

BACHELOR IN HISTORY

Main Language of Instruction:
French English Arabic

Campus Where the Program Is Offered: CSH

OBJECTIVES

The Bachelor in History aims to combine historical insight with a multidisciplinary approach to international relations. The program places special emphasis on the Middle East, examining the region's complex dynamics of integration and fragmentation that make it one of the world's most sensitive areas. Students also benefit from the expertise of former heads of state and leading figures from national and international political arenas, who are regularly invited to share their experience and insights.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (COMPETENCIES)

- Examine the international system through both practical realities and theoretical frameworks
- Analyze international and regional economic relations
- Assess the key challenges shaping the contemporary Middle East
- Reflect on issues facing the Lebanese state and society
- Develop clear, concise, and critical studies on current topics
- Deliver expertise adapted to a wide range of professional contexts.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

180 credits: Required courses (121 credits), Institution's elective courses (20 credits), Open elective courses (6 credits), and USJ General Education Program (32 credits - may be part of the above categories).

Fundamental courses (141 Cr.)

Required courses (121 Cr.)

Discovering the Phoenicians (3 Cr.). International Relations Law (4 Cr.). Borders and Discontinuities (3 Cr.). History of the Arab-Persian Gulf (3 Cr.). History of Contemporary Lebanon (2 Cr.). History and Roles of the Lebanese Armed Forces: The Case of the Police in Lebanon (4 Cr.). History, Memory and Heritage (3 Cr.). History Lab: Lebanese Histories (2 Cr.). International Security Studies (1 Cr.). The Lebanese Army: History, Issues and Challenges (4 Cr.). Europe's Conquest of the World, 15th–16th Centuries (3 Cr.). Revolutionary Europe, 1789–1870 (3 Cr.). The UN and “Robust Peacekeeping” (3 Cr.). Vatican Diplomacy (2 Cr.). Health Diplomacy: History and Issues (3 Cr.). The Making of the Contemporary Middle East (3 Cr.). War in the Contemporary World (3 Cr.). Lebanon in the 19th Century (4 Cr.). Lebanon of the First Republic (6 Cr.). Lebanon from the Crusades to the Ottoman Empire (3 Cr.). The Middle East from 1970 to the Present (3 Cr.). The Meaning of History in International Relations (3 Cr.). The Ottoman Empire in the 19th–20th Centuries (3 Cr.). Church Conflicts in the 16th Century: Renaissance, Humanism, Reformation and Counter-Reformation (3 Cr.). Political Issues of Water Control in the Middle East (3 Cr.). Wars of Independence in the 20th Century (3 Cr.). International Relations from 1870 to 1945 (3 Cr.). The Arab Revolutions (3 Cr.). Military Archaeological Sites of the Middle East (2 Cr.). European Imperialism (3 Cr.). Methodology in History–International Relations (3 Cr.). Arab World: Unity and Cultural Diversity (3 Cr.). Research Paper – Bachelor in History–International Relations (3 Cr.). International and Regional Political and Economic Organizations (3 Cr.). Diplomatic Encounters (2 Cr.). Diplomatic Encounters II (3 Cr.). Soft Power, Culture and Ideology (3 Cr.). Internship – Bachelor in History (3 Cr.). International Relations Theories (3 Cr.). Turkey–Qatar: A New Axis in the Middle East (2 Cr.). US Rise to World Power (3 Cr.). Diplomacy and Communication (2 Cr.).

Institution's Elective Courses (20 Cr.), to be chosen from the list below:

Reading the City (3 Cr.). Sustainable Development in the 21st Century (3 Cr.). Climate Change: Environmental, Human and Geopolitical Issues (3 Cr.). Writing the City / Literary Psychogenealogy (3 Cr.). Society and Risk (2 Cr.). Lebanese Society: Family, Political Parties and Religious Communities (3 Cr.). Political Sociology (3 Cr.). Sociology of Communication (3 Cr.). Sociology of the Arab World (3 Cr.). Introduction to the Environment (3 Cr.). Introduction

to Heritage (3 Cr.). Journalism Ethics and Transparency (2 Cr.).

Open elective courses (6 Cr.)

USJ General Education Program (32 Cr.)

Code	Course Name	Credits
	ENGLISH OR OTHER LANGUAGE	4
011HIANL6	Specialized English – History – International Relations	4
	ARABIC	4
	<i>Arabic Language and Culture</i>	4
011HIHJL2	Evolution of Lebanese Journalism	4
	HUMANITIES	8
064VALEL1	USJ Values in Daily Life	2
	<i>Ethics</i>	2
011PHPEL1	Thinking Ethics: Foundations	2
	<i>Civic Engagement and Citizenship</i>	2
011GESFL1	Society and Risk	2
	<i>Other Humanities Course</i>	2
011HIDCL2	Diplomacy and Communication	2
	SOCIAL SCIENCES	6
	<i>Professional Integration and/or Entrepreneurship</i>	3
011SAIPL1	Professional Integration	3
	<i>Other Social Sciences Course</i>	3
011SAESL1	Introduction to the Study of Society	3
	COMMUNICATION TECHNIQUES	4
011LFCEL1	Oral and Written Communication	4
	QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES	6
011LFHML2	Digital Humanities I	3
011LFHUL2	Digital Humanities II	3

SUGGESTED STUDY PLAN

Semester 1

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HCERL1	Church Conflicts in the 16 th Century: Renaissance, Humanism, Reformation and Counter-Reformation	3
011HIMDL1	Methodology in History–International Relations	3
011HIR1L2	International Relations from 1870 to 1945	3
011SAMAL3	Arab World: Unity and Cultural Diversity	3
011LFHML2	Digital Humanities I	3
011PHPEL1	Thinking Ethics: Foundations	2
011SAESL1	Introduction to the Study of Society	3

011LFCEL1	Oral and Written Communication	4
011HISHL1	The Meaning of History in International Relations	3
011HIGAL2	History of the Arab-Persian Gulf	3
	Total	30

Semester 2

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIIRL2	International and Regional Political and Economic Organizations	3
011HIUSL2	US Rise to World Power	3
011HILAL2	The Lebanese Army: History, Issues and Challenges	4
011HIDSL2	Health Diplomacy: History and Issues	3
011HIHJL2	Evolution of Lebanese Journalism	4
011HIGML5	War in the Contemporary World	3
011HIE2L2	The Ottoman Empire in the 19th–20th Centuries	3
011LFHUL2	Digital Humanities II	3
064VALEL1	USJ Values in Daily Life	2
	Institution's Elective Course	3
	Total	31

Semester 3

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIE2L3	Europe's Conquest of the World, 15 th –16 th Centuries	3
011HSCIL3	Soft Power, Culture and Ideology	3
011HLRAL3	The Arab Revolutions	3
011HICDL2	Diplomatic Encounters	2
011HIDVL3	Vatican Diplomacy	2
011HHMPL3	History, Memory and Heritage	3
011HILRL3	Lebanon of the First Republic	6
011HITQL3	Turkey–Qatar: A New Axis in the Middle East	2
	Institution's Elective Course	6
	Total	30

Semester 4

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIS2L4	Internship – Bachelor in History	3
011HITRL3	International Relations Theories	3
011HIFDL3	Borders and Discontinuities	3
011HIPOL3	History and Roles of the Lebanese Armed Forces: The Case of the Police in Lebanon	4
011HIDCL2	Diplomacy and Communication	2
011HILHL2	History Lab: Lebanese Histories	2
011GESFL1	Society and Risk	2
011HILEL3	Revolutionary Europe, 1789–1870	3

011HIHLL4	History of Contemporary Lebanon	2
	Institution's Elective Course	6
	Total	30

Semester 5

Code	Course Name	Credits
011TOEOL5	Lebanon from the Crusades to the Ottoman Empire	3
011HIIEL5	European Imperialism	3
011HISAL5	Military Archaeological Sites of the Middle East	2
011HIRDL3	Diplomatic Encounters II	3
011HIPHL2	Discovering the Phoenicians	3
011HISSL3	International Security Studies	1
011HIL4L3	Lebanon in the 19 th Century	4
013DRINL2	International Relations Law	4
011HIMOL3	The Making of the Contemporary Middle East	3
0011SAIPL1	Professional Integration	3
	Total	29

Semester 6

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIMOL6	The Middle East from 1970 to the Present	3
011HIYDL6	The UN and “Robust Peacekeeping”	3
011HIDEL6	Wars of Independence in the 20 th Century	3
011HINRL6	Research Paper – Bachelor in History	3
011HIANL6	Specialized English – History – International Relations	4
011HICEL2	Political Issues of Water Control in the Middle East	3
	Institution's Elective Course	5
	Open Elective Course	6
	Total	30

COURSE DESCRIPTION

011HIPHL2	Discovering the Phoenicians	3 Cr.
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This course examines the Levant from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age, covering the transition between these periods, the rise of the Kingdom of Byblos, and the invention of the alphabet. It also explores the development of Sidon and Tyre, Phoenician religion, and the influences of Carthage, Phoenician culture, and Arab heritage.

011HIANL6	Specialized English – History – International Relations	4 Cr.
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This course aims to enhance students' ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, within the fields of history and international relations.

011GECCL3	Climate Change: Environmental, Human and Geopolitical Issues	3 Cr.
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This course examines climate as a key component of the natural environment and its influence on human lifestyles. It explores how societies have adapted to and exploited climatic conditions, while also considering how human

activities alter the climate, both globally (climate change) and locally (urban pollution). The course addresses current trends in climate change, its potential impacts on societies, and the challenges posed by atmospheric evolution. Students will analyze strategies adopted by countries to mitigate this major 21st-century challenge.

011LFCEL1 Oral and Written Communication**4 Cr.**

This course is designed to meet the linguistic needs of USJ students. It first develops their ability to communicate easily, clearly, and effectively in various oral situations, such as spontaneous speech, interviews, presentations, debates, and meetings. It also develops students' writing, reading, and research skills on current topics related to their field of study. By the end of the course, students will be able to prepare and deliver oral presentations for professional purposes and independently write a research paper in class on a current topic, clearly expressing their opinion.

011HIDCL2 Diplomacy and Communication**2 Cr.**

This course addresses the challenges of communication in diplomatic contexts and includes practical training in:

- Writing official statements
- Covering official visits
- Media coverage of activities in fields such as politics, arts and culture, environment, and development
- Producing video project presentations (summarizing, structuring, and delivering content)
- Using social media effectively.

The course also covers press relations and the different types of press exercises in a diplomatic environment, including preparing key messages and conducting Off/On-the-record or background interviews.

013DRINL2 International Relations Law**4 Cr.**

This course examines the legal rules that states must follow in their international relations. It enables students to compare international realities with the legal norms governing the international community.

011PHEAL3 American Philosophy**3 Cr.**

This course introduces students to American philosophy, including thinkers such as Thoreau and Emerson. It also explores the United States through a philosophical lens, examining its capitalism, literature, cinema, and democracy with insights from contemporary philosophers like Bruce Bégout and Martha Nussbaum.

011LFEVL2 Writing the City: Literary Psychogeography**3 Cr.**

This course is a writing workshop.

011EPHGL4 Writings and Philosophies of War**3 Cr.**

This course offers a philosophical reflection on war through key texts from the tradition, from the Iliad to Orwell, while incorporating insights from contemporary philosophy (Arendt, Schmitt, Gros). It examines the necessity, legitimacy, and ethics of war, its tragic and totalizing dimensions, and the tension between friend and enemy at the heart of politics.

011HIFDL3 Borders and Discontinuities**3 Cr.**

This course introduces the concepts and theories of borders, their forms, dynamics, territoriality, and nationalism today. It examines space appropriation and delimitation through a seven-step model, from occupation to exclusion, including attachment and rooting. The course explores borders drawn for protection (e.g., the Great Wall of China, the Rhine limes, Hadrian's Wall), for territorial division (e.g., the partition of Latin America, Africa, the Ottoman Empire, the USSR), and for separating political systems (e.g., Vietnam, Korea, and Germany during the Cold War).

011HIGAL2 History of the Arab-Persian Gulf**3 Cr.**

This course examines the Arab-Persian Gulf, a region of major geostrategic importance in the Middle East. Rich in natural resources, particularly oil and natural gas, it holds significant economic and political global interest.

Students will study the region's millennia-long history and its contemporary geopolitical volatility, including shifting alliances, international relations, and economic developments that continue to shape its modern history.

011HIHLL4	History of Contemporary Lebanon	2 Cr.
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This course traces the major stages of Lebanon's evolution from the 19th century to the present. It examines the impact of the two world wars on Lebanese territory, the end of the French Mandate, and the establishment of an independent state in 1943. The course covers communal tensions, the civil war of 1975–1990, and the resulting Taëf Agreements, with a focus on the country's political, social, and geopolitical issues. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the foundations of Lebanon's current situation.

011HIPOL3	History and Roles of the Lebanese Armed Forces: The Case of the Police in Lebanon	4 Cr.
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This course examines the structure and functioning of the police in Lebanon, governed by national authorities and shaped by the country's political and social context. It explores the challenges faced by law enforcement in maintaining order and internal security within a complex and often unstable political environment, where political and sectarian dynamics can influence police operations.

011HHMPL3	History, Memory and Heritage	3 Cr.
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This course examines the complex and interdependent relationships between history, memory, and heritage. History provides a chronological study of past events, societies, and individuals, forming the foundation for understanding the past and tracing the development of civilizations. It shapes how societies perceive and interpret their own journeys. Memory influences interpretation and meaning, while tangible and intangible heritage serves as a medium connecting these elements, allowing societies to engage with their past and transmit these connections to future generations.

011HILHL2	History Lab: Lebanese Histories	2 Cr.
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This course explores Lebanon's rich and complex history, shaped by multiple cultural, religious, and political layers. Students will study individual and collective memories, diverse historical narratives, and how they influence contemporary understanding of Lebanese history.

011LFHML2	Digital Humanities I	3 Cr.
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This course introduces students to the interdisciplinary concept of digital humanities, developing the computational and technological skills increasingly essential in the era of artificial intelligence.

011LFHUL2	Digital Humanities II	3 Cr.
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This course offers humanities students an in-depth exploration of digital humanities, an emerging field that combines traditional humanities methods with modern digital tools and techniques. Through a transdisciplinary approach, it highlights how digital technologies are transforming research, analysis, and knowledge dissemination across fields such as history, literature, sociology, philosophy, and anthropology.

Students will learn to use digital tools to analyze texts, visualize complex data, and explore social networks as data sources. The course also addresses the ethical and cultural implications of using digital technologies in humanities research, encouraging critical reflection on the new dynamics they create.

By the end of the course, students will understand the challenges and opportunities of digital humanities, apply digital methods to their own research, and develop a critical perspective on the impact of technology in the humanities. This course is ideal for students seeking to enhance their research skills with digital techniques while maintaining a strong connection to the philosophical, historical, and social questions underlying the humanities.

011SAIPL1	Professional Integration	3 Cr.
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This course prepares students for the professional world by providing guidance, teaching materials, and career perspectives. It supports students in their professional integration by helping them assess their skills, enhance oral and written communication for professional contexts, identify the most suitable career path, and learn to integrate successfully into this new environment.

011HISSL3	International Security Studies	1 Cr.
This course delves into the complex field of international security studies, covering a wide range of topics including global security, stability, and conflict. It explores various dimensions of security, such as the military, political, economic, environmental, and societal aspects. As a dynamic field, it continuously evolves to address emerging threats, technological advancements, and shifts in geopolitical dynamics.		
011SAESL1	Introduction to the Study of Society	3 Cr.
This course provides the essential tools to understand the structure, functioning, and transformations of the social world. Students will acquire the basic concepts of sociology and learn to independently reflect on the interaction between society and the individual.		
011HILAL2	The Lebanese Army: History, Issues and Challenges	4 Cr.
<p>This course examines the history of the Lebanese Army, providing students with knowledge of its past, present state, and future challenges. It covers decisive events in its development, their context, and significant consequences, integrating both academic learning and field-related perspectives.</p> <p>Students will study the founding of the Lebanese Army, its evolution since the country's independence, and its relationship with local authorities and regional powers.</p> <p>The course aims to consolidate historical knowledge while deepening analytical skills, enabling students to engage with military data and acquire practical, empirical analysis strategies.</p>		
011HIE2L3	Europe's Conquest of the World, 15th–16th Centuries	3 Cr.
<p>This course addresses the following central questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why were Europeans the first to embark on global exploration? - What mechanisms of domination were established in the colonies? - What were the consequences of European domination (15th–18th centuries) on the colonized peoples and territories, on the metropolitan powers, and on the balance of international forces? 		
011HILEL3	Revolutionary Europe, 1789–1870	3 Cr.
<p>This course aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present the major phases that shaped Europe's political evolution from the late 18th to the late 19th century. - Explain the functioning of political systems in France during this period. - Highlight the significance of French political experience in the 18th and 19th centuries. <p>Content includes:</p> <p>Absolutism</p> <p>The French Revolution</p> <p>Political regimes in France up to 1875</p> <p>International relations during this period</p> <p>The impact of the Industrial Revolution on international relations.</p>		
011HIYDL6	The UN and “Robust Peacekeeping”	3 Cr.
This course examines United Nations peacekeeping operations, designed to help resolve international conflicts and maintain peace in crisis regions. It focuses on “robust peacekeeping,” which often involves a more active use of force, including offensive operations against hostile armed groups, aimed at protecting vulnerable civilians and restoring stability in conflict zones. The course also addresses the challenges of this approach, including increased risks for UN peacekeepers and the need for strong political authorization and support from UN member states. Students will analyze the balance between the use of force and the UN principles of neutrality and impartiality, a central challenge in implementing robust peacekeeping.		
011HIDVL3	Vatican Diplomacy	2 Cr.
This course examines Vatican diplomacy, conducted by the Holy See, the central governing body of the Catholic Church, including the Pope and his supporting institutions. As a sovereign entity, the Vatican engages in diplomacy that is distinct from its religious mission. Its diplomatic actions are guided by the moral and ethical principles of the Catholic Church, positioning its engagement at the intersection of faith and international affairs. While the		

Vatican does not wield political power comparable to nation-states, its voice carries significant moral authority and is often respected due to its role as a spiritual leader for millions worldwide.

011HIDL2 Health Diplomacy: History and Issues 3 Cr.

This examines the role of health in shaping international relations throughout history, with a focus on epidemics, highlighting public health as a global political concern, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. The course also explores the internationalization of health issues and the contributions of public and private actors, such as the World Health Organization and the Red Cross, during crises and human catastrophes. Students will reflect on contemporary issues, including violations of the Geneva Conventions during the Gaza conflict. Special attention is given to Lebanon, analyzing the resilience of its health sector during the 1975–1990 civil war and following the Beirut port explosion on August 4, 2020.

011HIMOL3 The Making of the Contemporary Middle East 3 Cr.

This course aims to:

1. Examine the evolution of the Middle East within the context of the Ottoman Empire.
2. Explore the process of the formation of the current Middle Eastern states.
3. Analyze national constructions and the development of specific states at the intersection of internal and external dynamics.
4. Trace the origins of the Israeli–Arab conflict.

011HIGML5 War in the Contemporary World 3 Cr.

This course is open to all students from different disciplines. It examines the nature, causes, and forms of conflicts in the ancient and contemporary world, as well as the transformations and evolution of the relationship between humans and war today.

011GESFL1 Society and Risk 3 Cr.

This course defines the fundamental concepts of risk and vulnerability, and equips students with the skills needed to address challenges related to natural and technological hazards, as well as the vulnerability of human societies to these risks. It emphasizes a systemic understanding of vulnerability, including physical, social, economic, institutional, cultural, and territorial dimensions.

011GEDDL3 Sustainable Development in the 21st Century 3 Cr.

This course examines sustainable development (SD) as an operational concept aimed at promoting well-being by humanizing and ecologizing the economy. It addresses the threats of resource depletion and environmental degradation and envisions a world where poverty, social inequalities, and pressure on nature are eliminated. SD emerged from three key awareness points: the dangers of current lifestyles on the planet, persistent inequalities between humans—particularly between the Global North and South—and concerns about economic development. The course presents SD as a framework for good governance, risk assessment, and guiding political and economic actions to solve complex global problems that intertwine economic, social, and environmental crises. Students will explore the principles, objectives, and practical applications of sustainable development. The course develops the competencies “Addressing and solving environmental problems,” “Conducting environmental research,” and “Applying knowledge.”

011HIL4L3 Lebanon in the 19th Century 4 Cr.

This course begins with a central question: Was the 19th century a period of state and nation-building for the future Lebanese state? It seeks to answer this by examining the dynamics at work within local society, particularly in Mount Lebanon, at the intersection of internal changes—political, socio-economic, and cultural—the Ottoman authorities’ efforts at centralization, and the growing European interference in the region.

011HILRL3 Lebanon of the First Republic 6 Cr.

This course examines the First Lebanese Republic, generally associated with the period following Lebanon’s independence from the French mandate. It was marked by relative political and economic stability, yet the country faced significant challenges, including intercommunal tensions. In 1958, Lebanon experienced a political crisis that

prompted the intervention of U.S. armed forces to restore order.

011TOEOL5	Lebanon from the Crusades to the Ottoman Empire	3 Cr.
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This course is a history class that provides a chronological and synthetic overview of a long period in the history of Lebanon and the Near East: from the origins of the Crusades to their conclusion, the Mamluk era, and the Ottoman Empire. It begins with a historical overview of the origins of the various religious communities—Muslim and Christian—that populate the region and form its cultural foundation.

This course also aims to introduce and raise awareness of Lebanon's historical narrative, particularly in relation to its rich heritage and monuments that attract tourist interest. It is complemented by guided visits to key tourist sites throughout the year, allowing students to explore Lebanon's heritage firsthand and gain practical field experience.

The course is also open to all USJ students interested in learning about these historical periods, especially the history of Lebanon, and in tracing the origins of its communities to better understand the historical developments that have shaped the country's present-day situation.

011HIMOL6	The Middle East from 1970 to the Present	3 Cr.
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This course offers an analysis of the political, economic, and social transformations within this strategically important region of the world. It focuses on identifying the various centers of power, highlighting the shifts that have shaped the period. The course also examines the Middle East's role in international politics and its adaptation to major global upheavals.

011HISHL1	The Meaning of History in International Relations	3 Cr.
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This course examines, through selected contemporary authors, how the meaning of History has always shaped perceptions of the world and international conflicts. It provides a valuable framework for interpreting key issues of our time, such as globalization, the clash of civilizations, the future of democracy, and emerging geopolitical shifts. Modern theories on the meaning of History may include perspectives from thinkers like Francis Fukuyama, with his concept of the “end of History,” and Samuel Huntington, with his idea of the “clash of civilizations.” Analyzing these theories offers students insights into current and future challenges in international relations.

011GELVL3	Reading the City	3 Cr.
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This course enables students to identify and analyze the components and types of urban fabric, providing a foundation for understanding urban form and the socio-economic factors that shape it.

011HIE2L2	The Ottoman Empire in the 19th–20th Centuries	3 Cr.
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This course analyzes the functioning of Ottoman society, characterized by ethnic and religious diversity, and examines how the Ottoman authorities managed this diversity amid increasing European interference. It identifies the religious conflicts that marked this period. The course evaluates the economic and social transformations driven by Ottoman rule, European imperialism, and the introduction of Western modernity. It traces the disintegration of the Empire despite state centralization efforts, in the context of rising nationalism and European imperialism. Finally, it identifies structural challenges that shaped the history of the Middle East in the 20th century.

011HCERL1	Church Conflicts in the 16th Century: Renaissance, Humanism, Reformation and Counter-Reformation	3 Cr.
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This course focuses on the 16th century, a pivotal period in European history marked by major religious conflicts, significant cultural developments, and important political changes. These religious movements not only affected the practice of religion in Europe but also shaped politics, the economy, and society. The diversification of religious beliefs led to profound social transformations, theological debates, and political conflicts.

011HICEL2	Political Issues of Water Control in the Middle East	4 Cr.
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This course examines the geopolitical dynamics of water management and allocation in the Middle East, a region marked by aridity, political tensions, and reliance on transboundary water sources. It analyzes how access to water can serve as a tool of power, cooperation, or conflict among riparian states, particularly around major rivers. The course also addresses national water management strategies, the impacts of climate change, and the

challenges of water security within the context of ongoing regional rivalries.

011HIDEL6 Wars of Independence in the 20th Century 3 Cr.

This course examines the international, metropolitan, and local factors that enabled decolonization. Objectives of this course:

1. Identify the international factors that supported independence movements
2. Understand the mechanisms that allowed colonies to achieve independence
3. Distinguish the different forms of conflict that led to independence
4. Assess the impact of these wars on international relations.

011HIR1L2 International Relations from 1870 to 1945 3 Cr.

This course enables students to analyze major political crises and conflicts worldwide from 1870 to 1945, as well as the transformations and developments in relations between states during the first half of the 20th century.

011HLRAL3 The Arab Revolutions 3 Cr.

This course examines the Arab Spring, a series of popular uprisings, protests, and demonstrations that erupted across several Arab countries starting in late 2010. These movements were marked by demands for democracy, human rights, social justice, and the overthrow of authoritarian regimes. The events began in Tunisia in December 2010 with the self-immolation of Mohamed Bouazizi, a street vendor protesting corruption and harsh economic conditions. The subsequent demonstrations led to the fall of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali in January 2011, and similar movements soon spread to other Arab countries.

011HISAL5 Military Archaeological Sites of the Middle East 2 Cr.

This course examines the military history of the Middle East, highlighting numerous archaeological sites that bear witness to past conflicts and the empires that shaped the region. It also explores how the current political and security situation affects the accessibility and preservation of these sites, noting that some have been damaged or destroyed due to recent conflicts.

064VALEL1 USJ Values in Daily Life 2 Cr.

This course aims to raise students' awareness of the core values of the Saint Joseph University of Beirut (USJ) and to encourage them to apply these values in their personal, interpersonal, and professional lives. It engages them in a critical reflection on how the principles enshrined in the USJ Charter can influence their behavior, actions, and decisions in addressing the challenges of today's world. Students will also develop an understanding of global issues and ethical responsibilities, preparing them to contribute positively to the building of a better society.

011HIIEL5 European Imperialism 3 Cr.

This course enables students to:

1. Understand the mechanisms that enabled the West to dominate and divide the world
2. Distinguish the different forms of domination
3. Identify the transformations induced in the dominated territories
4. Assess the impact of imperialism on international relations and globalization.

011HIMDL1 Methodology in History–International Relations 3 Cr.

This course is an introduction to methods of historical analysis and research. It combines theoretical foundations with practical examples to explain the process of creating a bibliography, studying various types of sources (texts, statistical series, etc.), constructing a chronology, establishing periodization, and developing a plan and research problem.

011SAMAL3**Arab World: Unity and Cultural Diversity****3 Cr.**

This course enables students to understand the Arab world through the dynamic lens of its cultures and the identities of its populations at both regional (cultural area) and national levels. It examines the socio-cultural and political relations between ethnic and religious groups.

011HINRL6**Research Paper – Bachelor in History****3 Cr.**

The student must write a research paper of 25 to 30 pages, following a specific methodology. The paper should be structured around a clearly defined research question and present a plan that is methodological, thematic, and analytical, reflecting a genuine process of reflection and research.

011HIIRL2**International and Regional Political and Economic Organizations****3 Cr.**

This course has 3 objectives:

1. Provide students with a basic understanding of the main current international organizations
2. Study and debate the activities of these organizations, either in relation to specific events or through the analysis of critical articles
3. By the end of the course, each student should be able to define the main functions of these organizations, locate them within the international arena, and demonstrate a solid knowledge of their roles.

Additionally, the course aims to:

- Give students a foundational understanding of certain regional organizations in which Arab countries are members. Understanding the differences in status and functioning of these organizations is essential for the case studies
- Examine the activities of these often-overlooked organizations and debate their current relevance, influence in regional or global affairs, and assess their usefulness, challenges, and potential reforms.

011PHPEL1**Thinking Ethics: Foundations****2 Cr.**

This course presents philosophy as the study of foundational principles that underpin intellectual constructions and their applications, including all forms of ethics (medical, business, engineering, environmental, etc.). It examines and justifies various ethical foundations proposed throughout the history of philosophical thought, such as knowledge, will, sensitivity, utility, affectivity, and rationality. The course emphasizes the two major ethical approaches—deontological and utilitarian—while also addressing fundamental questions, including the distinction between ethics and morality, the origin of moral inquiry, and the relationship between individual and collective ethics.

011HICDL2**Diplomatic Encounters****2 Cr.**

This course highlights the benefits students can gain from meeting with diplomats, emphasizing how such interactions enrich their understanding of diplomacy, international relations, and global issues. Key advantages include:

1. Practical Understanding of Diplomacy
 - Real-world perspective: Students learn directly from diplomats about strategies and techniques used in international negotiations.
 - Field insight: They gain an understanding of how policies are formulated and implemented on the ground, and the challenges diplomats face.
2. Knowledge of International Issues
 - Clarifying global questions: Diplomats can explain complex topics—regional conflicts, international agreements, development policies—in a more accessible and concrete way.
 - Multiple perspectives: Students are exposed to diverse viewpoints, enriching their comprehension of global dynamics.
3. Skill Development
 - Communication skills: Interacting with diplomats helps students improve their communication and negotiation abilities.
 - Critical analysis: Students enhance their capacity to analyze information and understand the implications of international policies.

011HIRDL3**Diplomatic Encounters II****3 Cr.**

This course highlights the benefits students can gain from meeting with diplomats, emphasizing how such interactions enrich their understanding of diplomacy, international relations, and global issues. Key advantages include:

1. Practical Understanding of Diplomacy

- Real-world perspective: Students learn directly from diplomats about strategies and techniques used in international negotiations.
- Field insight: They gain an understanding of how policies are formulated and implemented on the ground, and the challenges diplomats face.

2. Knowledge of International Issues

- Clarifying global questions: Diplomats can explain complex topics—regional conflicts, international agreements, development policies—in a more accessible and concrete way.
- Multiple perspectives: Students are exposed to diverse viewpoints, enriching their comprehension of global dynamics.

3. Skill Development

- Communication skills: Interacting with diplomats helps students improve their communication and negotiation abilities.
- Critical analysis: Students enhance their capacity to analyze information and understand the implications of international policies.

011HSCIL3**Soft Power, Culture and Ideology****3 Cr.**

This course examines the concept of “soft power” as a diplomatic tool that nations use to influence foreign public opinion and win hearts and minds. It focuses on Turkey as a case study of successful soft power and also explores similar strategies employed by the United States, including American exceptionalism and the counterculture of the 1960s and 1970s. Overall, the course provides an overview of key concepts in U.S. foreign policy and the global use of soft power.

Methodology: The course adopts an interactive approach, using a variety of media—photos, films, comics, and more—highlighting pop culture among other elements. It emphasizes deconstruction, encouraging students to think critically and decode cultural representations. Active participation in class is essential.

011HIS2L4**Internship – Bachelor in History****3 Cr.**

The student must complete an internship and validate the course by submitting an internship report. The report should include: the motivations for choosing the internship, the objectives pursued, a presentation of the host company or organization, and a detailed description of the tasks performed.

The report must also include two analytical sections:

- A) Internship outcomes and limitations: skills acquired, skills partially or not acquired but identified during the internship
- B) Strengths and limitations of the training provided by the Department in relation to the internship experience.

011HITRL3**International Relations Theories****3 Cr.**

This course introduces students to the study of international relations, focusing on the main theories, concepts, and key authors in the field. It aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the diverse approaches to international relations while fostering critical analysis. Students will examine the philosophical foundations of each theory, explore their core concepts, trace their historical evolution, and evaluate their different interpretations. The course encourages reflection on how these theories explain and shape global interactions and contemporary international issues.

011HITQL3**Turkey–Qatar: A New Axis in the Middle East****2 Cr.**

This course examines the evolving relations between Turkey and Qatar, focusing on the emergence of what is sometimes described as a “new axis” in the Middle East. It explores the factors behind the growing cooperation, including intensified diplomatic exchanges, frequent high-level visits, and shared positions on key regional issues, such as the Gulf crisis involving Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain. The course encourages

students to analyze the strategic, political, and economic dimensions of this bilateral relationship within the broader Middle Eastern context.

011HIUSL2	US Rise to World Power	3 Cr.
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This course examines the main themes that have guided U.S. policy over time, showing how they evolve according to national and international issues, leadership priorities, economic and social changes, technological developments, and other factors. It highlights recurring themes that have shaped American political history and continue to influence policy today, while acknowledging that specific issues may emerge depending on circumstances and that priorities can shift according to political parties and prevailing ideologies.

011HIHJL2	Evolution of Lebanese Journalism	4 Cr.
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This course introduces students to the key stages in the history of print media, radio, and television, as well as the challenges faced by journalists and media outlets. It also examines the issues of freedom of expression and journalism in Lebanon, highlighting the sacrifices made to preserve this freedom and the current threats it faces. Students will gain insight into the legal and ethical dimensions of media and understand their connection to broader questions of civil liberties.