

**BACHELOR IN HISTORY-INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**Main Language of Instruction:**

French  English  Arabic

**Campus Where the Program Is Offered:** CSH

**OBJECTIVES**

This program aims to train professionals and researchers in international affairs. It integrates historical perspectives with a multidisciplinary approach, focusing on the Middle East and its complex dynamics of integration and fragmentation. This focus underscores the region's significance as one of the most sensitive areas globally. Additionally, this program features guest lectures from former heads of state and prominent figures in national and international politics, providing students with valuable insights from their experiences.

**PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (COMPETENCIES)**

- Examine the international system through the intersection of realities and theories
- Analyze international and regional economic relations
- Investigate contemporary issues in the Middle East
- Reflect on questions impacting the Lebanese state and society
- Develop a comprehensive and critical study on a current issue
- Provide expertise tailored to various professional contexts.

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

**180 credits: Required courses (150 credits), Institution's elective courses (24 credits), Open elective courses (6 credits).**

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

**USJ General Education Program (32 credits)**

**English (4 Cr.)**

011HIANL6 Specialized English – History (4 Cr.)

**Arabic (4 Cr.)**

011HIHJL2 The Evolution of Lebanese Journalism **الصحافة اللبنانية بين الأمس واليوم (4 Cr.)**

**Humanities (8 Cr.)**

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

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

011GEPCL1 Heritage: A Civic Challenge (2 Cr.)

011PHPEL1 Foundations of Ethical Thought (2 Cr.)

**Social Sciences (6 Cr.)**

011SAESL1 Introduction to Social Studies(3cr.)

011SAIPL1 – Professional Integration (3 Cr.)

**Quantitative Research Techniques (6 Cr.)**

011PSSSL2 Descriptive Statistics (2 Cr.)

011PSSAL6 Applied Statistics (4 Cr.)

**Communication Techniques (4 Cr.)**

011LFCCL1 – Oral and Written Communication (4 Cr.)

**Fundamental Courses**

**Required Courses**

Applied Statistics (4 Cr.). Borders and Discontinuities (3 Cr.). Civilians and War: From Crimea to Hiroshima (3 Cr.). Church Conflicts in the 16th Century: Renaissance, Humanism, Reformation, and Counter-Reformation (3 Cr.). Descriptive Statistics (2 Cr.). Diplomacy and Communication (2 Cr.). Europe's World Conquest: 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

Centuries (3 Cr.). European Imperialism (3 Cr.). The Phoenicians (3 Cr.). Foundations of Ethical Thought (2 Cr.). Health Diplomacy: History and Issues (3 Cr.). Heritage: A Civic Challenge (2 Cr.). History and Roles of the Lebanese Armed Forces: The Police in Lebanon (4 Cr.). History Lab: Lebanese Histories (2 Cr.). History of the Arabian-Persian Gulf (3 Cr.). History, Memory, and Heritage (3 Cr.). Internship - Bachelor in History-International Relations (3 Cr.). Introduction to Social Studies (3 Cr.). International and Regional Political and Economic Organizations (3 Cr.). International Law (4 Cr.). International Relations from 1870 to 1945 (3 Cr.). International Relations Theories (3 Cr.). International Security Studies (1 Cr.). Lebanon from the Crusades to the Ottoman Empire (3 Cr.). Lebanon in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century (4 Cr.). Lebanon in the First Republic (6 Cr.). Military Archaeological Sites in the Middle East (2 Cr.). Methodology in HRI (3 Cr.). New Conflicts in the Gulf Region (2 Cr.). Oral and Written Communication (4 Cr.). Research Paper - Bachelor in History-International Relations (3 Cr.). Sociology: Selected Themes (3 Cr.). Soft Power, Culture, and Ideology (3 Cr.). Society Facing Risk (2 Cr.). Specialized Seminar in History and International Relations 3 (2 Cr.). Specialized Seminar in HRI 5: Euro-Mediterranean (3 Cr.). The Arab Revolutions الثورات العربية (3 Cr.). The Evolution of Lebanese Journalism الصحافة اللبنانية بين الأمس واليوم (4 Cr.). The Genesis of the Contemporary Middle East (3 Cr.). The Lebanese Army: History, Issues, and Challenges (4 Cr.). The Middle East from 1970 to the Present (3 Cr.). The Ottoman Empire from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (6 Cr.). The UN and “Robust Peacekeeping” (3 Cr.). The Vatican’s Diplomacy (2 Cr.). Turkey-Qatar: A New Axis in the Middle East (2 Cr.). Understanding Russian Geopolitics: Genesis, Structure, and Dynamics of Moscow’s Foreign Policy (2 Cr.). US Rise to World Power (3 Cr.). War in the Contemporary World (2 Cr.). Wars of Independence in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (3 Cr.).

### Elective Courses

#### 24 credits to choose from the following list

Ancient Culture (3 Cr.). Applied Cartography for Humanities and Social Sciences (3 Cr.). Arab World: Cultural Unity and Diversity (3 Cr.). Beirut: From Destruction to Reconstruction (3 Cr.). Cartography and Cartographic Language (3 Cr.). Contemporary Moral and Political Philosophy (3 Cr.). Foundational Texts (3 Cr.). Intangible Cultural Heritage and Lebanese Identity (3 Cr.). Introduction to Anthropology (3 Cr.). Lebanese Society: Family, Political Parties, and Religious Communities (3 Cr.). Machiavelli: A Revolutionary Political Thinker (3 Cr.). Philosophical Anthropology: The Self, Time, History (3 Cr.). Persuasion and Manipulation: A Sociological Approach (3 Cr.). Public Relations and External Communication (3 Cr.). Violence: Political and Moral Questions (3 Cr.). World Literatures (3 Cr.).

### SUGGESTED STUDY PLAN

#### Semester 1

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HCERL1	Church Conflicts in the 16 <sup>th</sup> Century: Renaissance, Humanism, Reformation, and Counter-Reformation	3
011HIPHL2	The Phoenicians	3
011HIGAL2	History of the Arabian-Persian Gulf	3
011HIR1L2	International Relations from 1870 to 1945	3
011HISSL3	International Security Studies	1
011HIMDL1	Methodology in HRI	3
011HIEOL2	The Ottoman Empire from the 15 <sup>th</sup> to the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	6
	Institution’s Elective Courses	6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>

#### Semester 2

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIDSL2	Health Diplomacy: History and Issues	3
011HIIRL2	International and Regional Political and Economic Organizations	3
013DRINL2	International Law	4

011HIL4L3	Lebanon in the 19 <sup>th</sup> Century	4
011HIHJL2	The Evolution of Lebanese Journalism الصحافة اللبنانية بين الأمس واليوم	4
011HILAL2	The Lebanese Army: History, Issues, and Challenges	4
011HIUSL2	US Rise to World Power	3
064VALEL1	USJ Values in Daily Life	2
	Institution's Elective Courses	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

### Semester 3

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIAAL3	Civilians and War: From Crimea to Hiroshima	3
011HICSL3	Conferences and Seminars	3
011HIE2L3	Europe's World Conquest: 15 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> Centuries	3
011HHMPL3	History, Memory, and Heritage	3
011HILRL3	Lebanon in the First Republic	6
011HSCIL3	Soft Power, Culture and Ideology	3
011HLRAL3	The Arab Revolutions الثورات العربية	3
011HIDVL3	The Vatican's Diplomacy	2
011HITQL3	Turkey-Qatar: A New Axis in the Middle East	2
	Open Elective Courses	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

### Semester 4

Code	Course Name	Credits
011HIFDL3	Borders and Discontinuities	3
011HIDCL2	Diplomacy and Communication	2
011GEPCL1	Heritage: A Civic Challenge	2
011HIPOL3	History and Roles of the Lebanese Armed Forces: The Police in Lebanon	4
011HILHL2	History Lab: Lebanese Histories	2
011HITRL3	International Relations Theories	3
011HIS2L4	Internship - Bachelor in History-International Relations	3
011SAESL1	Introduction to Social Studies	3
011LFCEL1	Oral and Written Communication	4
	Institution's Elective Courses	2
	Open Elective Courses	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

## Semester 5

Code	Course Name	Credits
011PSSSL2	Descriptive Statistics	2
011HIIEL5	European Imperialism	3
011PHPEL1	Foundations of Ethical Thought	2
011TOEOL5	Lebanon from the Crusades to the Ottoman Empire	3
011HISAL5	Military Archaeological Sites in the Middle East	2
0011SAIPL1	Professional Integration	3
011HIMOL3	The Genesis of the Contemporary Middle East	3
011HIRGL5	Understanding Russian Geopolitics: Genesis, Structure and Dynamics of Moscow's Foreign Policy	2
011HIMCL3	War in the Contemporary World	2
	Open Elective Courses	2
	Institution's Elective Courses	6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

## Semester 6

Code	Course Name	Credits
011PSSAL6	Applied Statistics	4
011HINCL4	New Conflicts in the Gulf Region	2
011HINRL6	Research Paper - Bachelor in History-International Relations	3
011HIANL6	Specialized English – History	4
011HIAPL2	Specialized Seminar in HRI 5: Euro-Mediterranean	3
011HIMOL6	The Middle East from 1970 to the Present	3
011HIYDL6	The UN and “Robust Peacekeeping”	3
011HIDEL6	Wars of Independence in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	3
	Institution's Elective Courses	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

This course explores the complex dynamics of borders and territoriality in historical and contemporary contexts. It begins with an introduction to key concepts and theories related to borders, and examines their forms and dynamics. This course examines how borders are established and managed to address issues of protection, territorial division, and political separation. This includes analyzing the appropriation and delimitation of space through a seven-step model, from occupation to exclusion, with elements of attachment and rooting. Students will study notable examples such as the Great Wall of China, the Rhine limes, Hadrian's Wall, and the partition of territories like Latin America, Africa, and the Ottoman Empire. Additionally, students will understand how borders have been used to separate political systems, with case studies including Vietnam, Korea, and Germany during the Cold War.

**011HIAAL3      Civilians and War: From Crimea to Hiroshima      3 Cr.**

This course examines the complex relationship between civilians and war, focusing on the severe humanitarian consequences that often arise. It explores how civilians, who are not directly involved in military operations, can

endure significant suffering during armed conflicts. This course highlights the challenges of protecting civilian populations and the critical importance of adhering to international humanitarian law and human rights standards to mitigate such suffering. Through this approach, students will gain an understanding of the impact of war on non-combatants and the efforts required to address these issues effectively.

<b>011HCERL1</b>	<b>Church Conflicts in the 16th Century: Renaissance, Humanism, Reformation, and Counter-Reformation</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course delves into the 16<sup>th</sup> century, a significant period in European history, characterized by major religious conflicts, transformative cultural advancements, and important political changes. It examines how these religious movements not only impacted religion in Europe but also influenced politics, the economy, and society. Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of how the diversification of religious beliefs led to profound social changes, theological debates, and political conflicts.

<b>011HIDCL2</b>	<b>Diplomacy and Communication</b>	<b>2 Cr.</b>
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This course is designed for students in the Department of History. It is also open to all USJ students. It focuses on communication within the context of diplomatic action, and includes practical training in:

- Writing official statements
- Covering official visits
- Media coverage of actions in various fields (politics, arts and culture, environment, development, etc.)
- Recording video presentations of projects (synthesis, structuring, elocution)
- Using social media

Additionally, this course covers topics such as media relations and involves exercises in various press activities within diplomatic contexts such as developing talking points, as well as preparing and conducting interviews (Off/On/background, etc.).

<b>011HIE2L3</b>	<b>Europe's World Conquest: 15th and 16th Centuries</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course focuses on the following key issues:

- Why were Europeans the ones to embark on global exploration?
- What mechanisms of domination were established in the colonies?
- What were the impacts of European domination (from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> century) on the colonized peoples and territories, the metropolitan powers, and the balance of international forces?

<b>011HIIEL5</b>	<b>European Imperialism</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course examines why and how the West dominated the world during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

<b>011HIDSL2</b>	<b>Health Diplomacy: History and Issues</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course is designed for students in the Department of History. It is also open to all USJ. It explores the role of health in the establishment of international relations throughout history, with a particular focus on epidemics, and highlights the importance of public health as a global political issue, especially during the coronavirus pandemic. Additionally, this course examines the internationalization of health issues and the contributions of both public and private actors, such as the World Health Organization and the Red Cross, during crises and humanitarian disasters. It also reflects on the violations of the Geneva Conventions during the Gaza conflict. This course pays special attention to Lebanon, analyzing the resilience of the health sector during the 1975-1990 war and its response to the Beirut port explosion on August 4, 2020.

<b>011HIPOL3</b>	<b>History and Roles of the Lebanese Armed Forces: The Police in Lebanon</b>	<b>4 Cr.</b>
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This course examines the structure and functioning of the police in Lebanon, focusing on how these aspects are governed by Lebanese authorities and shaped by the country's political and social context. It addresses the challenges posed by Lebanon's often complex and unstable political situation, which can affect the maintenance of order and internal security. Students will explore how political and sectarian dynamics impact police operations.

<b>011HILHL2</b>	<b>History Lab: Lebanese Histories</b>	<b>2 Cr.</b>
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This course delves into Lebanon's rich and complex history, characterized by its multiple cultural, religious, and political layers. It enables students to explore individual and collective memories, diverse historical narratives, and how these elements shape contemporary understanding of Lebanese history.

<b>011HIGAL2</b>	<b>History of the Arabian-Persian Gulf</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course examines the Arab-Persian Gulf, a region of major geostrategic importance in the Middle East. Rich in natural resources, particularly oil and natural gas, it has become a focal point for global economic and political interests. The history of the Arab-Persian Gulf spans thousands of years, and today, it remains a volatile geopolitical area where political, economic, and security issues are of significant global concern. This course explores how shifting alliances, evolving international relations, and economic developments continue to shape the modern history of this crucial region.

<b>011HHMPL3</b>	<b>History, Memory, and Heritage</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course explores the intricate and interconnected relationships between history, memory, and heritage. History offers a chronological framework to understand past events, societies, and individuals, forming the bedrock of our grasp of the past. Memory, on the other hand, shapes and colors our interpretation of historical narratives, adding depth and significance. Heritage, both tangible and intangible, acts as the bridge that unites these elements, allowing societies to connect with their past and preserve these connections for future generations. Through this approach, students will discover how these dynamic concepts interplay to enrich our collective understanding of history.

<b>011HIIRL2</b>	<b>International and Regional Political and Economic Organizations</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course aims to:

- Provide students with a foundational understanding of key international organizations.
- Examine and discuss the current relevance of these organizations through specific events or critical articles.
- Equip students to define the core functions of these organizations, place them within the international landscape, and demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of them.

Additionally, this course:

- Offers a basic knowledge of regional organizations, including those with Arab member states, emphasizing the differences in their status and functioning.
- Analyzes the often-overlooked activities of these organizations, debating their current relevance, impact on regional and global affairs, and assessing their utility, challenges, and needed reforms.

<b>013DRINL2</b>	<b>International Law</b>	<b>4 Cr.</b>
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This course explores how states must adhere to legal norms in their international relations. By studying these crucial norms, students will gain insight into how international practices align with the legal frameworks that govern global interactions.

<b>011HIR1L2</b>	<b>International Relations from 1870 to 1945</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course is designed for students in the Department of History. It is also open to all USJ students. It enables them to analyze the major political crises and conflicts worldwide from 1870 to 1945, as well as the transformations and developments in state relations during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

<b>011HITRL3</b>	<b>International Relations Theories</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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What are international relations? Are there different theories of international relations? This course aims to present the various approaches to international relations, analyze their core concepts, and study the key theorists. It aims to understand and critique the main theories of international relations by examining their philosophical legacies, fundamental concepts, historical developments, and different variations.



<b>011HISL3</b>	<b>International Security Studies</b>	<b>1 Cr.</b>
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This course delves into the complex field of international security studies, covering a wide range of topics including global security, stability, and conflict. It explores various dimensions of security, such as the military, political, economic, environmental, and societal aspects. As a dynamic field, it continuously evolves to address emerging threats, technological advancements, and shifts in geopolitical dynamics.

<b>011TOEOL5</b>	<b>Lebanon from the Crusades to the Ottoman Empire</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course offers a comprehensive and chronological exploration of a significant historical period in Lebanon and the Near East, covering from the origins of the Crusades to their conclusion, the Mamluk era, and the Ottoman Empire. It begins with an overview of the diverse Muslim and Christian communities that form the region's cultural foundation.

This course is designed for Tourism and Cultural Management students. It introduces future tourism professionals to Lebanon's rich historical heritage and its impressive monuments, which are of great interest to tourists. It also includes guided site visits throughout the academic year, enabling students to experience Lebanon's heritage and regions firsthand, while gaining practical insights into the tourism industry.

Additionally, this course is open to all USJ students interested in understanding these historical periods and the origins of Lebanon's communities. This approach provides a deeper comprehension of the historical development that has shaped Lebanon's present-day landscape.

<b>011HIL4L3</b>	<b>Lebanon in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century</b>	<b>4 Cr.</b>
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This course investigates whether the 19th century was a formative period for the future Lebanese state, focusing on how local dynamics in Mount Lebanon were influenced by internal political, socio-economic, and cultural changes, Ottoman centralization efforts, and increasing European interference in the region.

<b>011HILRL3</b>	<b>Lebanon in the First Republic</b>	<b>6 Cr.</b>
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This course explores the First Lebanese Republic, focusing on the period following Lebanon's independence from French mandate rule. It examines the era's political and economic stability, while also addressing the significant challenges the country faced, such as intercommunal tensions. This course further delves into the 1958 political crisis and Lebanon's request for American military intervention to restore order.

<b>011HIMDL1</b>	<b>Methodology in HRI</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course serves as an introduction to methods of historical analysis and research. It combines theoretical foundations with practical examples to clarify the process of creating a bibliography, studying various types of documents (such as texts and statistical series), developing a chronology, establishing periods, and formulating a plan and research question.

<b>011HISAL5</b>	<b>Military Archaeological Sites in the Middle East</b>	<b>2 Cr.</b>
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This course explores the rich military history of the Middle East, highlighting numerous archaeological sites that reflect past conflicts and empires that have shaped the region. It examines how the current political and security situation can affect the accessibility and preservation of these sites. Unfortunately, some have been damaged or destroyed due to recent conflicts.

<b>011HINCL4</b>	<b>New Conflicts in the Gulf Region</b>	<b>2 Cr.</b>
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This course examines the Gulf region, renowned for its natural resource wealth, which has been the focus of various tensions and conflicts over the years. Key issues include political rivalries, territorial disputes, religious conflicts, and power struggles. Notably, the tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran have had significant repercussions throughout the region.

<b>011LFCCL1</b>	<b>Oral and Written Communication</b>	<b>4 Cr.</b>
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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.

<b>011SAIPL1</b>	<b>Professional Integration</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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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.

<b>011HSCIL3</b>	<b>Soft Power, Culture and Ideology</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course explores the concept of “soft power” as a diplomatic tool used by nations to influence foreign public opinion and win the battle for hearts and minds. It particularly examines Turkey as a successful example of soft power and compares this with similar strategies employed by the United States, such as American exceptionalism and the counterculture movements of the 1960s and 70s.

This course provides an overview of key concepts in American foreign policy and the global application of soft power. The methodology emphasizes an interactive approach, utilizing various media (photos, films, comics, etc.) to highlight “Pop Culture” among other elements. This course focuses on deconstruction, encouraging students to develop critical thinking skills and decode cultural representations. Active participation in class is essential.

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

<b>011HIAPL2</b>	<b>Specialized Seminar in HRI 5: Euro-Mediterranean</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This seminar covers various topics related to cooperation, challenges, and opportunities in the Mediterranean region, involving both European and Mediterranean countries. It includes an in-depth analysis of trade exchanges, investments, and economic partnerships, aiming to identify growth opportunities while examining the challenges to be addressed. Additionally, this seminar addresses security and stability issues, including border management, counter-terrorism efforts, and the promotion of political stability in the region.

<b>011HLRAL3</b>	<b>The Arab Revolutions الثورات العربية</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course examines the term “Arab Spring”, which refers to a series of popular uprisings, protests, and demonstrations that began in several Arab countries at the end of 2010. These movements were characterized by demands for democracy, human rights, social justice, and the overthrow of authoritarian regimes. The Arab Spring began in Tunisia in December 2010 with the self-immolation of Mohamed Bouazizi, a street vendor protesting against corruption and harsh economic conditions. The subsequent protests led to the ousting of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali in January 2011. Following Tunisia, similar movements spread to other Arab countries.

<b>011HIHJL2</b>	<b>The Evolution of Lebanese Journalism الصحافة اللبنانية بين الأمس واليوم</b>	<b>4 Cr.</b>
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This course, offered by the Department of History, provides students with an exploration of the key developments in the history of print media, radio, and television. It examines the challenges faced by media and journalists throughout history, and delves into the issues surrounding freedom of expression and journalism in Lebanon. It highlights the sacrifices made to protect this freedom and the current dangers it faces. Students will also gain insight into the legal and ethical issues related to media and their connection to broader questions of liberty.

<b>011HIMOL3</b>	<b>The Genesis of the Contemporary Middle East</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course is designed for Bachelor students in History. It is also open to all USJ students. It focuses on analyzing the contemporary issues of the Middle East, enabling students to develop a comprehensive and critical study of a relevant topic in the region. The course examines the evolution of the Middle East within the Ottoman



context, explores the creation process of the current Middle Eastern states, analyzes national formations and the development of certain states through internal and external dynamics, and traces the origins of the Israeli-Arab conflict.

<b>011HILAL2</b>	<b>The Lebanese Army: History, Issues, and Challenges</b>	<b>4 Cr.</b>
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This course offers an in-depth study of the history of the Lebanese Army, covering its past, current status, and future challenges. It explores pivotal events in the army's history, their contexts, and their significant consequences within both academic and practical intervention frameworks.

This course introduces International Relations students to the establishment of the Lebanese Army, its evolution since the country's independence, and its interactions with local authorities and regional powers.

It strives to consolidate historical knowledge and enhance analytical skills by providing a blend of theoretical insights and practical applications. Through this approach, students will gain familiarity with military data and develop empirical analysis skills and strategies.

<b>011HIMOL6</b>	<b>The Middle East from 1970 to the Present</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course provides an analysis of the political, economic, and social transformations within this strategically important region. It focuses on identifying the various power centers and highlights the shifts in power that have defined the period. This course also examines the role of the Middle East in international politics and its adaptation to major global upheavals.

<b>011HIEOL2</b>	<b>The Ottoman Empire from the 15th to the 20th Century</b>	<b>6 Cr.</b>
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This course aims to:

- Enable students to understand the mechanisms that allowed the Ottoman Empire to maintain its dominance over much of the Balkans, the Middle East, and North Africa for approximately five centuries.
- Highlight the impact of this dominance on the societies within these regions, as well as its long-term consequences.

<b>011HIPHL2</b>	<b>The Phoenicians</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course explores the Levant from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age, including the transition between these periods. It covers the rise of the Byblos kingdom, the invention of the alphabet, the growth of Sidon and Tyre, Phoenician religion, and the concepts of Carthage, Phoenicianism, and Arabism.

<b>011HIYDL6</b>	<b>The UN and "Robust Peacekeeping"</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course explores the UN's peacekeeping operations, designed to resolve international conflicts and maintain peace in crisis regions. It examines "robust peacekeeping", which often involves more active use of force, including offensive operations against hostile armed groups, to protect vulnerable civilians and restore stability in conflict areas. However, this approach also raises questions and challenges, as it can be riskier for peacekeepers and requires strong authorization and political support from UN member states. Balancing the use of force with the UN's principles of neutrality and impartiality remains a key challenge in implementing "robust peacekeeping."

<b>011HIDVL3</b>	<b>The Vatican's Diplomacy</b>	<b>2 Cr.</b>
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This course examines Vatican diplomacy, conducted by the Holy See, the central institution of the Catholic Church, which includes the Pope and his surrounding offices. The Vatican, as a sovereign state, engages in diplomacy distinct from its religious mission. Its diplomatic efforts are shaped by the moral and ethical principles of the Catholic Church, positioning its engagement at the intersection of faith and international affairs. While the Vatican may not wield political influence comparable to nation-states, its voice is often respected due to its moral authority and its role as a spiritual leader for millions worldwide.

<b>011HITQL3</b>	<b>Turkey-Qatar: A New Axis in the Middle East</b>	<b>2 Cr.</b>
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This course explores the strengthening of relations between Turkey and Qatar, which have evolved into what is sometimes referred to as a "new axis" in the Middle East. It examines several factors contributing to this close collaboration, including intensified diplomatic ties marked by frequent high-level visits and bilateral exchanges.

This course also highlights how both countries share similar positions on various regional issues, particularly regarding the Gulf crisis involving Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain.

<b>011HIRGL5</b>	<b>Understanding Russian Geopolitics: Genesis, Structure and Dynamics of Moscow's Foreign Policy</b>	<b>2 Cr.</b>
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This course aims to identify and analyze the fundamental factors shaping contemporary Russian foreign policy through a structured approach. The first part, "Genesis," covers elements such as geography, history, economy, culture, social structure, and psychological dimensions. The second part, "Structure," reviews the roles of institutional, individual, and collective actors involved in formulating and implementing Russia's foreign strategy. The third part, "Dynamics," provides a comprehensive overview of Russia's priorities in selected regions, including the Post-Soviet space, the South Caucasus, Central Asia, and the Middle East.

<b>011HIUSL2</b>	<b>US Rise to World Power</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course examines how the guiding themes of American policy evolve over time in response to national and international issues, the priorities of current leaders, economic, social, and technological changes, and other factors. While certain recurring themes have historically shaped U.S. politics and continue to influence American policy, this course acknowledges that these themes are not exhaustive and that new issues may emerge depending on the circumstances. Political priorities can also shift based on the prevailing political parties and dominant ideologies at any given time.

<b>064VALEL1</b>	<b>USJ Values in Daily Life</b>	<b>2 Cr.</b>
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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.

<b>011HIMCL3</b>	<b>War in the Contemporary World</b>	<b>2 Cr.</b>
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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.

<b>011HIDEL6</b>	<b>Wars of Independence in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century</b>	<b>3 Cr.</b>
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This course aims to understand the metropolitan, local, and international factors that facilitated decolonization.