

MENA Programs at the American University in Cairo

Study in the Heart of the Middle East and North Africa

 THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO

 100 YEARS



Welcome to Egypt's Global University

If you want to understand one of the world's most complex, important regions—its language, its politics, its pressing social and environmental issues—start here.

If you want to immerse yourself in the history and culture of one of the world's great civilizations, start here.

If you want to see where the Middle East and North Africa are heading—and if you want to shape the region's future—start here.

For more than 100 years, the American University in Cairo has been Egypt's global university. We're a home for civil debate, groundbreaking research, and effective engagement with the country and the region.

Welcome to a life-changing educational experience. It starts here.

Founded in **1919**

6,000+ students from more than **50** countries

260-acre campus in New Cairo, featuring **200** state-of-the-art labs, **136** smart classrooms, and sustainable design and construction

Tahrir Cultural Center in AUC's iconic downtown campus

37 undergraduate majors

44 master's programs

2 Ph.D. programs

6 schools: Business, Global Affairs and Public Policy, Humanities and Social Sciences, Sciences and Engineering, Graduate School of Education, Continuing Education

11:1 student to faculty ratio

54% of faculty from Egypt; **46%** from the U.S. and other countries

11 research centers in fields such as migrant and refugee studies, civic engagement, and translation studies

Largest English-language academic library in Egypt

38,000+ active alumni

Chartered and accredited in the U.S. and Egypt

Arabic Language Instruction

Immersive program at the world's leading center for Arabic language and culture



Arabic Language Intensive Program

Rigorous, effective program for international students (professionals, diplomats, scholars) who need to gain a broad command of contemporary Arabic.

Curriculum includes content-based courses in both Modern Standard Arabic and Egyptian Colloquial Arabic.

Full slate of activities that immerse students in the culture and history of the region: calligraphy and music, Quranic studies and community engagement, and visits to archaeological sites, religious monuments and museums.

Also available: **An intensive summer program.**

Center for Advanced Arabic Study in Cairo

Full-year, advanced-level training in Arabic language for undergraduate and graduate students.

Welcomes applicants from all nationalities with a minimum of three years of formal instruction in Arabic.

Instruction in both Modern Standard Arabic and Egyptian Colloquial Arabic.

Arabic-only speaking policy, on and off campus.

Reduced tuition for all students.



Faculty Spotlight: Iman A. Soliman

Professor Soliman (PhD, University of Edinburgh) is chair of the Department of Arabic Language Instruction and a senior Arabic Language instructor. She has taught Arabic language and culture at Middlebury College, the University of St. Andrews, and International House Cairo; led teacher-training workshops for Arabic first language teachers in Qatar; and helped to develop Arabic first language standards for Nile Schools in Egypt.

Center for Arabic Study Abroad

A renowned **full-immersion Arabic language program**, with preference given to graduate students actively pursuing academic degrees in any discipline within fields related directly to the Middle East.

Curriculum includes opportunities for community and cultural engagement.

Most students receive fellowships that cover tuition, support for living expenses and international air travel.

Alumni occupy leadership roles in government, academia, NGOs and journalism.



Migration and Refugee Studies

Leading the way toward understanding one of humanity's timeless—and most relevant—issues

The Center for Migration and Refugee Studies

Degree program: **MA and graduate diploma in Migration and Refugee Studies.**

An interdisciplinary center for research, training and outreach, based in AUC's School of Global Affairs and Public Policy.

Widely recognized for **specialized short courses** that provide training to practitioners and researchers in the field.

Conducts in-depth studies on current and emerging issues, gathers data, and collaborates with leading academic institutions and nongovernmental organizations.



Faculty Spotlight: Ibrahim Awad

Professor Awad (PhD, University of Geneva) is a professor of global affairs and director of the Center for Migration and Refugee Studies. He has worked for the League of Arab States, the United Nations and the International Labor Organization. His recent publications have addressed topics such as the 2012 constitution in Egypt, international migration in Africa, and population movements in the aftermath of the Arab Awakening.





Gender Studies

A critical examination of the region's most complex, compelling questions through an essential lens

Cynthia Nelson Institute for Gender and Women's Studies

Degree program: **MA in Gender and Women's Studies.**

An interdisciplinary two-year (24 credit hours) degree at the cutting edge of theory and practice.

Three areas of specialization (Gendered Political Economies, Gender and Women's Studies in MENA, Geographies of Gender and Justice) allow students to focus on topics that are applicable to their goals.

Research institute supports ongoing projects, hosts conferences, and organizes workshops and other programs.



Faculty Spotlight: Martina Rieker

Professor Rieker (PhD, Temple University) has been director of the Institute for Gender and Women's Studies since 2006. Her major research initiatives include The Gender and Region Project and Imagining the Political: Young Women, Participation, and the Crafting of the Political in Egypt.

Arab and Islamic Studies

A comprehensive survey of the Arab world and its heritage

The Department of Arab and Islamic Civilizations

The department offers BA and MA programs in four specializations: Middle East History, Islamic Studies, Arabic Literature and Islamic Art and Architecture.

Programs bring a multi-dimensional and inter-disciplinary approach to the study of the living heritage of the Middle East.

The department serves as a **global forum for distinguished scholars and cultural figures**; guests have included Noam Chomsky, Mahmoud Darwish, Suraiya Farouqi, Fred Donner and Roy Mottahedeh.

The department's Arab Cultural Program brings local leaders to campus to discuss topical and controversial issues.

History

Degree programs: **BA and MA in Middle Eastern History.**

Faculty work across disciplines and departments, covering a broad span of the region's history.

Faculty specialize in different periods and methodologies, working on historical literary texts, waqf documents and court records. Students have opportunities to work with local archives, library and museum collections.

An annual three-day history seminar in the spring is a highlight of Cairo's intellectual calendar. Young scholars present and receive feedback on their research, engage in discussions with faculty from various universities within Egypt and abroad, and expand their intellectual horizons.

Graduates go on to pursue doctoral studies or work in government, nonprofit or private sectors, including fields such as international development, archival work, journalism and diplomacy.



Faculty Spotlight: Nelly Hanna

Professor Hanna (Doctorat d'Etat, University of Aix en Provence) studies the economic, social and cultural aspects of the Ottoman history of the Arab world. Her books include *Ottoman Egypt and the History of the Modern World, 1500–1800*, and *Artisan Entrepreneurs in Cairo and Early Modern Capitalism*.





Islamic Art and Architecture

Degree programs: **BA in Arabic Studies with a specialization in Islamic Art and Architecture; MA in Islamic Art and Architecture.**

Programs include regular visits to historic monuments in Cairo and landmarks in the Middle East.

Students have access to AUC's Rare Books and Special Collections Library, which incorporates the holdings of the former Creswell Library, one of the finest collections on Islamic art and architecture in the world.

Alumni have gone on to successful careers in academia, architecture, museums, interior design, business, and preservation and restoration.

Arabic Literature

Degree program: **MA in Arabic Literature.**

Faculty fields of specialization include post-colonial literature, literature and cinema, literary criticism, comparative literature, and classic and modern Arabic literature.

Students have access to world-class resources in the AUC Library, Dar El Kutub and Cairo University Central Library.

Graduates go on to pursue careers in academia, media, translation and interpretation.

Islamic Studies

Degree program: **MA in Islamic Studies.**

Program covers areas such as Qur'anic studies, Hadith and tafsir, Islamic law, Sufism, theology and modern Islamic legal reform.

Also available: **A four-week summer program for graduate and advanced undergraduate students**, featuring courses taught by renowned faculty, Arabic language instruction, special lectures and cultural visits, held at AUC's Tahrir Square campus.

Graduates go on to pursue doctoral degrees and careers in academia and cultural heritage, journalism, and research and policy.

Egyptology

The scientific study of ancient Egypt, from the earliest years of recorded human civilization to the Arab conquest



Egyptology Program

Degree programs: **BA in Egyptology; MA in Egyptology, following one of three tracks: Art, Archaeology and History; Language, Literature and Religion; or Coptology.**

Programs take full advantage of AUC's location; students visit and study historical sites in context and gain practical experience in the field.

Fieldwork opportunities includes the North Kharga Oasis Survey, investigating the evident archaeological remains in an area 175 km west of Luxor.

Programs follow international guidelines for similar degrees at accredited institutions in the United States.

Faculty Spotlight: Salima Ikram

Professor Ikram (PhD, Cambridge University) has worked as an archaeologist in Turkey, Sudan, Greece and the United States. She directed the Animal Mummy Project, the North Kharga Darb Ain Amur Survey, and the Valley of the Kings KV10/KV63 Mission. She has lectured on her work internationally, and publishes in both scholarly and popular journals. She also has an active media presence.



Middle Eastern Studies

A profound, pragmatic exploration of the region's past, present and future through a trans-disciplinary lens including politics, society and modern history

Faculty Spotlight: Mona Abaza

Professor Abaza (PhD, University of Bielefeld) has been a visiting scholar at universities and research institutes including the International Institute for Asian Studies, the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences and the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center. Her publications include *Changing Consumer Cultures of Modern Egypt: Cairo's Urban Reshaping*, *Twentieth-Century Egyptian Art: The Private Collection of Sherwet Shafei*, and *The Cotton Plantation Remembered: An Egyptian Family Story*.

Middle East Studies Program

Degree programs: **diploma, BA and MA in Middle East Studies.**

The program merges humanities and social sciences to provide students with an in depth understanding of the region.

Students are eligible for a range of fellowships as well as other forms of **financial aid.**

All enrolled graduate students are eligible to apply for research, conference and study-abroad grants.

Students have presented at conferences and venues around the world, including the **World Government Summit, the Middle East Studies Association, and the Economic and Social Research Council.**

Major research efforts focused on Euro-Mediterranean Studies, Gulf Studies, Middle East governance and politics, contemporary history, and societies and cultures of the region.

Alumni enjoy a range of successful careers in government, NGOs, policy, management, journalism and more.



Politics of the Middle East

The systematic study of the structures, institutions and processes underlying domestic, regional and international politics of the Middle East

Department of Political Science

Degree programs: **BA, MA and graduate diploma**

Courses span a range of themes integral to the understanding of politics in the region, including: Comparative Politics of the Middle East, International Relations, Political Economy and Development, and Islamic Law

Taking advantage of being in Cairo, many courses include an experiential and community-based learning component including field visits, guest lectures and internships.

Student activities include the **Model Arab League (MAL)**, movie series, monthly talks by renowned politicians and activists, as well as a student quarterly journal.



Faculty Spotlight: Rabab El Mahdi

Professor El Mahdi (PhD, McGill University) specializes in comparative politics and political economy, with a focus on Latin America and the Middle East. Her research focuses on contentious politics, social movements and regime-change in the Arab World. She taught at Yale University, and was a recipient of fellowships at Columbia University, the University of Chicago and the Rockefeller Bellagio Center Residency. She leads AUC's Alternative Policy Solutions project and serves on the boards of a number of civil society and professional organizations, including the Arab Political Science Network.





What You Can Do at AUC

Bringing the world to Egypt; Bringing Egypt to the world

Earn an Undergraduate Degree

AUC offers more than 30 undergraduate degrees and more than 40 minors. Applicants should have distinguished themselves in a meaningful way, in and out of the classroom.

Our generous undergraduate financial aid program is designed to attract gifted students regardless of their financial circumstances. We offer a range of grants and scholarships, based on both merit and need, including 90 named scholarships.

Earn a Graduate Degree

AUC offers **53 master programs** and two PhD programs, in addition to graduate diplomas.

AUC offers both institutional and sponsored graduate fellowships. Both recognize high achieving applicants; and the University considers financial need as well as academic merit. Preference is given to those who wish to pursue full-time study in a graduate program at AUC.

AUC is proud to have a longstanding tradition of attracting international students; currently students from more than **60 countries** are represented here.

Take Courses for Credit

Applicants who are not seeking an AUC degree but wish to take AUC courses for academic credit may be admitted as a non-degree student, assuming they meet the minimum criteria for graduate admission.

A number of places are set aside each year for such students, most of whom take a year away from their studies at another institution to study and live in Egypt. Since AUC is a **U.S.-accredited institution** following an American system, students from U.S. universities are usually able to transfer AUC credits to their home institutions, but they are advised to check in advance.

Study Abroad

Studying abroad at AUC at the undergraduate or graduate level offers unique experiences, fresh perspectives and immersion into the experience of Egypt.

Applicants should consult with academic advisers or registrars at their home institutions to ensure credit transfer after their time at AUC.

Students who receive federal or institutional financial aid at their home universities can apply the funds received to their study abroad program costs.

AUC provides four **study abroad scholarships**: Simpson Endowed Scholarships in Egyptology for one year; Hermann F. Eilts Endowed International Scholarship in Middle East Studies for one semester/year; Study Abroad Scholarships for one semester; and the Pangburn, Ellis, LaBarge Study Abroad Fund in all disciplines for one semester.

AUC is accredited in the United States and Egypt, and **partners with over 185 universities worldwide.**

Enroll in a Summer Program

AUC's Boot Camps are intensive short-term non-credit learning programs that equip students with specific skills that have immediate relevance to their career or academic goals.

Boot Camp teaching and training methods are experiential, **hands-on and dynamic**, with real-world relevance, problem-based learning, teamwork and individual development.

For high school students entering grades 10, 11 and 12, AUC offers College Bound: AUC, a short-term college-level program offering courses taught by AUC faculty members. Courses cover a range of disciplines and include hands-on projects, community engagement, fieldwork, excursions and research activities. Students who eventually enroll at AUC can **transfer course credit** from College Bound.



 THE AMERICAN
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100 YEARS

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