

# FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND TRANSLATION (FdLT)

## HISTORY

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The Institute of Languages and Translation (ILT) was founded in 1980 with three affiliated institutions: The School of Translators and Interpreters of Beirut (ETIB), the Center for Arabic Research and Studies (CREA), and the Center for Modern Language Studies (CEL). In 2012, ILT was transformed into the Faculty of Languages (FdL), with ETIB and CREA as its affiliated institutions. In 2016, the Center for Modern Languages (Centre des Langues Vivantes (CLV)) replaced the CEL and joined FdL. In 2018, the Faculty of Languages added translation to its title and became the Faculty of Languages and Translation (FdLT). In 2019, the Center for Research in Translation Studies, Arabic Terminology and Languages - CERTTAL (formerly the Center for Research in Translation Studies, Arabic Terminology - CERTTA), which had long been attached to ETIB, joined FdLT.

Founded in 1945, CREA specializes in teaching Arabic as a foreign language. It offers instruction in both Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and the Lebanese Dialect, provides instructor training programs, develops innovative educational materials, and conducts applied research in Arabic language didactics.

In 2023, CREA launched the Diploma in Arabic as a Foreign Language (DALE), a certification aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This program strengthens its academic visibility and reinforces its role in addressing contemporary linguistic and cultural challenges in the Arab world.

With over forty years of experience combining practice and theory, the Faculty of Languages and Translation (FdLT) is well equipped to fulfill its missions in teaching, training, and research. It offers Bachelor's, Master's, and PhD programs, as well as language courses in Arabic, Armenian, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Turkish. In 2022, the Japanese Academic Center (CAJAP), founded in 2008, joined FdLT, adding Japanese to the list of languages taught.

## MISSION

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For CLV:

- Develop and organize placement tests in French and English for USJ applicants and students.
- Teach modern languages to USJ and non-USJ students.
- Support USJ's policy of French language development and promotion of English at the University.
- Develop teaching materials for French instruction.
- Train instructors and trainers in language teaching/learning.
- Contribute research and scientific advancements in language education.

For CREA:

- Design and administer Arabic placement tests and certification exams (Diploma in Arabic as a Foreign Language - DALE / Diploma in Arabic as a Specialized Language - DALS) for USJ students, and all candidates seeking Arabic proficiency assessment.
- Teach Modern Standard Arabic and the Lebanese Dialect to USJ students and non-Arabic-speaking learners.
- Support USJ's language policy by actively promoting the teaching of Arabic in its linguistic and cultural dimensions within the University.
- Develop and produce innovative teaching materials for Arabic as a foreign language.
- Organize initial and lifelong learning for instructors and trainers in Arabic language education, aligned with contemporary didactic approaches.
- Conduct applied and fundamental research in Arabic language didactics, and contribute to academic discourse at national, regional, and international levels.

## ADMINISTRATION

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### **Dean of the Faculty of Languages and Translation (FdLT)**

Gina ABOU FADEL SAAD

### **Director of the Center for Modern Languages (CLV)**

Diana ABI ABOUD ISSA

### **Director of the Center for Arabic Research and Studies (CREA)**

Carole NEHMÉ

### **Director of the Language Testing Office**

Naji ABI ZEID DAOU

### **Director of the Center for Research in Translation Studies, Arabic Terminology and Languages (CERTTAL)**

May HOBEIKA (EL) HADDAD

### **Coordinator of the French Section - CLV**

Nada KFOURY KHOURY

### **Coordinator of the English Section - CLV**

Rosine ZGHEIB

### **Coordinator of the Foreign Languages Section - CLV**

Pagona Athina MAKRI SAAB

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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### **Administrative Coordinator**

Liliane KHAIRALLAH TABET

### **Administrative Assistant - English Section**

Gladys YOUAKIM ABI RACHED

### **Administrative Assistant - Language Testing Office**

Carole AOUN CHACAR

### **Administrative Assistant - Foreign Languages Section and CREA**

Aziza TAHHAN YOUSSEF

## FACULTY

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### **Professors**

Gina ABOU FADEL SAAD, May HOBEIKA HADDAD, Nada KFOURI KHOURY, Nadine RIACHI HADDAD.

### **Associate Professor**

Rana HAKIM BEKDACHE.

### **Assistant Professors**

Diana ABI ABOUD ISSA, Ghada HACHEM, Pierre NAJM, Claude WEHBÉ CHALHOUB, Rosine ZGHEIB.

### **Lecturers**

Shaké MAJARIAN, Carole NEHMÉ.

### **Instructors**

Antoine ABDOU, Haybat ABDUL SAMAD, Dolly ABI AAD, Nour ABOU CHALA, Miriam ABOU DIB, Eliane ABOU SAMRA, Hiba (EL) ACHKAR (EL) KHOURY, Joëlle AHMARANI, Sabine ALAMEH, Mustapha ASSAAD, Maher AWAD, Ilsa AWWAD, Myrna CHOUEIRY, Christelle-Sophie AZIZ, Pascale BAROUD, Daad BOU ASSAF, Myriam BOU DIB AKIKI, Amal BOU SLEIMAN, Loubna CHAMSEDDINE, Carla CHAMOUN, Carole CHIDIAC, Giselle CHIDIAC (EL) MAROUN Leila (El) DADA, Hala DEBS, Fadwa DIB, Adham DIMASHKI, Imane DERNAIKA KAMALI, Léa ELIAS, Joelle FADDOUL, Lana FARRAN, Maya FAYAD, Jessie FAYÇAL, Josette FÉGHALI, Ada GENNAOUI, Rita GHARIB, Michèle HABBAKI, Rania HACHEM SAAD, Georges HADDAD, Aline HAGE ZOGHBI, Alida HAJJ NEHME, Amal HAKIM BAALBAKI, Loutfi HAMADI, Rita HANNA DAHER, Daoud HARB, Hiba HAYEK, Rita HLEIHEL, Léna HOBEIKA, Sarah HODEIB, Sami-Joe ISSA, Ghada ITANI, Sandra JARJOURA, Liliane KARAM, Suzanne KHAIRALLAH MOUBARAK, Souad KHALAF, Samia KHALIFE BOU AKL, Miguelle KHATTAR, Dayoung KIM, Maïssa KOLEILAT, Léna KOUYOUNJIAN, Alberto LOPEZ, Pablo LOPEZ DOCON, Athina MAKRI SAAB, Marie MAKSOUD, Sabine MEHANNA, Eiko MINAMI, Nada MOUAWAD, Carine MOUGHAYAR, Jawad MOUSSA, Charbel OUBA, Vanda RAMIA, Rita ROUSSELLE, Rim SANJAR, Samir SAYEGH, Thérèse SHAABAN, Mirna SHOUEIRI MHANNA, Khalil SMIDI, , Hamsa SOLH, Bianca TAHTOUEH, Zeliha TASPAZAR, Giulia YAGHI, Marina YERMILOVA SARIEDDINE, Bernadette YOUAKIM, Vanessa YOUSSEF, Nada

ZAYYAT MAKKI, Farah ZIADEH.  
**Faculty member of another USJ institution**  
Valérie ZGHEIB  
**Visiting Professors**  
Claire TARDIEU-GARNIER, Joseph VITTA.

## **DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED**

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PhD in Languages

## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

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FdLT graduates can teach in schools and universities and work in research centers specializing in language didactics.

## **TUITION FEES**

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Language courses (CLV): \$183/credit

Language courses (CLV - intensive for non-USJ students): \$100/credit

Arabic courses (CREA): \$100/credit

PhD in Languages: \$76 and 2,865,000 LBP (for semester 1), equivalent in Fresh US Dollars to 108 (1 USD = 89,500 LBP)

## **SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF STUDY**

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The Faculty of Languages and Translation comprises two centers and one department:

- Center for Modern Languages (CLV): offers courses in French and English, as well as elective courses in various languages;
- Center for Arabic Research and Studies (CREA): offers courses in Modern Standard Arabic and Lebanese Dialect, as well as elective courses of Arabic Language;
- Language Testing Office.

### **Article 6b. Bis Conditions for Sufficient Proficiency in French**

French Language Remedial Courses

The French language remedial course for Level B students enrolled at USJ is a 4-credit, 60-hour in-person course; It can be delivered in two ways:

- Extensive: 3 hours a day, 2 days a week or 5 hours a day, 1 day a week (over a semester)
- Intensive: 5 hours a day, 5 days a week (over 12 days)

CLV also offers introductory French language courses for beginners or remedial courses for TALF<sup>1</sup> "C" or "D" candidates.

### **Article 6c. Bis Conditions for Sufficient Proficiency in Arabic**

In collaboration with the Institute of Oriental Studies (*Institut de lettres orientales (ILO)*), the CREA at FdLT offers a 2-credit course entitled "Arabic Language and Culture." Part of USJ's General Education Program, this required course for undergraduates introduces them to the Arabic language and its cultural richness. The course explores domains such as media, arts, novels, theater or cinema, depending on students' academic focus. It emphasizes the development of practical communication skills in Arabic while providing insight into both traditional and contemporary Arab culture.

### **Article 6d. Bis Sufficient English Language Proficiency Requirements for French-Language Programs**

English Placement Test (TALA)

All first-year USJ students must take an English Placement Test (TALA<sup>2</sup>) to determine their English proficiency level. Students taking the test are then classified into one of five categories:

E = Lower Intermediate

D = Intermediate

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1- French Placement Test

2- English Placement Test

C = Upper Intermediate

B = Advanced

A = ESP (English for Specific Purposes)

Students are registered for the TALA by their respective institutions. They may retake the TALA as long as they are not registered for the English remedial courses; registration in this case is made individually. A minimum interval of 28 days is required between two tests. The highest score obtained will be considered when registering for English courses.

TALA results are available on the University website and are accessible to candidates and their respective initial institutions. No certificate or attestation of achievement shall be issued.

#### **1- Exemptions from TALA:**

Students who have taken the TOEFL or IELTS within two years prior to enrolling at USJ and have achieved a TOEFL score of 80 or higher (internet-based) or 548 or higher (paper-based), or an IELTS score of 6.5 or higher, are exempt from TALA. These students will be placed in the English course corresponding to the level obtained in these tests, according to the following table:

IELTS Score	TOEFL Score	TALA Level
7,5 - 9	102 - 120	A
6,5 - 7	79 - 101	B
5,5 - 6	46 - 78	C
5	35 - 45	D
0 - 4,5	0 - 34	E

#### **2- TALA Validity**

TALA results have varying validity periods:

- Levels A and B: valid for 10 years
- Levels C, D, and E: valid for 3 years

### **Article 6e. Bis English Language Proficiency Requirements for English-Language Programs**

#### **English Placement Test (TALA):**

For French-language programs, as indicated in Article 6d. Bis, students take the TALA **after enrollment**. However, for English-language programs, candidates must take the TALA **before enrolling at the University** to determine their level of English. They may retake it as many times as they wish, provided there is at least a 28 days interval between attempts. In this case, the highest score obtained will be retained.

TALA results are available on the University website and are accessible to candidates, their respective schools, and the USJ institutions where they wish to enroll. No certificate or attestation of achievement shall be issued.

#### **English Language Remedial and Proficiency Courses**

English language remedial and proficiency courses are offered at all USJ institutions throughout the academic year, during the semester break or in the summer, at the request of the institutions. Only Level A courses grant credits (35 in-person hours = 4 credits). All other English courses (70 in-person hours per level) do not provide academic credits.

### **Article 6f. Foreign Languages Courses**

#### **1- Foreign Languages Elective Courses**

FdLT offers remedial and proficiency courses in Arabic, Armenian, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish and Turkish for USJ and non-USJ students. Courses are offered during the academic year or during the summer, in either extensive or intensive formats.

All foreign language courses are taught at the Center for Modern Languages (CLV), except Arabic, which is taught at the Center for Arabic Research and Studies (CREA).

#### **2- Advanced or Expression-Communication Courses in French**

CLV offers advanced French or expression and communication courses in French, throughout the academic

year, for USJ or non-USJ students.

These courses focus on mastering oral and/or written French, while developing methodological know-how and critical thinking skills.

Students can earn between 2 credits (30 in-person hours) and 4 credits (60 in-person hours) per semester, depending on course requirements.

### **3- Arabic Courses**

CREA offers courses in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and Lebanese Dialect (LD). The program is divided into 6 levels, based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR):

- A1 (1 and 2): Beginner
- A2 (1 and 2): Elementary
- B1 (1 and 2): Intermediate
- B2 (1 and 2): Upper-intermediate
- C1 (1 and 2): Effective operational proficiency
- C2 (1 and 2): Mastery

Each level is allocated a total of 70 hours of teaching, corresponding to 6 credits.

### **4- Punctuality**

Students are required to be present at the scheduled start time of each class. If a student is less than 15 minutes late, they may enter the class without penalty. If the delay exceeds 15 minutes, the student will be admitted but will be counted as absent for one hour. In accordance with article 8(c) of the USJ Internal Regulations of Study, "To take the final exam of a course, in both the first and second exam sessions, students must have attended at least 70% of the in-person sessions."

### **5- Exemptions**

- a) For USJ students, any exemption granted to a student by their Dean, Director or Head of Department must be sent for information to the Director of CLV or the Director of CREA, as the case may be, with a copy to the Dean of the Faculty of Languages and Translation (FdLT). The same applies to any authorization concerning a prolonged absence.
- b) For non-USJ students, any request for an exemption concerning a language course at the Faculty of Languages and Translation must be made in writing to the Director of CLV or the Director of CREA, as the case may be, with a copy to the Dean of FdLT. The decision is then taken by the CLV or CREA Board, after examination of the case. The same applies to any authorization concerning a prolonged absence; the Board may even ask the student to repeat the relevant course at a subsequent time.

### **6- Registration for Elective Courses**

Students register for the elective courses offered by FdLT at their institution, according to the subject code, group, and timetable posted online by FdLT.

### **7- Tuition Fees**

Tuition fees for non-elective courses intended for non-USJ students are paid on the dates set by the Rectorate. The fees for any semester that has started shall be paid in full.

### **8- Assessment**

- a) For elective language courses for USJ students and courses for non-USJ students, as well as for Level A English, assessments are regulated as follows:
  - 35/100 for graded assignments (TPC)
  - 5/100 for attendance and participation
  - 20/100 for the mid-term exam
  - 40/100 for the final exam

To transition from one level to the next, students should obtain 50/100 or higher.

To pass the Level A course, students should obtain 50/100 or higher. All students enrolled at USJ are required to pass Level A in English in order to graduate.

## **Observations**

- Students enrolled in English courses, elective language courses, or the “Arabic Language and Culture” course who fail to pass are entitled to sit a second exam session. Institutions must first send FdLT the list of concerned students. FdLT then informs the institutions of the exam date and place, and the institutions notify their students accordingly.
- The final grade for the second exam session is calculated by combining the second exam grade with the grades of graded assignments, the mid-term exam, and attendance and participation obtained during the semester. These components carry the same weight as in the initial final grade calculation.
- CLV notifies non-USJ students directly of the exam date and place.
- CREA notifies exchange students and non-USJ students directly of the exam date and place.

## **b) French Remedial Courses**

- Conditions for admission to Level C

Level D students who have completed a 60-hour course shall take a test at CLV. A score of 50/100 or higher grants admission to Level C.

- Conditions for admission to Level B

Level C students who have completed a 60-hour course shall take a test at CLV. A score of 50/100 or higher grants admission to Level B.

- Conditions for admission to Level A

Level B students who have completed a 60-hour course shall take a placement test (TALF) administered by the FdLT Language Testing Office. A score of 50/100 or higher grants admission to Level A. Students who do not pass may retake the TALF in a second session.

Candidates taking French remedial courses at CLV may not register for or take the Placement Test (TALF) before the end of their remedial course.

## **9- Results**

- For USJ students, results are validated and sent to the relevant institutions, which then communicate them to their students.
- For non-USJ students, results are validated by FdLT, which then communicates them to the concerned students.
- For exchange students, CREA communicates the grades to the international relations department.
- Non-USJ students who successfully complete the courses will not receive a diploma or certificate; an attestation may be issued upon request.

## **Article 26. Bis. Examination Schedule**

### **PhD Dissertation:**

Provisions for FdLT PhD dissertations are in line with those of the Doctoral School of Human and Social Sciences.