

BACHELOR IN GEOGRAPHY

CONCENTRATIONS : ENVIRONMENT AND SPATIAL PLANNING (EAT)
TOURISM AND CULTURAL MANAGEMENT (ATC)

Main Language of Instruction:

French English Arabic

Campus Where the Program Is Offered: CSH

OBJECTIVES

The Bachelor in Geography aims to train specialists capable of:

- Understanding the interactions between societies and their environment.
- Analyzing spatial phenomena.

Specific Objectives for the concentration: Environment and Spatial Planning (EAT)

This concentration aims to train specialists capable of:

- Diagnosing issues from a regional planning perspective.
- Identifying and analyzing environmental problems.
- Determining their impact on society.
- Proposing appropriate solutions from a sustainable development perspective.

Specific Objectives for the concentration: Tourism and Cultural Management (ATC)

This concentration aims to train professionals specialized in in tourism and cultural management, and equipped to address Lebanon's needs in this field.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (COMPETENCIES)

Common Competencies

- Acquire comprehensive knowledge of the Earth's various components.
- Develop competencies in geographic analysis.
- Develop competencies in cartography.

Specific Competencies for Environment and Spatial Planning (EAT)

- Analyze geosystems.
- Apply geomatics tools.
- Conduct diagnostics from a regional planning and sustainable development perspective.
- Assess challenges in implementing environmental practices within sustainable development.
- Apply a spatial approach in planning and analysis

Specific Competencies for Tourism and Cultural Management (ATC)

- Analyze heritage development process.
- Understand local and international tourism dynamics.
- Create and develop tourism and cultural products.
- Integrate cultural dimensions into professional practices.
- Align tourism practices with local and sustainable development strategies.
- Utilize industry-specific tools for effective tourism management.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

180 Credits: Required Courses (EAT) (148 Credits), Institution's Elective Courses (EAT) (26 Credits), Open Elective Courses (EAT) (6 Credits).

180 Credits: Required Courses (ATC) (152 Credits), Institution's Elective Courses (ATC) (22 Credits), Open Elective Courses (ATC) (6 Credits).

USJ General Education Program (32 credits - may be part of the above categories).

USJ General Education Program (32 Cr.)

English (4 Cr.)

011GEANL5 - Specialized English: Environment and Spatial Planning (4 Cr.)

Arabic (4 Cr.)

011SGDVL4 - Urban and Citizenship Law - قانون المدينة والمواطن (Arabic) (4 Cr.)

Humanities (8 Cr.)

011HIMCL3 - War in the Contemporary World (2 Cr.)

011PHPEL1 - Foundations of Ethical Thought (2 Cr.)

064VALEL1 - USJ Values in Daily Life (2 Cr.)

011SAARL1 - Culture and Life ثقافة وحياة (2 Cr.)

Social Sciences (6 Cr.)

011SAIPL1 - Professional Integration (3 Cr.)

011SATCL2 - Sociology: Selected Themes (3 Cr.)

Quantitative Techniques (6 Cr.)

011GEAAL4 - Spatial Analysis in Environmental and Tourism Management (3 Cr.)

011GEM2L6 - Quantitative Methods: Processing and Analysis (3 Cr.)

Communication Techniques (4 Cr.)

011LFCEL1 - Oral and Written Communication (4 Cr.)

Common Fundamental Courses (74 Cr.)

Applied Cartography for Humanities and Social Sciences (3 Cr.). Beirut: From Destruction to Reconstruction (3 Cr.). Climate Change: Environmental, Human, and Geopolitical Issues (3 Cr.). Coastal Areas: Issues and Risks (2 Cr.). Digital Cartography (3 Cr.). Development Opportunities and Challenges in Lebanon and the Middle East (3 Cr.). External Dynamics of the Earth (3 Cr.). Fieldwork (3 Cr.). Geological Structures and Relief (3 Cr.). Global Tourism Destinations (3 Cr.). Heritage and Heritage Development (3 Cr.). Information Collection and Analysis (3 Cr.). Introduction to Environmental Studies (3 Cr.). Introduction to Geoarchaeology (3 Cr.). Introduction to Heritage (3 Cr.). Map Reading (3 Cr.). Migration: International Challenges and Issues (3 Cr.). Quantitative Methods: Treatments and Analysis (3 Cr.). Sustainable Development in the 21st Century (3 Cr.). Travel and Destinations (3 Cr.). Urban Readings (3 Cr.). Urban Storytelling (3 Cr.). Urban and Citizenship Law (Arabic) (4 Cr.). Water: Myth and Tourism (3 Cr.).

Fundamental Courses Concentration: Environment and Spatial Planning (42 Cr.)

Centralities and Urban Hierarchy (3 Cr.). Conferences and Seminars (3 Cr.). Geomorphological Cartography (3 Cr.). Human/Nature Relationship (3 Cr.). Mountain Environments: Issues and Risks (3 Cr.). Paleoenvironments (3 Cr.). Photo-interpretation (3 Cr.). Remote Sensing: Data, Processing, and Analysis (3 Cr.). Research Paper: Environment and Spatial Planning (3 Cr.). Specialized English: Environment and Spatial Planning (4 Cr.). Spatial Analysis in Environmental and Tourism Management (3 Cr.). Thematic and Cartographic Design (3 Cr.). Urban Morphology: Structures and Dynamics (3 Cr.). Urban Planning (3 Cr.). Water: Resources, and Sustainable Development (3 Cr.).

Fundamental Courses Concentration: Tourism and Cultural Management (46 Cr.)

Accounting and Finance (3 Cr.). Archaeology of the Present and the Past (3 Cr.). Art History in Lebanon (3 Cr.). Audiovisual Techniques (4 Cr.). End of Study Project (3 Cr.). Environmental Impacts of Tourism (3 Cr.). Heritage: Vulnerability and Enhancement (3 Cr.). Organized Tours Management (3 Cr.). Responsible Tourism in Lebanon (3 Cr.). Specialized English (4 Cr.). Tourism Actors and Development (3 Cr.). Tourism Destinations in the Middle East and Lebanon (3 Cr.). Tourism Marketing and Job Opportunities (3 Cr.). Traditional Architecture of Lebanon (3 Cr.). Traditional Lebanese Music (Arabic) (2 Cr.). Workplace Learning (4 Cr.).

Institution's Elective Courses (EAT) (26 Cr.) and Institution's Elective Courses (ATC) (22 Cr.)

Electives to Choose from the Following List:

In the 1st Semester:

Analyzing Art: 15th-19th Centuries (3 Cr.). Children's Academic Difficulties (3 Cr.). FL5 - Literature and Francophonie (3 Cr.). Greek 1a2 / Part 1 of Level 1 (2 Cr.). History, Memory, and Heritage (3 Cr.). Introduction to Anthropology (3 Cr.). Introduction to Public Relations (3 Cr.). Italian 1a2 / Part 1 of Level 1 (2 Cr.). Korean 1c2 / Part 3 of Level 1 (2 Cr.). Literary Issues of the 20th Century (4 Cr.). Media and Social Claims (4 Cr.). Military Archaeological Sites of the Middle East (2 Cr.). Media and Social Claims (4 Cr.). Mythologies (3 Cr.). Persuasion and Manipulation: A Sociological Approach (3 Cr.). Philosophy, Writing, and Healing (3 Cr.). Poetry and Philosophy (3 Cr.). Political Sociology (3 Cr.). Public Presentation and Communication (3 Cr.). Sociology of Family and Marriage (3 Cr.). Communication Strategies for Associations (3 Cr.). The Arab Revolutions الثورات العربية (3 Cr.). Theories of International Relations (3 Cr.). Introduction to the Study of Society (3 Cr.).

In the 2nd Semester:

Ancient Cultures (3 Cr.). Arab Women in Literature and Cinema (3 Cr.). Business, Society, and Social Responsibility (3 Cr.). Contemporary Art (3 Cr.). Contemporary Economics (3 Cr.). Culture and Life ثقافة وحياة (2 Cr.). Digital Writing Techniques (2 Cr.). Eloquence and Rhetoric (3 Cr.). The Phoenicians (3 Cr.). Lebanese Francophone Literature (3 Cr.). Grammar: The Word (3 Cr.). German 1c2 / Part 3 of Level 1 (2 Cr.). Language Laboratory 1 (3 Cr.). The Evolution of Lebanese Journalism الصحافة اللبنانية بين الأمس واليوم (4 Cr.). Literary Imagination Approach (4 Cr.). Modern Art (3 Cr.). Popular Literature (3 Cr.). Philosophy in Schools and Youth Literature (3 Cr.). Political Philosophy: The Social Contract (3 Cr.). Psychological Assessment of Children and Adolescents (6 Cr.). Public Relations and External Communications (3 Cr.). Public Relations, Campaigns, and Brand Ambassadors (3 Cr.). Reassessing Literature: Contemporary Literary Issues (4 Cr.). Social Science Research Methods and Approaches (3 Cr.). Society and Risk Management (2 Cr.). Sociology of the Arab World (3 Cr.). Sociology of Communication (3 Cr.). Sociology of Religion (3 Cr.). Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (3 Cr.). Structural Approach to Literature (4 Cr.). The Concept of Evil in TV Series and Films (3 Cr.). The Lebanese Army: History, Issues, and Challenges (4 Cr.). The Origins of the Contemporary Middle East (3 Cr.). The Rorschach Test as a Projective Tool (5 Cr.). War in the Contemporary World (2 Cr.). World Literatures (3 Cr.). Understanding Human History: 17th Century Literary Perspectives (4 Cr.). Vocal Technique and Singing (3 Cr.).

Open Elective Courses (6 Cr.)

SUGGESTED STUDY PLAN

Semester 1

Common Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
011GECAL1	Cartography and Cartographic Language	3
011PHPEL1	Foundations of Ethical Thought	3
011TOLML1	Global Tourism Destinations	3
011GEDIL1	Internal Dynamics of the Earth	3
011GENSL1	Introduction to Environmental Studies	3
011TOIPL1	Introduction to Heritage	3
011GEPLL1	Landscapes of Lebanon and the Middle East	3
011SAIPL1	Professional Integration	3
011TOVDL1	Travel and Destinations	2
	Open Elective Courses	2
	Open Elective Courses	2
	Total	30

Semester 2 Common Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
011GETGL2	Applied Cartography for Humanities and Social Sciences	3
011TOTEL1	Fieldwork	3
011GESRL2	Geological Structures and Relief	3
011GEPPL2	Heritage and Heritage Development	3
011GCAIL2	Information Collection and Analysis	3
011GEMIL3	Migration: International Challenges and Issues	3
011SATCL2	Sociology: Selected Themes	3
011GERVL3	Urban Storytelling	3
	Institution's Elective Courses	3
	Institution's Elective Courses	3
	Total	30

Semester 3 Common Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
011TODRL4	Beirut: From Destruction to Reconstruction	3
011GECCL3	Climate Change: Environmental, Human, and Geopolitical Issues	3
011GEDEL3	External Dynamics of the Earth	3
011GEIGL3	Introduction to Geoarchaeology	3
011TOCAL5	Map Reading	3
011GEDDL3	Sustainable Development in the 21 st Century	3
011SGDVL4	(Arabic) قانون المدينة والمواطن - Urban and Citizenship Law	4
011GELVL3	Urban Readings	3
011HIMCL3	War in the Contemporary World	2
	Institution's Elective Courses	3
	Total	30

Semester 4 Common Courses

Code	Course Name	Credits
011TOLL3	Coastal Areas: Issues and Risks	2
011SAARL1	Culture and Life ثقافة وحياة	2
011GEEDL4	Development Opportunities and Challenges in Lebanon and the Middle East	3
011GECOL3	Digital Cartography	3
011LFCEL1	Oral and Written Communication	4
011GEM2L6	Quantitative Methods: Processing and Analysis	3
011GERVL4	Risks and Vulnerability	3
064VALEL1	USJ Values in Daily Life	2
011GEMTL4	Water: Myth and Tourism	3

	Institution's Elective Courses	3
	Open Elective Courses	2
	Total	30

Semester 5

Environment and Spatial Planning

Code	Course Name	Credits
011TOMML4	Mountain Environments: Issues and Risks	3
011GETEL4	Remote Sensing: Data, Processing, and Analysis	3
011GEAAL4	Spatial Analysis in Environmental and Tourism Management	3
011GEANL5	Specialized English: Environment and Spatial Planning	4
011GECCL5	Thematic and Cartographic Design	3
011GEM2L5	Urban Morphology: Structures and Dynamics	3
011GERDL3	Water: Resources, and Sustainable Development	3
	Institution's Elective Courses	2
	Institution's Elective Courses	3
	Institution's Elective Courses	3
	Total	30

Tourism and Cultural Management

Code	Course Name	Credits
011TOAPL6	Archaeology of the Present and the Past	3
011TOTAL5	Audiovisual Techniques	4
011TOTRL5	Responsible Tourism in Lebanon	3
011TOANL5	Specialized English	4
011TOADL4	Tourism Actors and Development	3
011TOETL5	Tourism Destinations in the Middle East and Lebanon	3
011TOATL5	Traditional Architecture of Lebanon	3
011TOMTL1	Traditional Lebanese Music (Arabic)	2
	Institution's Elective Courses	2
	Institution's Elective Courses	3
	Total	30

Semester 6

Environment and Spatial Planning

Code	Course Name	Credits
011GECHL3	Centralities and Urban Hierarchy	3
011COSEL5	Conferences and Seminars	3
011GECGL6	Geomorphological Cartography	3
011GEHNL6	Human/Nature Relationship	3
011GEPFL6	Paleoenvironments	3
011GEPHL4	Photo-interpretation	3

011GENRL6	Research Paper: Environment and Spatial Planning	3
011GEAUL6	Urban Planning	3
	Institution's Elective Courses	3
	Institution's Elective Courses	3
	Total	30

Tourism and Cultural Management

Code	Course Name	Credits
011TOCFL6	Accounting and Finance	3
011TOHAL5	Art History in Lebanon	3
011TODIL6	End of Study Project	3
011TOIEL6	Environmental Impacts of Tourism	3
011TOVVL6	Heritage: Vulnerability and Enhancement	3
011TOTOL6	Organized Tours Management	3
011TOMTL4	Tourism Marketing and Job Opportunities	3
011TOAEL6	Workplace Learning	4
	Institution's Elective Courses	3
	Institution's Elective Courses	2
	Total	30

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Common Courses

011GETGL2	Applied Cartography for Humanities and Social Sciences	3 Cr.
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This course is open to all students, especially in the fields of humanities and social sciences. It is primarily designed for Bachelor's students in Geography, concentrations: Environment and Spatial Planning, and Tourism and Cultural Management.

It equips students with the necessary skills to effectively "use geomatics tools" and "apply techniques relevant to tourism professions".

By the end of this course, students will master graphical methods and cartographic techniques, enabling them to create and develop analytical maps relevant to their fields of study and professional practice.

011TODRL4	Beirut: From Destruction to Reconstruction	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for Bachelor's students in Geography, concentration: Tourism and Cultural Management, it is also open to all USJ students.

This course provides a comprehensive understanding of Beirut through urban planning documents from the 20th century, produced under various political regimes (Ottoman, French Mandate, Lebanese Republic). By analyzing these plans within their national and regional contexts, students will gain insight into the mineralized and chaotic landscape of the Lebanese capital. Field visits will further enhance students' ability to assess the urbanization processes impacting Beirut.

011GECAL1	Cartography and Cartographic Language	3 Cr.
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This course is open to all students, especially in the fields of humanities and social sciences. It is primarily designed for Bachelor's students in Geography, concentrations: Environment and Spatial Planning, and Tourism and Cultural Management.

This course offers a comprehensive understanding of map usage, and introduces students to cartographic language, which has its own distinct grammar. It also equips students with the necessary skills to effectively “use geomatics tools” and “apply techniques relevant to tourism professions”.

011GECCL3	Climate Change: Environmental, Human, and Geopolitical Issues	3 Cr.
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This course explores the integral role of climate within the natural environment and its influence on human lifestyles. While societies have adapted to and harnessed climatic conditions, it is important to understand that human activities also impact the climate. These activities can alter the environment both intentionally and unintentionally, affecting the climate on a global scale through climate change, or on a local scale, through issues such as urban pollution. As climate change becomes increasingly evident due to human actions, this course addresses key questions: What will be the future of our climate? How will these changes affect societies? What are the implications of this atmospheric evolution? Acknowledging climate change as the biggest challenge of the 21st century, many countries are mobilizing efforts to mitigate its progress.

011TOLL3	Coastal Areas: Issues and Risks	2 Cr.
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This course prepares students to analyze the environmental and socio-economic challenges specific to coastal areas. It aims to equip them with the necessary skills to contribute to the sustainable management of these areas and to develop strategies for adapting to rising sea levels.

011SAARL1	Culture and Life ثقافة وحياة	2 Cr.
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This course focuses on reading and discussing selected texts from Lebanese culture, literature, and current affairs.

011GEEDL4	Development Opportunities and Challenges in Lebanon and the Middle East	3 Cr.
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This three-part course begins by defining the boundaries of the Middle East and then delves into the challenges posed by migration flows affecting the region, including both immigration and emigration. The second part examines the water crisis, analyzing sharing agreements and their impact on human activities and economic sectors such as agriculture, industry, and tourism. Finally, the third part explores the role of oil in the region and its global significance, assessing its influence on the development of Gulf countries and future projections.

011GECOL3	Digital Cartography	3 Cr.
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This course is open to all students, especially in the fields of humanities and social sciences. It is primarily designed for Bachelor’s students in Geography, concentrations: Environment and Spatial Planning, and Tourism and Cultural Management.

This course enables students to create digital thematic maps by applying various methods of analytical cartography using computer tools.

It also equips students with the necessary skills to effectively “use geomatics tools” and “apply techniques relevant to tourism professions”.

011GEDEL3	External Dynamics of the Earth	3 Cr.
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This course provides students with a thorough understanding of geomorphological processes, such as erosion, that shape the Earth’s surface. It equips them with the necessary knowledge to contribute to environmental protection and spatial planning.

011TOTEL1	Fieldwork	3 Cr.
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011PHPEL1	Foundations of Ethical Thought	2 Cr.
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This course explores the philosophy of ethics, laying the foundational principles necessary for intellectual development and practical applications. It examines how various ethical frameworks, such as medical, business, engineering, and environmental ethics, are grounded in moral principles.

This course aims to articulate and justify the different ethical foundations proposed by philosophical thought throughout history, including knowledge, will, sensitivity, utility, affectivity, and rationality. It will also address

fundamental questions, such as the distinction between ethics and morality, the origins of moral questioning, and the relationship between individual and collective ethics. Additionally, this course examines the two major ethical theories: deontological and utilitarian, that dominate contemporary ethical debates.

011GESRL2	Geological Structures and Relief	3 Cr.
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This course enables students to understand the connections between geological structures and landforms, and equips them with the necessary skills to effectively apply this knowledge. It aims to foster regional expertise in environmental management and spatial planning.

011TOLML1	Global Tourism Destinations	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for Bachelor's students in Geography, concentration: Tourism and Cultural Management, it is also open to all USJ students.

It enables students, through a geographical approach to tourism phenomena, to analyze the exponential growth of international tourism, identify various tourist destinations. By examining various tourist spaces and the factors driving their "touristification," students will learn to develop tourism products suited to specific contexts. Additionally, it equips students with the necessary skills to effectively "integrate spatial analysis", "understand local and international tourism dynamics", and "integrate tourism practices into a local and sustainable development approach".

011GEPPL2	Heritage and Heritage Development	3 Cr.
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011GCAIL2	Information Collection and Analysis	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for Bachelor's students in Geography, concentration: Tourism and Cultural Management, it is also open to all USJ students.

It equips undergraduate students with the necessary skills for effective documentation and data collection for their graded assignments, such as presentations, reports, projects, etc. Additionally, it provides them with methods for analyzing various types of documents (maps, charts, etc.) to extract useful information for their research.

011GEDIL1	Internal Dynamics of the Earth	3 Cr.
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This course focuses on the fundamental concepts and processes of plate tectonics and the Earth's internal structure and functioning. It equips students with the knowledge necessary to understand the phenomena that shape the Earth's environment, including the formation of landforms.

011GENSL1	Introduction to Environmental Studies	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for Bachelor's students in Geography, concentration: Environment and Spatial Planning, it is also open to students from other disciplines. It equips them with the necessary skills to master fundamental concepts to address issues within their field of study.

011GEIGL3	Introduction to Geoarchaeology	3 Cr.
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011TOIPL1	Introduction to Heritage	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for students enrolled in the first semester of the Bachelor in Geography program, concentration: Tourism and Cultural Management. It is also open to all USJ students.

This course inspires and deepens students' interest in both global and national heritage. It provides an opportunity to explore Lebanon's rich cultural heritage through lectures and field visits.

011GEPLL1	Landscapes of Lebanon and the Middle East	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for Bachelor's students in Geography, concentrations: Environment and Spatial Planning, and Tourism and Cultural Management. Located at the crossroads of Europe, Asia, and Africa, the Middle East lies in the southwestern part of Asia, the largest of these continents. It shares certain characteristics with Asia, particularly the contrast between vast, humid mountain ranges and extensive, semi-arid plateaus.

The course offers an in-depth exploration of this distinctive region through the use of iconography, cartographic documentation, and Earth observation tools.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Master spatial analysis techniques
- Conduct environmental research

011TOCAL5	Map Reading	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for Bachelor's students in Geography, concentrations: Environment and Spatial Planning, and Tourism and Cultural Management. It focuses on practical cartography exercises, offering students a tangible understanding of their environment while developing essential working methods and reasoning skills. Through learning to read and interpret maps, students will enhance their analytical abilities and gain the competence to describe utilize map information effectively.

This course equips students with the following skills: "Master Spatial Analysis", "Use geomatics tools", and "Enhance knowledge".

011GEMIL3	Migration: International Challenges and Issues	3 Cr.
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This course begins with a brief overview of different types of migration and their historical development. It then delves into labor migration, exploring the benefits and challenges it presents for host countries. This course also explores forced or coerced migration caused by factors such as climate change, earthquakes, wars, and economic crises. Finally, it concludes on an optimistic note by discussing various forms of leisure migration.

011LFCEL1	Oral and Written Communication	4 Cr.
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This course is designed to address the linguistic needs of students at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut. It aims to enhance students' abilities to communicate fluently, clearly, and effectively across various oral situations, including spontaneous speech, interviews, presentations, debates, and meetings.

Additionally, this course focuses on developing students' skills in writing, reading, and research on contemporary topics relevant to their field of study.

By the end of this course, students will be able to prepare oral presentations and utilize oral communication for professional purposes. They will also be able to independently write a research brief on a current issue and present arguments in a clear and compelling manner.

011SAIPL1	Professional Integration	3 Cr.
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This course prepares students to the workforce by providing guidance, educational resources, and valuable insights. It aims to support students in their transition to professional life by helping them assess and highlight their skills, improve their oral and written communication for professional settings, identify the most suitable career path, and successfully integrate into the professional world.

011GEM2L6	Quantitative Methods: Processing and Analysis	3 Cr.
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This course trains students in quantitative techniques that incorporate a spatial dimension, essential for research employing spatial analysis methodologies. It covers a range of topics including elementary indicators, geographical distributions, spatial relationships, factorial analysis, and classification methods.

011GERVL4	Risks and Vulnerability	3 Cr.
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This course begins by clarifying the fundamental concepts of risk and vulnerability. It then equips students with the skills necessary to tackle the challenges associated with both natural and technological risks, as well as the vulnerability of human societies to these risks

011SATCL2	Sociology: Selected Themes	3 Cr.
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This course aims to apply fundamental sociological concepts to contemporary social issues through a selection of representative themes. It offers students a range of complementary and contrasting analyses of specific institutions or topics. Additionally, this course develops students' cognitive and critical thinking skills.

011GEDDL3	Sustainable Development in the 21st Century	3 Cr.
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This course, offered by the Department of Geography is designed for Bachelor's students in Geography other disciplines.

Sustainable Development (SD) is a strategic concept aimed at achieving "well-being by humanizing and ecologicalizing the economy". In response to threats such as resource depletion and environmental degradation, SD envisions a world where poverty, social inequalities, and environmental pressures are significantly reduced.

Sustainable Development emerged from a threefold awareness:

- The dangers our current lifestyles pose to the planet.
- The persistent inequalities between people, particularly between the Global North and South.
- The concerns associated with economic development.

SD advocates for effective "governance", by assessing risks, informing, and guiding political and economic actions to address a wide range of global issues. It addresses the interconnectedness of economic, social, and environmental crises.

This course introduces the origins and principles of SD, evaluates its objectives, and explores whether it represents an idealistic vision or a practical approach.

Additionally, it equips students with the following skills: "Address and resolve environmental issues", "Conduct environmental research", and "Enhance knowledge".

011TOVDL1	Travel and Destinations	3 Cr.
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The course begins with an overview of the global distribution of major tourist destinations and then examines the evolution of cultural, environmental, and societal trends among tourists since the 1950s. It further analyzes the development of tourism offerings through case studies of specific destinations and assess the impacts of tourism on these locations. The course is open to all USJ students.

011SGDVL4	Urban and Citizenship Law - قانون المدينة والمواطن (Arabic)	4 Cr.
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011GELVL3	Urban Readings	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for Bachelor's students in Geography, concentrations: Tourism and Cultural Management, and Environment and Spatial Planning. It is also open to all USJ students.

It enables undergraduate students to identify and analyze the components of various types of urban fabric. Such understanding is essential for interpreting urban forms and the socio-economic factors that shape them.

011GERVL3	Urban Storytelling	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for Bachelor's students in Geography, concentrations: Tourism and Cultural Management, and Environment and Spatial Planning. It is also open to all USJ students.

This course enables undergraduate students to present a tourist site within an urban setting. It equips students with the necessary skills to prepare a guided tour by researching the location, identifying its key, drafting an informative presentation, and delivering an oral narration.

064VALEL1	USJ Values in Daily Life	2 Cr.
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This course aims to familiarize students with the fundamental values of the Saint Joseph University of Beirut (USJ) so that they can integrate them into their personal, interpersonal, and professional lives. It engages them in critical reflection on how the values outlined in the USJ Charter can influence their behaviors, actions, and decisions in addressing the challenges of the contemporary world. Additionally, students will become aware of global issues and ethical responsibilities, preparing them to positively contribute to the building of a better society.

011HIMCL3	War in the Contemporary World	2 Cr.
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This course is designed for Bachelor students in History, concentration: International Relations. It is also open to all USJ students. This course enables students to analyze the nature, causes, and forms of conflicts in both ancient and contemporary contexts, as well as the evolving relationship between individuals and modern warfare.

011GEMTL4	Water: Myth and Tourism	3 Cr.
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This course explores the myths associated with water across diverse civilizations. Water symbolizes a spectrum of concepts, from life and regeneration to death and eternal existence in funerary rites. These symbolic meanings are deeply rooted in both historical and geographical contexts. This course aims to analyze these myths within their geographical and historical contexts, offering new perspectives for tourism discovery, particularly in the Middle East and Mediterranean regions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION OF FUNDAMENTAL COURSES

Concentration: Environment and Spatial Planning

011GECHL3	Centralities and Urban Hierarchy	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for both Bachelor and Master students in Geography, concentrations: Environmental and Spatial Planning and Tourism and Cultural Management. It is also open to all USJ students. This course aims to deepen students' understanding of the complex urban systems, including their functioning and dynamics, as essential elements in comprehending geographic space organization. It covers fundamental urban geography concepts such as urban systems, networks, and frameworks. Additionally, it explores spatial analysis techniques applied to urban areas, including space-distance, center/periphery, interurban/intraurban location, and hierarchy, across various scales.

011COSEL5	Conferences and Seminars	3 Cr.
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011GECGL6	Geomorphological Cartography	3 Cr.
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This course equips students with the necessary skills and knowledge to understand and map landforms and associated features. It includes practical field surveying experience and the use of tools such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), with a focus on applying these techniques to environmental planning.

011GEHNL6	Human/Nature Relationship	3 Cr.
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This course addresses the current ecological crisis threatening humanity's future, which is directly linked to human activities. It aims to understand the evolving relationship between humans and nature throughout history, enhance students' understanding of how human behaviors impact the environment, and influence their environmental approaches and perspectives.

011TOMML4	Mountain Environments: Issues and Risks	3 Cr.
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This course provides students with the essential knowledge to understand and assess the specific challenges posed by human activities in mountainous regions. It focuses on safeguarding mountain environments and communities from the specific risks associated with these areas.

011GEPEL6	Paleoenvironments	3 Cr.
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This course explores past environments to clarify the interdependencies between climate, the environment, and living organisms, and how these relationships have evolved over Earth's history. By examining paleoenvironments, especially paleoclimates, students will gain a deeper understanding of how climate influences environmental changes.

011GEPHL4	Photo-interpretation	3 Cr.
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This course equips students with the necessary knowledge and skills to interpret aerial photographs, enabling them to detect and analyze surface phenomena and environmental changes, and to effectively communicate their findings.

011GETEL4	Remote Sensing: Data, Processing, and Analysis	3 Cr.
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This course equips students with the necessary skills to extract information from Earth observation satellite images, and solve environmental problems.

After covering fundamental concepts and physical principles of remote sensing (such as image acquisition techniques and spectral behavior), students will be able to apply satellite image analysis and processing methods, including visualization, enhancement, transformation, and both supervised and unsupervised classification.

011GENRL6	Research Paper: Environment and Spatial Planning	3 Cr.
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011GEAAL4	Spatial Analysis in Environmental and Tourism Management	3 Cr.
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This course focuses on spatial analysis, which examines the properties of geographically located objects. It explores how location can be studied both as an independent factor and as a key element in explaining the diversity of places, thereby facilitating data analysis. This course aims to demonstrate how location provides valuable insights into the studied objects, and helps explain their characteristics. By the end of this course, students will be able to describe the specific arrangement of geographic objects, identify their spatial organization, and detect spatial structures using appropriate methods and techniques.

011GEANL5	Specialized English: Environment and Spatial Planning	4 Cr.
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011GECCL5	Thematic and Cartographic Design	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for both Bachelor and Master students in Geography, concentrations: Environmental and Spatial Planning and Tourism and Cultural Management. It is also open to all USJ students. This course covers the various stages of cartographic construction, including analytical and synthesizing cartographic representation.

011GEM2L5	Urban Morphology: Structures and Dynamics	3 Cr.
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This course is designed for both Bachelor and Master students in Geography, concentrations: Environmental and Spatial Planning and Tourism and Cultural Management. It is also open to all USJ students. This course explains the current urban explosion, the dramatic growth of major cities, and the recent urban transformations that have resulted. It involves analyzing urban macroform, its morphogenesis, structure, and evolution.

Additionally, this course equips students with the following skills: “Memorize and articulate fundamental concepts of environmental geography,” with a particular focus on urban geography, and “Grasp and interpret spatial and systemic approaches”.

011GEAUL6	Urban Planning	3 Cr.
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011GERDL3	Water: Resources, and Sustainable Development	3 Cr.
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This course examines the critical challenge of water resources, which, alongside climate change, represents one of the greatest threats to humanity. Despite its apparent abundance, water is unevenly distributed and limited, with urgent issues evident in both industrialized and developing countries. This course highlights how human activities degrade this vital resource and contribute to pollution, despite the growing shortage. Additionally, it explores how demographic explosion, industrial activities, and agricultural practices have led to both qualitative and quantitative shortages in certain regions, resulting in conflicts over water usage and, in severe cases, geopolitical disputes. Recent decades have seen a dramatic increase in water-related risks, such as flooding, leading to substantial socio-economic losses. This course emphasizes the imperative need for rational and integrated water management strategies to preserve this crucial resource for the future.

Concentration: Tourism and Cultural Management

011TOCFL6	Accounting and Finance	3 Cr.
011TOAPL6	Archaeology of the Present and the Past	3 Cr.
011TOHAL5	Art History in Lebanon	3 Cr.
011TOTAL5	Audiovisual Techniques	4 Cr.
011TODIL6	End of Study Project	3 Cr.
011TOIEL6	Environmental Impacts of Tourism	3 Cr.
<p>This course enables students to identify and assess the specific environmental impacts of tourism, raising awareness of the associated environmental issues. It also prepares them to address in these challenges with a focus on sustainability.</p>		
011TOVVL6	Heritage: Vulnerability and Enhancement	3 Cr.
<p>This course is designed for Bachelor students in Geography, concentration: Tourism and Cultural Management. It is also open to all USJ students. It enables them to identify the pressures on various types of heritage, diagnose their vulnerabilities, outline the steps in heritage valuation, and propose recommendations for appropriate heritage enhancement within a specific context and for sustainable tourism development.</p> <p>This course equips students with the following skills: “Heritage Valuation”, “Tourism Product Development”, and “Sustainable Tourism Advising”.</p>		
011TOTOL6	Organized Tours Management	3 Cr.
<p>This course is designed for Bachelor students in Geography, and is also open to all USJ students. It introduces the various actors and travel creators and guides students in designing travel itineraries that are thoughtful, logical, and diverse, taking into account various selection criteria. Students will explore the attractions of different countries and destinations, while gaining a comprehensive understanding of how tourism partners operate. By the end of this course, students will be able to create well-organized and effective travel circuits.</p>		
011TOTRL5	Responsible Tourism in Lebanon	3 Cr.
<p>This course is designed for students enrolled in the second semester of the Bachelor in Geography program, concentration: Tourism and Cultural Management. It is also open to all USJ students.</p> <p>In the first part, this course traces the origins of ecotourism and its evolution up to the Brundtland Report (1988), which laid the groundwork for sustainable development. The second part uses case studies to examine the changing attitudes of tourists worldwide and the emergence of responsible tourism. The final part focuses on Lebanon, allowing students to assess the state of responsible tourism in their country also through case studies, alongside field visits and meetings with industry professionals.</p>		
011TOANL5	Specialized English	4 Cr.
011TOADL4	Tourism Actors and Development	3 Cr.
<p>This course is designed for Bachelor students in Geography, concentration: Tourism and Cultural Management. It is also open to all USJ students. This course offers a comprehensive understanding of the dynamics between stakeholders and tourism development. By the end of this course, students will be able to define tourism development, identify the key players involved, and analyze their roles in the process.</p>		

011TOETL5	Tourism Destinations in the Middle East and Lebanon	3 Cr.
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This course begins by defining the geographical boundaries of the Middle East and exploring the region's diverse countries, highlighting both their commonalities and unique characteristics. It then examines the evolution of tourism across different historical periods, using Lebanon and another selected country as case studies for each era. This approach helps students develop a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities in tourism development, focusing on Lebanon and the Gulf countries as they transition towards a post-oil economy.

011TOMTL4	Tourism Marketing and Job Opportunities	3 Cr.
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011TOATL5	Traditional Architecture of Lebanon	3 Cr.
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011TOMTL1	Traditional Lebanese Music (Arabic)	2 Cr.
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This course delves into the Lebanese traditional music, exploring the social and cultural development of musical traditions and their influence on our lives. It also allows students to engage with Lebanese traditional music in a more focused and meaningful way.

011TOAEL6	Workplace Learning	4 Cr.
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