

BACHELOR IN ADMINISTRATIVE AND POLITICAL SCIENCES**Main Language of Instruction:**French ☒ English ☐ Arabic ☐**Campus Where the Program Is Offered:** CFDSS**OBJECTIVES**

This program equips students with the knowledge and skills to understand political systems and international relations. It prepares future specialists, diplomats, and professionals by examining institutions, contextual dynamics, and political processes. Students will benefit from opportunities for research, internships, and community service projects, enhancing their practical experience and facilitating entry into the job market. This program also features international exchange opportunities for students and instructors through partnerships with institutions worldwide. Graduates pursue careers in various fields: public service, international organizations, diplomacy, politics, strategy and communication consulting firms, non-governmental organizations, the non-profit and humanitarian sectors, journalism, etc.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (COMPETENCIES)


- Identify and analyze information
- Practice political communication
- Engage in diplomatic activities
- Assume roles within the public service
- Assume roles in international organizations
- Participate in political and associative life (parties, pressure groups, NGOs, associations, etc.)
- Teach
- Conduct research

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

180 credits: Required courses (162 credits), Institution's elective courses (12 credits), Open elective courses (6 credits) and USJ General Education Program (38 credits - may be part of the above categories).

Fundamental Courses (174 Cr.)**Required Courses (162 Cr.)**

Constitutional Law I (6 Cr.), Introduction to Political Thought (4 Cr.), Elements of Macroeconomics (4 Cr.), Parliamentary Life (2 Cr.), History of Institutions (2 Cr.), Political History of Lebanon (4 Cr.), Methodology I (2 Cr.), Constitutional Law II (6 Cr.), Lebanese Constitutional Law (4 Cr.), Introduction to Sociology (4 Cr.), Introduction to Anthropology (2 Cr.), The International Field (4 Cr.), Introduction to Political Economy (4 Cr.), Methodology II (2 Cr.), International Relations I (4 Cr.), Methodology of Political Analysis (2 Cr.), History of the Contemporary Middle East (4 Cr.), Political Sociology (4 Cr.), Sociology of International Organizations (4 Cr.), General Administrative Law I (4 Cr.), Public Finance (4 Cr.), International Relations II (4 Cr.), Statistics Applied to Political Analysis (4 Cr.), Public Policies (4 Cr.), General Administrative Law II (4 Cr.), Organizations and Administrative Jurisdictions in Lebanon (4 Cr.), Historical Foundations of Contemporary Lebanon (4 Cr.), Ethics and Politics (2 Cr.), English Level A (4 Cr.), Political Thought I (4 Cr.), Political Thought in the Contemporary Arab World (4 Cr.), Public International Law I (4 Cr.), Socialization, Globalization, and Citizenship (4 Cr.), Public Economy and Tax Law (4 Cr.), Organizational Leadership (2 Cr.), Public Liberties and Fundamental Rights (4 Cr.), Political Thought II (4 Cr.), Administrative Science (4 Cr.), Public International Law II (4 Cr.), Political Systems of Lebanon and the Arab World (4 Cr.), Political Parties and Pressure Groups (4 Cr.), Issues and Challenges of Globalization (4 Cr.), International Economic Issues (4 Cr.).



Institution's Elective Courses (12 Cr.) to be chosen from the list below:

Migration Movements (4 Cr.), Political Communication and Information Systems (4 Cr.), Arab-Islamic Civilization (4 Cr.), Cinema and Politics (2 Cr.), Memory of War (2 Cr.), Current Affairs and Politics (4 Cr.), Environmental Issues in the 20th Century (4 Cr.), Media and Social Networks (2 Cr.), History of the Civil War in Lebanon (4 Cr.), Democracy and Elections (4 Cr.).

Open Electives Courses (6 Cr.)**USJ General Education Program (38 Cr.)**

Code	Course Name	Credits
	ENGLISH OR OTHER LANGUAGE	4
072ANGAL4	English Level A	4
	ARABIC	6
	<i>Arabic Language and Culture</i>	2
435LALML2	The Arabic Language and the Media	2
	<i>Other Course Taught in Arabic</i>	4
072GCLBL2	History of the Civil War in Lebanon	4
	HUMANITIES	12
064VALEL1	USJ Values in Daily Life	2
	<i>Ethics</i>	2
072ETPOL4	Ethics and Politics	2
	<i>Civic Engagement and Citizenship</i>	4
072SMCPL5	Socialization, Globalization, and Citizenship	4
	<i>Other Humanities Course</i>	4
072HIPLL1	Political History of Lebanon	4
	SOCIAL SCIENCES	6
	<i>Professional Integration and/or Entrepreneurship</i>	2
072ORLEL5	Organizational Leadership	2
	<i>Other Social Sciences Course</i>	4
072A122L1	Introduction to Political Thought	4
	COMMUNICATION TECHNIQUES	4
072MEDOL1	Methodology I	2
072MEDOL2	Methodology II	2
	QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES	6
072STATL4	Statistics Applied to Political Analysis	4
072METHL3	Methodology of Political Analysis	2

SUGGESTED STUDY PLAN

Semester 1

Code	Course Name	Credits
013DCONL1	Constitutional Law I	6
072A122L1	Introduction to Political Thought	4
072B151L1	Elements of Macroeconomics	4
072VPARL1	Parliamentary Life	2
072D190L1	History of Institutions	2
072HIPLL1	Political History of Lebanon	4
072MEDOL1	Methodology I	2
	Institution's Elective Courses	4
	Open Electives Courses	2
	Total	30

Semester 2

Code	Course Name	Credits
013DCONL2	Constitutional Law II	6
072D100L2	Lebanese Constitutional Law	4
072ISOLL2	Introduction to Sociology	4
072IANTL2	Introduction to Anthropology	2
072CHAML2	The International Field	4
072B110L2	Introduction to Political Economy	4
072MEDOL2	Methodology II	2
	Institution's Elective Courses	4
	Total	30

Semester 3

Code	Course Name	Credits
072RIT1L3	International Relations I	4
072METHL3	Methodology of Political Analysis	2
072HSPOL3	History of the Contemporary Middle East	4
072B272L3	Political Sociology	4
072SDOIL3	Sociology of International Organizations	4
072DAG1L3	General Administrative Law I	4
072C241L3	Public Finances	4
	Institution's Elective Courses	4
	Total	30

Semester 4

Code	Course Name	Credits
072RIN2L4	International Relations II	4
072STATL4	Statistics Applied to Political Analysis	4
072B281L4	Public Policies	4
072DAG2L4	General Administrative Law II	4
072D202L4	Organizations and Administrative Jurisdictions in Lebanon	4
072FDHLL4	Historical Foundations of Contemporary Lebanon	4
072ETPOL4	Ethics and Politics	2
072ANGAL4	English Level A	4
	Total	30

Semester 5

Code	Course Name	Credits
072A321L5	Political Thought I	4
072A381L5	Political Thought in the Contemporary Arab World	4
072C371L5	Public International Law I	4
072SMCPL5	Socialization, Globalization, and Citizenship	4
072C252L5	Public Economy and Tax Law	4
072ORLEL5	Organizational Leadership	2
013LPDFL6	Public Liberties and Fundamental Rights	4
064VALEL1	USJ Values in Daily Life	2
	Open Electives Courses	2
	Total	30

Semester 6

Code	Course Name	Credits
072A322L6	Political Thought II	4
072C361L6	Administrative Science	4
072C372L6	Public International Law II	4
072RGPOL6	Political Regimes of Lebanon and the Arab World	4
072B311L6	Political Parties and Pressure Groups	4
072EDMOL6	Issues and Challenges of Globalization	4
072EJEIL6	International Economic Issues	4
	Open Electives Courses	2
	Total	30

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Required Courses

013DCONL1	Constitutional Law I	6 Cr.
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This course addresses one of the fundamental branches of public law. It covers its basic theoretical concepts and the main contemporary political systems. The course successively examines the concept of the state, the constitution, and democracy.

072A122L1	Introduction to Political Thought	4 Cr.
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This course familiarizes students with the major currents of Western political thought that have influenced political systems worldwide. It traces back to Plato and explores major currents by identifying their key ideas through the works of political thinkers such as Locke, Montesquieu, Rousseau, Constant, and Karl Marx.

072B151L1	Elements of Macroeconomics	4 Cr.
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This course introduces the concept of the market and equilibrium. It also covers macroeconomic models that help understand the impact of fiscal and monetary policy on economic growth, unemployment, inflation, etc. The course examines the aggregate demand and supply model, open markets, anticipation, and Solow's growth model, with references to current economic events.

072VPARL1	Parliamentary Life	2 Cr.
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This course covers the functioning and prerogatives of parliamentary committees, their role in the legislative process, parliamentary rules, the formation of parliamentary groups, the means and careers of parliamentarians, the sociological composition of the parliament, etc. The course also addresses current issues debated in parliament. To this end, legislative bills will be the subject of a parliamentary simulation involving high school students from across Lebanon alongside students of this course. Meetings with MPs and administrative officials at the Lebanese Parliament, as well as a visit to the Parliament, will also be organized.

072D190L1	History of Institutions	2 Cr.
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This course covers the different political regimes that have existed to date worldwide, from Athenian democracy to the French Fifth Republic. It involves a detailed analysis of their characteristics: ancient Greece and its legacy, democracies, monarchies, oligarchies, and mixed regimes.

072HIPLL1	Political History of Lebanon	4 Cr.
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This course examines the major stages Lebanon has gone through in its recent history, writing and analyzing historical events and various political systems established in the 19th century, leading to the current political system. Numerous themes are studied, including the Shihab Emirate of Mount Lebanon, the two caimacamiates, the mutasarrifate, the formation of Greater Lebanon, the French mandate, the 1926 Constitution, and the independence of Greater Lebanon.

072MEDOL1	Methodology I	2 Cr.
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This course focuses on constructing a problem statement, developing a plan, writing an introduction and a conclusion, using transitions, and producing an essay, a paper, an oral presentation, a reading note, and a summary note.

013DCONL2	Constitutional Law II	6 Cr.
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This course covers the theory of separation of powers, the classification of political regimes, and the study of major Western political regimes (United States, United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, and France).

072D100L2	Lebanese Constitutional Law	4 Cr.
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This course covers the Lebanese constitutional history, including:

- The evolution of Lebanese political institutions from the Ottoman period to the Taif Agreement of 1989.
- The genesis of the Lebanese Constitution: context, sources, major inspiring principles, revision procedure, and successive amendments.

As well as current political institutions:

- Political powers: the legislative, the executive, their competencies, and their mutual cooperation and pressure relationships.
- Specialized institutions: The Constitutional Council, the High Court of Justice.

072ISOLL2	Introduction to Sociology	4 Cr.
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The course is divided into three main parts:

1. The first part addresses the birth of this discipline and the various definitions given to an object.
2. The second part is devoted to its main fields and theories concerning each of them.
3. The last part covers the following themes: social organization, social action, and social change.

072CHAML2	The International Field	4 Cr.
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This course examines how international relations, while regulated by power, are also governed by law, particularly the set of legal rules known as international law. It covers relations between states as well as the role of international organizations, private individuals, transnational corporations, and NGOs as actors and subjects of international law. The course introduces the main legal concepts, including the sources of international law (treaties, customs, and secondary instruments), the actors of international relations (states, international organizations, NGOs, multinationals, and individuals), and the framework of international relations (consular and diplomatic relations and contentious relations). Students will acquire the knowledge to understand the legal foundations of international relations, analyze state responsibilities, and assess mechanisms for dispute settlement.

072B110L2	Introduction to Political Economy	4 Cr.
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The first part of this course reviews the history of political economy theories, including classical, Marxist, neo-classical, Keynesian, and neo-Keynesian theories, as well as dependency and neo-dependency theories. The second part introduces international political economy, covering international trade, international finance, and technology. Current themes such as regionalism, multinationals, migratory movements, and oil are also examined.

072IANTL2	Introduction to Anthropology	2 Cr.
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This course covers the following topics: the object of anthropology according to different schools (evolutionism, functionalism, culturalism, structuralism), elementary kinship systems, political anthropology, and urban anthropology.

072MEDOL2	Methodology II	2 Cr.
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This course covers citations, footnotes, literature review, Zotero software training, table of contents, bibliography, search engines, and plagiarism.

072RIT1L3	International Relations I	4 Cr.
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This course covers a broad period of international relations, from the advent of the bipolar system to the Cold War. A preliminary chapter explaining the advent of bipolarity is followed by two chapters dedicated to the study of the Cold War and its violent and non-violent manifestations, then détente with Soviet and Western conceptions and their implementation by the two superpowers. The course then studies the Third World, particularly the Bandung Conference and non-alignment, before addressing the North-South dialogue and its impact on the Third World.


072METHL3	Methodology of Political Analysis	2 Cr.
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This course introduces various qualitative and quantitative research methodologies in political science to select appropriate tools and answer a research question. Students will first discover paradigms, the object of research, and the problem statement. Then they will be introduced to the collection of secondary and primary data:



documentary research, interviews, and questionnaires. They will learn the principles of opinion polls and sample construction, then how to structure and communicate research results.

072HSPOL3	History of the Contemporary Middle East	4 Cr.
<p>This course focuses on the states of the Middle East bordering the eastern Mediterranean and Iraq. It is designed around selected themes, beginning with the Eastern Question and the dismantling of the Ottoman Empire, then addressing the mandate regime, the independence of states and their political and economic evolution, social upheavals, demographic dynamics, foreign relations, Palestine, and the Arab-Israeli conflict. The course also addresses contentious or current issues such as border demarcation, water management, and the Arab Spring.</p>		
072B272L3	Political Sociology	4 Cr.
<p>This course aims to introduce students to political sociology by providing an overview of its main currents, objects, concepts, and methods. The course is built around a comparative perspective that allows students to work on different approaches and authors. It begins with the study of the genesis of political science, then addresses political sociology as a strategic science (individualist, holistic, interactionist, and identity approaches).</p>		
072SDOIL3	Sociology of International Organizations	4 Cr.
<p>This course aims to conduct a sociological reflection on international organizations and the decision-making process. It is structured around international relations theories and empirical studies on the intervention domains of international organizations (peacekeeping, human rights, economic regulation of globalization, etc.). It raises the main debates related to international organizations: What functions do international organizations perform in the international system? With what resources and constraints? What is the nature of their relationships with states, NGOs, or firms? Where is the “power” in international organizations? How do they adapt to a constantly changing international environment?</p>		
072DAG1L3	General Administrative Law I	4 Cr.
<p>This course examines administrative law, a major branch of public law that defines the rights and obligations of the administration. The first part covers the judicial control of administrative acts, the sources of administrative law, and the limits of the principle of legality. The second part reviews the means of administration, including public services, regulatory power, and administrative police.</p>		
072C241L3	Public Finances	4 Cr.
<p>This course primarily aims to study the concept of the state budget and the procedures for its development, presentation, and voting, as well as the general budgetary principles according to comparative law. The execution of the budget and the modes of control of its execution are treated in detail in light of Lebanese law. This course also provides an overview of public debt management in Lebanon and local finance reforms. Students will closely examine this subject through practical work, guided tours, and simulations with practitioners.</p>		
072RIN2L4	International Relations II	4 Cr.
<p>The course covers the study of international relations after the collapse of bipolarity. It includes an analysis of the transition period embodying the era of Gorbachev and his successor Yeltsin, post-bipolar international issues: recurring and new conflicts (Israeli-Arab conflict, Afghan conflict, etc.), terrorism, and the fight against terrorist organizations. Additionally, it addresses European construction and the role of the European Union, the process of globalization, and finally a prospective outline.</p>		
072STATL4	Statistics Applied to Political Analysis	4 Cr.
<p>This course introduces descriptive statistics, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, correlation, and regression analysis. Students will engage in a collective field exercise from constructing the questionnaire, sampling, data collection, processing, statistical analysis, and commentary to the publication of a joint article.</p>		



072B281L4	Public Policies	4 Cr.
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This course addresses the emergence of the concept of public policies in the context of the welfare state crisis and globalization. It distinguishes between planning and public policy development. It also examines the characteristics of public policies and is structured around two positions: the actor's perspective, tracing the phenomenology of public policy construction, and the researcher's perspective, using various theories to analyze public policies. The course relies on case studies chosen with students each year.

072DAG2L4	General Administrative Law II	4 Cr.
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This course covers the following:

1. Administrative contracts
2. Administrative liability
3. Administrative litigation

072FDHLL4	Historical Foundations of Contemporary Lebanon	4 Cr.
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This course addresses the Ottoman domination period by focusing on events with long-term consequences that contributed to shaping modern Lebanon and the religious tolerance characteristic of this Ottoman province with a privileged status: Mount Lebanon.

072ETPOL4	Ethics and Politics	2 Cr.
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This course offers an in-depth exploration of the intrinsic relationship between ethics and the political domain. Emphasizing theoretical foundations and practical implications guiding political decisions and public policies, students will gain a critical understanding of ethical issues defining the contemporary political landscape.

072D202L4	Organizations and Administrative Jurisdictions in Lebanon	4 Cr.
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This course aims to strengthen students' knowledge and understanding of the legal framework and contentious treatment of Lebanese administrative action, preparing them for public administration jobs and related competitive exams. It follows an administrative law course structure, covering major problems and dynamics in all branches of special administrative law. Emphasis is placed on decentralization, supervisory and control bodies, administrative litigation, public service, etc.

072ANGAL4	English Level A	4 Cr.
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This course aims to develop political and administrative science students' ability to use professional English in both written and oral forms.

072A321L5	Political Thought I	4 Cr.
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This course examines political thought from Antiquity to the French Revolution through the analysis of key authors.

072A381L5	Political Thought in the Contemporary Arab World	4 Cr.
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This course examines the development of Ottoman reformist political ideas and modern Arab political thought within the late Ottoman context. It explores how various religious and territorial communities, united under the Ottoman Empire, reacted to its weakness, disintegration, foreign interference, and economic subordination. The course addresses questions such as how to save the Ottoman Empire, whether Ottoman citizenship or a constitution could be aspired to, and what alternatives existed for a failing empire. Students will analyze the emergence of modern political thought amid religious revivalism, identity conflicts, Western hegemony, and anti-colonial struggles.

072C252L5	Public Economy and Tax Law	4 Cr.
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This course covers the legal rules related to taxes, presenting principles and techniques specific to the field (sources of tax law, interpretation methods by courts and administration, taxpayer control techniques, litigation, fiscal regulation mechanisms, etc.). It addresses the main taxes forming the contemporary fiscal system, especially the Lebanese fiscal system. Prerequisites include basic knowledge of public law and administration and public finances and budgeting.

072EJEL6	International Economic Issues	4 Cr.
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This course covers the following:

- Bretton Woods (IMF/World Bank), GATT and WTO
- Structural adjustment plan
- Washington Consensus
- Oil shocks and major financial and economic crises since 1945.

072ORLE5	Organizational Leadership	2 Cr.
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This course introduces organizational strategy. It is based on bibliographic references dealing with strategy in the non-profit sector (public organizations, state agencies, associations, NGOs, etc.) and primarily involves a review of the diagnostic, formulation, and implementation of strategy. The course is practice-oriented, with case studies, practical pedagogy, and practitioner interventions. Practical work sessions track progress throughout the course, with all teaching materials available online via the course's Moodle page.

072C371L5	Public International Law I	4 Cr.
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The course covers the main traditional subjects of international public law, including its history and theory, the relationship between international and domestic law, sources of international law, its subjects, state jurisdiction, and state responsibility.

072SMCP5	Socialization, Globalization, and Citizenship	4 Cr.
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This course introduces the basics of political sociology, including civic culture and the role of civil society at the national level, such as student movements, elections, and union activities. It covers key developments in global socialization, including legal evolutions, major political events, and historical turning points, and analyzes different types of social actions. The course also addresses applications of democracy and human rights principles in society, comparative political culture across states, and the construction of individual political attitudes within society. Students will develop the ability to understand political relationships, assume citizen responsibility, and analyze major historical and contemporary socialization events.

072EDMOL6	Issues and Challenges of Globalization	4 Cr.
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This course on globalization and international organizations is primarily a general culture seminar, providing students with a global vision of major contemporary international issues and the increased role of international organizations in globalization regulation. It aims to help them understand today's complex world with greater openness.

072A322L6	Political Thought II	4 Cr.
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This course examines political thought from Antiquity to the French Revolution through the analysis of key authors.

072C361L6	Administrative Science	4 Cr.
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The course is divided into three distinct parts. The first part includes a descriptive and historical review of the discipline. The second part is an interactive administrative science experience, primarily using Moodle as a tool and various supports (reports, articles, bibliographic references, videos, websites) to help students create their own experience of the subject. The third part is practical, involving analysis, critique, and reformulation of an organizational chart of a public entity.

072C372L6	Public International Law II	4 Cr.
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This course particularly focuses on issues of jurisdiction and state immunities, the use of force and the United Nations collective security system, the peaceful settlement of disputes, with an introduction to International Criminal Law.

072RGPOL6	Political Regimes of Lebanon and the Arab World	4 Cr.
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This course on the political regimes of Lebanon and the Arab world comprises two parts. The first part concerns Lebanon and addresses the following points: the classification of the Lebanese political system in a comparative perspective, the Lebanese Constitution and its amendments, nation-building through pacts in a comparative perspective, the constitutional characteristics of mixed or pluralist parliamentary regimes, the principle of a single electoral college and its applications, citizenship in a multi-community society, politics and religion: depoliticization and delimitation of borders, constitutional governance: the distinction between pact, constitution, governance, democratization, development, and dynamics of change: change management, and cross-community. The second part focuses on other Arab countries and addresses the following points: the Constitutions of the Arab world and major current constitutional developments, political changes, and constituent processes, and the choice of current and priority issues.

072B311L6	Political Parties and Pressure Groups	4 Cr.
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This course focuses on collective action organizations within a political system and their interaction with that system. Political parties, once privileged instruments of political action, are examined in their genesis and evolution in contemporary societies in both the West and developing societies, as well as pressure groups through their traditional functions and new functions attributed to them by democratic governance. This course also covers electoral systems and processes, voting methods as instruments of democracy, the issues raised by elections, and the various forms democracy takes in contemporary societies.

013LPDFL6	Public Liberties and Fundamental Rights	4 Cr.
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This course covers the notion of individual and social public rights, its history, philosophical and legal foundations. The various legal techniques for recognizing and protecting public liberties in comparative law are also tackled.

064VALEL1	USJ Values in Daily Life	2 Cr.
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This course raises students' awareness of the core values of the Saint Joseph University, encouraging them to integrate these values into their personal, interpersonal, and professional lives. It engages students in critical reflection on how the values enshrined in the USJ Charter can guide their behaviors, actions, and decisions in addressing contemporary challenges.


Institution's Elective Courses

072ACPOL2	Current Affairs and Politics	4 Cr.
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This course aims to analyze current affairs within the framework of major contemporary issues. It addresses major issues determined by current events, whether political, diplomatic, economic, social, cultural, or religious. Information is considered in this course not only as "content" (facts, genre, etc.) but also as a "container" that shapes professional norms and practices. This course also provides students with a practical understanding of the vectors through which information is produced and transmitted (role, particularities, functioning, etc.) to understand the systemic and structural function of media in an interdependent world, that of the globalization of flows and people. It covers the basics of journalistic ethics and deontology and the conditions of their application. In terms of skills, students will be able to analyze the discursive function of media through the learning of vector tools and other mechanisms of information production to understand media discourse and, more generally, the role of media in constructing public debates. Regularly, actors from the current affairs and media scene will participate in some sessions. Part of the course is dedicated to the production mechanisms and decoding of information vectors. The other part focuses on the methodology and technique of prioritizing current events, preparing press reviews, thematic or generalist, and producing articles and analyses on current events that may be published at the end of the year.

072MVMGL1	Migration Movements	4 Cr.
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This course focuses on examining and understanding human mobility and analyzing situations of contact between groups of diverse origins caused by population migrations. Initially, it addresses the major issues of migration since globalization. Then, in the interaction between the State and migration, it explores themes such as refugees, stateless persons, migration controls, and recent security issues. Finally, it addresses the question of transnational



identities with the phenomenon of diasporas, citizenship, and integration. Pedagogically, this course aims to deepen the understanding and analysis of:

- Migration issues worldwide
- Territorial recompositions and their socio-political implications
- Development modalities in the context of migration
- The definition of refugees and other related categories
- Lebanese migration issues.

072CVAIL1	Arab-Islamic Civilization	4 Cr.
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This course provides political science students with the necessary background to understand the history and heritage of Arab-Islamic civilization. Using a “long duration history” approach, it traces the genesis of Islam in western Arabia, its expansion across three continents, the construction of a vast empire, the historical characteristics of Arab-Islamic urbanism, the socio-economic structure of the empire, and the processes of Arabization and Islamization. The course examines theological-political issues, opposition and protest movements, and the evolution of the caliphate from a charismatic to a dynastic institution under the Umayyads, Abbasids, and Fatimids. It also covers the diversity of Islamic thought, including religious sciences of “*naql*” (Quranic and Hadith sciences, jurisprudence schools “*fiqh*”, theology “*kalam*”, Sufi mysticism) and secular sciences of “*aql*” (mathematics, natural sciences, medicine, astronomy). Finally, it highlights the diversity of Islamic creativity in literature, architecture, and visual arts. Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of Arab-Islamic civilization and its historical, intellectual, and cultural development.

072COMPL6	Political Communication and Information Systems	4 Cr.
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This course examines different types of political messages, from election campaigns to politicians’ rhetoric and public information campaigns, and the various transmission channels, including traditional media and new technologies. It analyzes the impact of communication on individuals through political socialization and public opinion development, as well as on political processes such as elections and democratic practices. The course emphasizes how political communication constructs, transmits, and conveys messages that influence the thinking, opinions, and attitudes of individuals, groups, institutions, and societies, connecting various parts of society. Students will develop the ability to understand and analyze the role and effects of political communication in shaping public and political life.

072072CL2	Cinema and Politics	2 Cr.
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This course explores cinema as a space of freedom, where individuals or groups express inner chaos in response to majority rule, similar to tragedy in the Greek city. It examines films from the Zapatista revolution (Viva Zapata, Kazan, 1952) to the last Yakuza (Outrage, Kitano, 2010), showing how cinema establishes new codes beyond borders and cultures while portraying the triumph of human justice over the American Wild West, indigenous cultures, and wild children. The course familiarizes students with the language of moving images and cinematic storytelling, enabling critical application to chosen issues. It is complemented by a film club, where students watch and discuss key films illustrating these themes.

072MGUEL1	Memory of War	2 Cr.
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This course examines the reconstruction of collective memory for the generation born after the war, children of those who experienced it firsthand. It explores how history books and parental accounts, shaped by post-traumatic stress, provide fragmented narratives. The course guides students in chronologically and contextually reconstructing this blurred memory by analyzing all types of documents and conducting interviews with privileged witnesses. Students will develop the skills to critically investigate, interpret, and piece together the collective memory of historical events.

072EJEVL2	Environmental Issues in the 20th Century	4 Cr.
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This course examines the impact of environmental degradation on international security, addressing non-conventional threats that remain poorly understood by state security strategies. Students will analyze the relationship between environmental changes and security challenges, developing the ability to assess and interpret these emerging threats.



072072RL2	Media and Social Networks	2 Cr.
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This course introduces students to the communication and mobilization process for social and political causes via social media. Online campaigns are reviewed to analyze and measure their impact. The course objectives are to:

- Understand how to develop tailored social, political, or media campaigns
- Identify key tools and platforms necessary for mobilization
- Build advocacy strategies
- Measure the impact of using social media.

072GCLBL2	History of the Civil War in Lebanon	4 Cr.
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This course examines the political and social factors that led to the Lebanese Civil War (1975–1990), with special attention to the major events of the conflict and their local, regional, and international political contexts. It also analyzes key events of the war and their political, military, and social impacts. Students will develop the ability to understand the causes, dynamics, and consequences of the Lebanese Civil War.

072DEELL1	Democracy and Elections	4 Cr.
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This course introduces students to elections as an integral part of democracy. It covers the history of elections as a democratic tool for forming governing authorities within specific political contexts, examines different electoral systems and their effects on democracy and representation, and explains common forms of electoral malpractices in system designs. The course also presents electoral management integrity standards, malpractices, and their impact on electoral behavior, democratic processes, and representation. Students will gain the knowledge and skills to analyze electoral systems, identify malpractices, and understand their implications for democratic governance.