

# INSTITUTE OF ORIENTAL STUDIES (ILO)

## HISTORY

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The Saint Joseph University of Beirut founded the Oriental College in 1902, which later became the Institute of Oriental Studies. Its mission was to educate students about the rich cultural heritage of the Arab East and to promote research in related fields. This initiative was aligned with the Arab literary revival, positioning the Oriental College as a pivotal force in this movement.

It has significantly contributed to the field through the dedication of Jesuit scholars such as Louis Cheikho and Henry Lammens, who trained generations of specialists recognized for their expertise in Arabic and Oriental literature, sociology, and Islamic studies. The college's publications have been vital in advancing scholarly approaches and highlighting the richness of Eastern and Arabic culture, particularly through the Saint Joseph University Journal, the Mashriq Journal, and various research publications.

Following a necessary interruption in academic activities due to World War I, the college resumed its educational programs in 1933, focusing on Oriental literature. Notable literary and academic figures from this period include the Jesuit fathers Motard and Mesbian, Professor Fouad Afram al-Bustani, and Prince Maurice Chehab.

In 1936, the Saint Joseph University restructured and established the Institute of Oriental Studies to continue the legacy of the Oriental College. The Faculty of Arts at the University of Lyon in France oversaw the institute's programs and exams. It also recruited distinguished scholars, including Father Henry Fleish, an expert in Arabic linguistics, and Professor Khalil Jarr, a specialist in Arabic philosophy. In 1977, the University formally established the Faculty of Humanities, integrating the Institute of Oriental Studies, which continues to thrive within this framework. Since the 2002-2003 academic year, the Institute of Oriental Studies has implemented the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) to enhance educational outcomes for its students. This system aligns with global academic standards and strengthens international collaborations. It aims to honor the unique aspects of Arabic and Islamic studies while fostering ties with the Arab and Islamic worlds.

## MISSION

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The Institute of Oriental Studies upholds the legacy of the "Oriental College," founded in 1902 to explore Arab Eastern culture and teach related subjects. Since its establishment in 1933 and its incorporation into the Faculty of Humanities in 1977, the institute has been dedicated to the advancement of Arab culture. It emphasizes areas such as Arabic language and literature, Islamic and Arab philosophy, Arab and Islamic history, and Islamic sciences. With this mission, the institute aims to deliver high-quality education that engages both the local community and the broader Arab world, while continuously enhancing research methodologies and evaluating its programs.

## ADMINISTRATION

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**Director:** Tony KAHWAJI

**Program Director:**

Pamela (EI) ACHKAR SAHYOUN: Bachelor and Master Programs

Nada MOUAWAD : PhD Program

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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**Academic Affairs Administrative Coordinator:** Pamela ACHKAR SAHYOUN

**Institute Secretary:** Tamara KARAM

**Administrative Coordinator:** Jimmy (EL) MALLAH ASWAD

**Archivist:** Rima (EL) HOUT

## FACULTY

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**Professor**

Hiba CHEBARO SINNO

**Associate Professor**

Tony (EL) KAHWAJI, Nadine ABBAS

### Assistant Professor

Nada MOUAWAD MOUSSA, Ahmad (EL) ZOHBI

### Lecturer

Assia (EL) MOUHTAR KAIS, Elias KATTAR, Antoine (EL) SAYAH, Pascal TABET, Pamela (EL) ACHKAR, Tracy AZAR, Jad HATEM, George SALHAB, Joelle FADDOL, George EID, George YARAK, Fadi CHEBLI, Philippe BOU ZEID, Mohammad (EL) ARABI, Nada EID (EL) TAYARA, Wadih ANTOUN, Salam GERGES, Katia (EL) TAWIL, Basem (EL) RAI, Khaled SOUBEIH, Eliane (EL) SAADEH, Pascal TABET, Ali ABDOUN, Suzanne WAKIM, Joe (EL) KHOURY, Dorine NASR, Chadi (EL) KAHWAJI, Fadi SAHOU, Rose ABI AAD, Adham (EL) DIMASHKI, Khoulood (EL) DIMASHKI, Marie Louise ELIA, Antoine BOUSTANI, George HOMSI

## DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED

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- Bachelor in Arabic Language and Literature (180 Cr.)
- Bachelor in Arabic Philosophy and Civilization (180 Cr.)
- Master in Arabic Language and Literature (120 Cr.)
- Master in Arabic and Islamic History (120 Cr.)
- Master in Arabic and Islamic Philosophy (120 Cr.)
- Master in Islamology (120 Cr.)
- PhD in Arabic and Islamic History (120 Cr.)
- PhD in Arabic Language and Literature (180 Cr.)
- PhD in Arabic and Islamic Philosophy (180 Cr.)
- PhD in Islamology (180 Cr.)
- University Diploma in Arabic Digital Content (30 Cr.)
- University Diploma in Arabic Screenwriting (I and II) (30 Cr.)
- University Diploma in Journalism and Investigation in Arabic (30 Cr.)
- University Diploma in Contemporary Approaches to Religious Texts (Exegesis, Interpretation, and Analysis) (30 Cr.)
- University Diploma in Codicology and the rules of Critical Edition (30 Cr.)
- University Diploma in Philosophy in Daily Life (30 Cr.)

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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- Teaching Arabic language and literature
- Teaching philosophy
- Teaching Islamology
- Research in these fields
- Journalism
- Publishing
- Language editing
- Creative writing

## TUITION FEES

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Bachelor – 92\$/Credit

Master – 92\$/Credit

Master Thesis Defense – 200\$

PhD – 106\$/Credit

PhD Thesis Defense - 400\$

University Diploma in Arabic Digital Content - 92\$/Credit

University Diploma in Arabic Screenwriting (I and II) - 92\$/Credit

University Diploma in Journalism and Investigation in Arabic - 130\$/Credit

University Diploma in Contemporary Approaches to Religious Texts (Exegesis, Interpretation, and Analysis) - 92\$/Credit

University Diploma in Codicology and the rules of Critical Edition - 92\$/Credit

University Diploma in Philosophy in Daily Life - 92\$/Credit