The American University of Beirut (AUB) is a private, independent, non-sectarian institution of higher learning, founded in 1866. It functions under a charter from the State of New York and is governed by an autonomous Board of Trustees. The University currently has over 6,900 students in six faculties. AUB has programs leading to both bachelor and master degrees and is currently implementing a number of Ph.D. programs. The University is co-educational. The language of instruction is English.

The University is led by Professor John Waterbury, President, and Professor Peter Health, Provost

The Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Alsaud Center for American Studies and Research (CASAR)

CASAR is dedicated to increasing international understanding primarily by increasing knowledge of the United States in the Middle East. The center pursues its goals through interdisciplinary teaching and research in American Studies and through outreach efforts such as conferences and public lectures. CASAR’s efforts are continuously evolving. In the Fall of 2005 it began to offer a Minor in American Studies. Its research agenda currently focuses on Arab American encounters. CASAR was established in 2003 as a result of a generous $5.2 million endowment from His Royal Highness Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Alsaud.

CASAR is part of AUB’s Faculty of Arts and Sciences (Professor Khalil Bitar, Dean)
CASAR

Director: Patrick McGreevy
Administrative Assistant: Nancy Batakji

CASAR Executive Committee

Dr. Joshua Andresen    Philosophy Department
Dr. Sirene Harb       English Department
Dr. Marjorie Henningsen Director of the Science and Mathematics Education Center
Dr. David Koistinen    History Department
Dr. D. Roman Kulchitsky Chair of Political Studies and Public Administration Department

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Important Reminders

Name Tags  Please wear your name tags at all times during the conference. Your name tag assures your entrance to the opening ceremony, reception, and closing dinner as well as to the lunches at Socrates Restaurant on December 19th & 20th. You may also be asked to show your name tag when entering through one of AUB's gates.

Registration  You can complete your registration and pick up your conference materials at the Conference Registration Desk on Level B1 of Le Meridien-Commodore Hotel, beginning at 12 noon on Sunday, December 18, 2005. On Monday and Tuesday (December 19 and 20), a Registration and Information Desk will be available beginning at 8 am near the ground floor entrance of West Hall on the AUB campus.

Emergencies (or pressing questions)

Please contact:
Dr. Patrick McGreevy, mobile phone: 70 107458; email: pm07@aub.edu.lb
Ms. Nancy Batakji, mobile phone: 03 801927; email: nb22@aub.edu.lb

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Other Numbers:
Police  112
Information  100, 120, 1515
Airport  961 1 628120

Tourist Police  961 1 343209 (For questions about directions)
General Security  1717 (For questions related to passports)
Allo Taxi  961 1 366661 (Average rate: $10)

Trip to Bekaa Valley  On Wednesday, December 21, 2005, an optional all day trip to Baalbeck (Roman Temple site), Anjar (medieval Arab site) and Ksara (winery) will be led by Nakhal Travel Agency. The trip includes a late lunch at the city of Zahlé. All who signed up for this trip should meet at Le Meridien-Commodore Hotel lobby at 9:00 am on Dec. 21st. You may want to bring a jacket, an umbrella and a bottle of water. December weather can be wintry in the Bekaa. You will be dropped at the hotel by 7:00 pm. If you didn’t sign up, you may still be able to do so at the registration desk, provided there is room.

Guide to Conference Rooms

All conference sessions will take place in West Hall on the AUB campus. There is an elevator on the left (east) side of the building. Please find below directions for finding the West Hall conference rooms:

Registration Desk: ground floor, entrance.
Auditorium B: ground floor, left of the stairs.
Bathish Auditorium: second floor, to the right.
Room 204: second floor, left of the stairs.
Room 301: third floor, facing the stairs.
Athletics Room: fourth floor, above Bathish Auditorium (west side of building).
Common Room: ground floor, right (east).

*Coffee Breaks in the morning will take place in the Common Room. Coffee Breaks in the afternoon will be on the second floor above the entrance.
Conference Program

Sunday, December 18, 2005

12:00 noon–17:00 Conference Room, B1 Floor
Registration, Le Meridien Commodore Hotel, Hamra

17:00–19:00* Conference Room, B1 Floor
Opening Ceremony, Le Meridien Commodore Hotel, Hamra

Program
Dr. Patrick McGreevy, Director of CASAR, Opening comments
Dr. John Waterbury, President of AUB, Welcome
Representative of Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Alsaud – Kingdom
Holdings
Dr. Juan Cole, University of Michigan, Opening Address,: “The Absence of America
in Arabic Publishing”
Dr. Patrick McGreevy, Logistical comments

19:00 – 20:30* Ballroom, B1 Floor, Le Meridien Commodore Hotel, Hamra
Cocktail reception (featuring Lebanese hot and cold mezze)

Monday, December 19, 2005

All paper sessions will take place on the AUB Campus in West Hall.

8:30-17:00 West Hall, Ground Floor
Late registration

8:30-10:30 Auditorium B
Session 1: Transcultural Encounters: Writers and Academics in the Arab World
Chair: Ken Seigneurie, Lebanese American University
Andrew Long Department of English, American University of Beirut, Lebanon:
“Going East, Going Arab: ‘Disguise’ and the Arab-Western Encounter”
Basem Ra’ad Chair of English, Al-Quds University, Jerusalem: “Opposing Minds:
Lynch, Melville, Twain on Palestine and the Region”
Betty Anderson History Department, Boston University, USA: “American-Arab
Encounters at AUB in the 20th Century: Aspirations and Opposition”
Wang Jianping Director and Professor at the Institute of American Studies,
Northeastern University, China: “Imagining Iraq and the Cultural Politics of
Misreading: John Barth’s The Last Voyage of Somebody the Sailor”

8:30 – 10:30 Room 204
Session 2: Contrapuntal Perspectives: The Middle East from the US
Chair: Moustafa Bayoumi, CUNY
Elise Salem Department of English, Communication, Philosophy, Fairleigh
Dickinson University, USA: “Politics of Location and Politics of Interpretation:
Teaching Middle East Studies in the United States”
Paul Jahshan Department of English, Notre Dame University, Lebanon: “Edward
Said Meets Ameen Rihani: Lebanon's Forgotten Orientalism”
Rana Issa M.A. student in English Literature, American University of Beirut,
Lebanon: “Contrapuntal Intersections: Out of Place and the Invention of Self”

8:30 – 10:30 Room 301
Session 3: Teaching America in the Arab World
Chair: John Hillis, University of Bahrain
Becky Lewis Fulbright Lecturer, Amman, Jordan: “Feminism Veiled: Teaching at
the Islamic University of Gaza”
American Studies Abroad in the Age of the ‘New World Order’”
Edward and Eileen Lundy Fulbright Scholars in American Studies to the University
International Challenge

Mohammed S. Dajani Daoudi  Director of American Studies Institute, Al-Quds University, Jerusalem: “The Making of New Palestinian Elite”

10:30 – 11:00 West Hall, Common Room, ground floor
Coffee Break

11:00 – 13:00 Auditorium B
Session 4: US Middle East Policy Today
Chair: Khadija Frische-El Alaoui, Dresden University of Technology
Pierre Noel Research Fellow, French Institute of International Relations (IFRI), France: “Read Between the (Pipe) Lines? Assessing the Oil Factor in the New US Middle East Policy”
Scott Lucas Birmingham University, UK: “US Public Diplomacy, Hyper Power and the Middle East, Before and After 9/11”
Patrick Conge Department of Political Science, University of Arkansas, USA: “Interests as Illusions: The Energy of Ideas in the Relationship of the United States with Saudi Arabia”
Salwa Zargouni-Souissi English Department, University of Tunisia, Tunisia: “American Revived Exceptionalism and the Two Gulf Wars”

11:00 -13:00 Room 204
Session 5: The Middle East in the US
Chair: Joshua Andresen, AUB
Moustafa Bayoumi Department of English, Brooklyn College, CUNY, USA: “The Shebab of Brooklyn: Stories from Arab America”

13:00–14:30 Lunch Break—All registered participants will be offered lunch at Socrates Restaurant, Bliss Street.

14:30–16:30 Auditorium B
Session 7: Between the US and the Arab World: Women’s Voices
Chair: Nadia El Cheikh, AUB
Rabab Abdulhadi Associate Professor of Sociology and Arab American Studies, and Director of the Center for Arab American Studies, University of Michigan-
Dearborn, USA: “What Color is Your Accent? Feminist Politics and Subaltern Travel”

Mona Ibrahim Ali Department of English Language and Literature, Cairo University, Egypt: “Translation of Literature As a De-globalizing Process”

Shouleh Vatanabadi General Studies Program at New York University, USA: “Women, Texts, In-Between Borders: America/Middle East”

14:30 – 16:30 Room 204

Session 8: US Middle East Policies in Historical Context

Chair: Patrick McGreevy, John Meloy, AUB

Fred Lawson Department of Government, Mills College, USA: “Cutting Through the Rhetoric: How Useful Is It to See United States Policy Toward the Arab World as Imperial?”

Eddie Girdner Professor at the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Baskent University, Ankara, Turkey: “The Road to Democracy in the Middle East: Neorealism or Utopian Vision?”

Samir Seikaly Department of History and Archaeology, American University of Beirut, Lebanon: “Early Encounters: Theodore Roosevelt Meets the Middle East”

Jan Asmussen, Department of History, Eastern Mediterranean University, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus: “American Involvement in the Cyprus Crisis 1974”

14:30 – 16:30 Room 301

Session 9: Media and Film Representations of Arabs and the Middle East

Chair: Marj Henningsen, AUB

Christian Christensen Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Communication, Bahcesehir University, Turkey: “Journalism, De-contextualized Coverage and the Perils of Cultural Gestalt”

Lina Khatib Royal Holloway, University of London, UK: “Cinema, History and Nationalism: American and Arab Cinematic Encounters”

Ghazi-Walid Falah Department of Geography and Planning, University of Akron, Ohio, USA: “The Role of American Daily Newspapers in Charting a Territorial Imagination for the Arab/Muslim World”

Sami Ofeish Chair of Political Science Department, Balamand University, Lebanon: “Stereotypes of Arabs in the US Through the Media: An Investigation into the Causes”

16:30 – 17:00 West Hall 1st floor

Coffee Break

17:00 – 19:00 Bathish Auditorium

Session 10: Plenary Session: Orientalism Reconsidered: Contemporary US-Middle East Encounters

Chair: Melani McAlister, George Washington University

J. David Slocum Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York University, USA: “Diversity and Democracy in Hollywood’s Post-Iraqi Freedom Middle East”

Brian T. Edwards Northwestern University, USA: “Rethinking American Orientalism after the American Century”

James Gelvin Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles, USA: “The United States and the Middle East: A Political Economy Approach”

Derek Gregory Department of Geography, University of British Columbia at Vancouver, Canada: “Enframing the ‘Middle East’: The Colonial Present, Imaginative Geographies and Performances of Space”

Tuesday, December 20, 2005

All paper sessions will take place on the AUB campus in West Hall.

8:30-17:00 West Hall, ground floor

Late registration
8:30 – 10:30 Athletics Room, West Hall 4th floor

Session 11: Workshop: American Studies in the Middle East
Co-Chairs: Patrick McGreevy and Marj Henningsen, AUB
All are welcome to attend this workshop on issues, problems and prospects for American Studies in the Middle East.

10:30 – 11:00 West Hall, Common Room, ground floor
Coffee Break

11:00 – 13:00 Auditorium B

Session 12: Soft Influence: The US State and the Middle East
Chair: Patrick Ireland, AUB
George Farag Maxwell School of Citizenship, Syracuse University, and the United States Embassy in Lebanon, Lebanon: “Forging a Space for Diaspora Communities in Reconstruction Efforts”

Cynthia Schneider Ambassador of USA to the Netherlands (1998-2001) and Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy at Georgetown University, USA: “Cultural Diplomacy in the 21st Century: A New Paradigm for Building Understanding between the U.S. and the Arab/Muslim World”

Mariz Tadros Political Science Department, American University in Cairo, Egypt: “US Democratization Aid: Challenging the ‘Gatekeepers of Civil Society’?”

Samir Saliba Geraldin Alley Meyung Chair of International Studies, Emory and Henry College, USA: “Values as Foundation for Encounter”

11:00 – 13:00 Room 204

Session 13: Inspiring or Ugly: US Influence in Egypt and Lebanon
Chair: David Wrisley, AUB


Michael Stanton American University of Beirut, Lebanon: “The Bad and the Ugly: Globalism, Americanization and Lebanese Urban Sprawl”

11:00 – 13:00 Room 301

Session 14: New Perspectives on Arab American Writing
Chair: Andrew Long, AUB
Maha El Said Cairo University, Egypt: “Dropping the Hyphen: Arab American Writing from Ethnic to Diasporic”

Asma En-Nasser PhD candidate at the University of Pennsylvnia, Philadelphia, PA, United States of America: “Diana Abu-Jaber: Politically Unconscious?”

Atef Faddul Lebanese University, Faculty of Letters II, Lebanon: “Ameen Rihani’s Quest for a Global Culture”

Boulos Sarru Dean of Humanities, Notre Dame University, Lebanon: “Prayer Aboard Noah’s Arc: Dream and Reality of America’s Song of Salvation”

13:00 – 14:30
Lunch Break—All registered participants will be offered at Socrates Restaurant, Bliss Street.

14:30 – 16:30 Auditorium B

Session 15: Close Encounters During a Time of Tension
Chair: Paul Jashan, Notre Dame University
Markha Valenta Free University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands: “Third Encounters: Women From Beyond to Between America and the Middle East”

Teresa Heffernan Saint Mary’s University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada: “He Who Believes in the Devil Already Belongs to Him: Rescuing Women from Afghanistan to Iraq”
Majeda Omar University of Jordan, Jordan: “Rationality, Pluralism and the Question of Tolerance”

14:30 – 16:30 Room 204
Session 16: Arab Americans, Blacks, and the Middle East
Chair: David Koistinen, AUB
Mounira Soliman Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature, Cairo University, Egypt: “Arab (-) Americans: With or Without the Hyphen?”
Sawsan Abdulrahim Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, Lebanon: “Arab Immigrants and White Racial Subjectivities”
Alex Lubin Assistant Professor, American Studies Department, University of New Mexico, USA: “The Black Middle East”

14:30 – 16:30 Room 301
Session 17: Violent Encounters
Chair: Lina Choueiri, AUB
Nazek Fahmy Head of English Department, Alexandria University, Egypt: “America in North Africa: Madness and the Transgression of Cultural Boundaries”
A. Sameh El Kharbawy Assistant Professor, Department of Interior Architecture, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, USA: “Designer Terrorism: Modernity and its Discontents”
Michael Diboll Assistant Professor, Literature Program, United Arab Emirates University, United Arab Emirates: “Remembering Occupation: Lessons from History”
Robert Myers Visiting Associate Professor of English, American University of Beirut, Lebanon: “Oriental Secretary: Gertrude Bell and the British Occupation of Iraq”

16:30 – 17:00 West Hall 1st floor
Coffee Break

17:00 – 18:30 Bathish Auditorium
Closing Address
Introduction: Patrick McGreevy

19:30 – onward* Ballroom, B1 floor
Closing reception and Dinner at Le Meridien Commodore Hotel in Hamra*

WEDNESDAY, December 21, 2005

9:00 – 19:00 Meeting place: Le Meridien Commodore Hotel in Hamra
Optional all day trip to Baalbeck, Anjar, and Ksara for pre-registered participants. This trip is organized by Nakhal Travel Agency. It costs an additional fee of $50 USD and includes transportation, lunch, guides and entrance to tourist sites.
Restaurant Guide

These restaurants are within walking distance from AUB. They are indicated on the Map of Hamra.

Bliss House
This restaurant is one of the oldest on Bliss Street and is highly recommended for snacks and fast food. For the fresh fruit fix.
Bliss street, Hamra, Beirut.
Open – 7:00 am – 3:00 or 4:00 am

Blue Note
One of Hamra’s most popular restaurants for its excellent International cuisine and for the live Jazz music on the weekends.
Makhoul Street, Hamra, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 743857
Open – 12:00 noon – 1:00 am
Average price / person - $20

Café L’Orient
Seaside restaurant with excellent pizzas and seafood. Decorated in an old oriental style. The seafood section is surrounded by sea.
La Plage, Ein Mreisseh, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 366222
Open: Lunch noon – 3:00 pm, Dinner 8:00 pm – 11:00 pm
Average price / person - $30

Casablanca
This restaurant offers mouth-melting international dishes. We highly recommend it.
Ain el Mreisseh Street, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 369334, 961 3 865111

Istanbouli
Simple and well priced.
Shehab Bldg., Commodore Street, Hamra, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 352049, 961 1 353029
Open – 11:30 am – 1:00 am
Average price / person - $12

Kababji
For the best grilled meats on skewer look no further. Kababji is the number one sandwich maker for those in a hurry but still requiring that delicious taste. Check out the cool selection of kababs and watch them prepare it in front of you.
Saroulla Bldg., Hamra Street, Hamra, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 351346
Open: 8:00 am – 1:00 am
Average price / sandwich - $2.33

Pasta di Casa
Small, Cozy and so Italian! This restaurant serves fresh pasta daily. Don’t forget to try the delicious tiramisu.
Achkar Bldg., Clemenceau Street Hamra, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 366909
Open – noon – midnight

Socrates Restaurant
Facing AUB’s Penrose Gate, Socrates restaurant offers daily Lebanese dishes.
Bliss Street, Hamra, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 363011

Sub Station
Facing AUB’s main gate, Sub Station without question has the most delicious chicken sub sandwich the world has ever known. We thoroughly recommend it.
Open – 10:00 am- 11:00 pm
Average price / person - $5
Walimah
This little restaurant, with its charming old style architecture and simple, nutritious menu is a constant attraction to local artists. Daily homemade specials.
Makdessi Street, Hamra, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 343128
Open – 11:30 am – 11:00 pm
Average price / person - $23
Restaurants (10-15 min. away from AUB by car)

Abdel Wahab
New Arabic restaurant in the heart of Achrafieh and open 24 hrs
51, Abdel Wahab El Inglizi Street, Achrafieh, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 200550/1

Al Mayass
Traditional and authentic Arabic food with a special Armenian flavor in the heart of Achrafieh.
Wadih Naim Street, Achrafieh, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 215046
Open: Lunch – 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Dinner- 7:00 pm – midnight
Average price / person - $25

Al Mijana
The beautiful garden as well as the exquisitely refined décor inside makes this an extremely charming restaurant.
Abdel Wahab Street, Achrafieh, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 328082, 961 1 334675
Open: Lunch – 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Dinner – 8:00 pm – 11:00 pm
Average price / person - $20

Place De L’Etoile
Located in the heart of Downtown Beirut facing the Lebanese Parliament, it offers delicious daily Lebanese and international dishes.
Downtown Beirut
Tel: 961 1 985219/220

Starbucks Coffee
The international Starbucks chain can be found almost everywhere in Lebanon.
Achrafieh Sassine
961 1 360746
Hamra Square: 961 1 545975/6
Verdun 732: 961 1 804836/7
Raouche, Palm Springs: 961 1 804836/7

Lebanese Sweets:
Bohsali
Al Bohasali has provided the finest Lebanese sweets for as long as anyone can remember. The ‘Knafeh’ and the ‘Backlawa’ are to die for and should be sampled by anyone visiting Lebanon. A mixed box of sweets is the ultimate gift from Lebanon.
Hamra, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 354400
Open: 6:00 am – 6:00 pm

Taj Al Moulouk
The difference between Taj Al Moulouk and Bohsali is really negligible. The choice is yours!
Bliss Street, Beirut
Tel: 961 1 864259
Open – 6:00 am – 12:00 am
The Conference Proceedings Volume

All registrants will receive a copy of the conference proceedings volume. All presenters are encouraged to submit their manuscripts for possible inclusion. Although the refereeing process will not involve outside reviewers, the CASAR Executive Committee and a special Publication Committee will review and select papers for inclusion. Please submit your manuscripts as email attachments by 31 January 2006 to casar@aub.edu.lb. In addition, please mail a second copy of your paper on a floppy disk or CD, postmarked by 31 January 2006. Please check the full guidelines on the CASAR Website: (http://staff.aub.edu.lb/~webcasar/Conference/Conferences.html). The manuscripts are limited to fifteen pages (double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman) inclusive of endnotes, bibliography and illustrations. For referencing procedures and other stylistic issues, please follow the Chicago Manual of Style. At least one edited volume is planned with papers selected from among those submitted to the proceedings volume. In addition, a number of academic journals may well be interested in publishing some of the papers.