lamis Jomaa	Assistant Professor

### Instructor

Dominique Anid	Research Assistant

### Research Assistants

Diana Marroush Abi-Said	Research Assistant

### Graduate Assistants

Farah Abi-Mosleh	Fall 2015, Spring 2016
Alam Jeanbein	Fall 2015, Spring 2016
Nour El Korek	Spring 2016
Nadiya Ibrahim	Fall 2015, Spring 2016
Rami Assaf	Fall 2015, Spring 2016
Elias Arja	Fall 2015, Spring 2016

## Teaching Activities

Fall 2015–16

Course		Credits	Instructor
RCODE	343	3	Hamadeh/Chalak
RCODE	344	4	Martiniello/Anid

Spring 2015-16

Course		Credits	Instructor
RCODE	343	3	Hamadeh/Chalak
RCODE	341	3	Martiniello
RCODE	305	1	Martiniello

## Research Activities (other than thesis) – Dr. Martiniello

Project title	Funding Agency	Amount
Integration of Smallholders in global value chains: challenges and opportunities	AUB	6,000

## Services (Dr. Martiniello)

AUB	Other
Working Committee on the New Social Sciences Department.	

## Thesis Supervision (Dr. Martiniello)

Student Name	Major	Thesis Title
Rami Assaf	Msc Rural Community Development	The social organization of Syrian migrants in Lebanon countryside
Farah Abi Mosleh	Msc Rural Community	The role of small scale production of traditional mouneh in local food security: case study of Chouf and West Beqaa.

	Development	
Alam Janbein	Msc Rural Community Development	-

### Conferences, Special Lectures, Workshops and Travel (Dr. Martiniello)

Activity	Date
Summer School <b>“Progressive Social Forces, Social Movements and the Contemporary Agrarian Transformation in the South.”</b> African Institute of Agrarian Studies, Harare, Zimbabwe.	18-22 January 2016
Guest Lectures <b>“Land Grabbing, Trasformazioni agrarie e migrazioni: prospettiva dall’Africa Orientale e dal Vicino Oriente”.</b> Università della Calabria, Cosenza, Italy.	29-31 May 2016
Conference <b>“The Politics of State Intervention in Land Rights in Eastern Africa”</b> , French Institute for Research in Africa, Nairobi, Kenya.	22-23 June 2016
Guest Lecture <b>“Bitter Sugarification: agro-extractivism, outgrowers schemes and social differentiation in Busoga, Uganda”</b> , Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda.	29 June 2016

### Strategic Challenges

- RCODE program needs to develop a marketing strategy to increase students’ enrollement
- RCODE program needs to revise the course offerings, to align with its research strategy.
- RCODE program needs to develop a strategy for providing exchange program and scholarship options for graduate students, in partnership with private and public stakeholders.