

# GENERAL SECTION

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

The Catalog is a guidepost to all those interested in learning about the University of Balamand. It is of particular importance to students who must familiarize themselves fully with its contents.

While catalogs introduce students to the history as well as to the philosophy of the University, it remains essentially a set of rules. Rules are of value in themselves. They guide students, and faculty as well, to strictly comply with them to avoid error.

I want to emphasize the priority of rules, particularly of the tendency in human nature to avoid them, to break them, or divert them from the public good, they are meant to uphold, to their private whims and needs. Rules teach us discipline, and they constitute the basic element in democracy. Rules equalize, and hence provide justice for all.

In a university, rules provide the student with the objective facts they must work with to excel in their main purpose to enter a university. The purpose is to get a good education, to specialize in a field and become professionals in it, to develop the passion for reading, for publishing, for contributing to the public good.

Consequently, I welcome all new students to our University, and look forward to interacting with them as much as possible. We are living in unusual times. We are living a trend of violence, chaos, and the permeating threat of extremism. It is our destiny to reverse it.

Universities are founded on faith in the Divine, on dependence on reason, on the unity of the human family, and in the hope of an ideal civilization founded on truth, justice, equality, and freedom. We are committed to this ideal.

From this vantage point we look at our environment and fashion a philosophy of service that will contribute to the rise of the civilization we yearn for.

Again, I welcome you, and wish you success in the realization of the goals that have goaded you to join our ranks.

*Elie A. Salem*

# **ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2015-2016\***

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## **FALL SEMESTER 2015/2016**

Monday	17 Aug.	Pre-Registration for Medicine I & II - Academic Year 2015-2016
Monday	17 Aug.	2015-2016 Academic Year begins for Medicine I & II
Monday-Friday	26-28 Aug.	Fall 2015 Semester Pre-Registration <sup>(1)</sup>
Monday	2 Sept.	Fall 2014 Semester Begins <sup>(1)</sup> /Semester Late Registration
Wednesday-Friday	2-4 Sept.	Fall 2014 Drop/Add Period <sup>(1)</sup>
Wednesday-Friday	23-25 Oct.	Al-Adha, Holiday <sup>(2)</sup>
Tuesday	13 Oct.	Muslim New Year, Holiday <sup>(2)</sup>
Thursday	22 Oct.	Ashoura, Holiday <sup>(2)</sup>
Sunday	22 Nov.	Independence Day, Holiday
Monday-Friday	30 Nov-4 Dec.	Spring 2016 Semester Pre-Registration <sup>(1)</sup>
Monday	7 Dec.	Drop Period Ends
Friday-Saturday	11-12 Dec.	Reading Period <sup>(1)</sup>
Saturday	12 Dec.	Prophet's Birthday, Holiday <sup>(2)</sup>
Monday-Tuesday	19-27 Feb.	Fall 2015 Semester Final Examinations <sup>(1)</sup>
Wednesday	23 Dec.	Christmas and New Year Vacation begins
Wednesday	6 Jan.	Christmas (Armenian), Holiday/Christmas & New Year Vacation Ends

## **SPRING SEMESTER 2015/2016**

Monday	18 Jan.	Spring 2016 Semester Begins <sup>(1)</sup>
Monday-Wednesday	18-20 Jan.	Spring 2016 Semester Late Registration <sup>(1)</sup> /Drop/Add Period <sup>(1)</sup>
Wednesday-Friday	20-22 Jan.	Spring 2016 Drop/Add Period <sup>(1)</sup>
Tuesday	9 Feb	Saint Maroun's, Holiday
Thursday-Monday	24-28 March.	Latin Easter Holiday
Friday	25 Mar.	Annunciation Day, Holiday
Monday-Wednesday	25-27 April	Summer 2016 Semester Pre-Registration
Wednesday	27 April	Drop Period Ends <sup>(1)</sup>
Friday-Sunday	21-31 May.	Reading Period <sup>(1)</sup>
Thursday-Monday	24-28 March.	Greek Orthodox Easter Holiday
Sunday	1 May.	Labor Day, Holiday
Monday	2 May.	Summer 2016 Semester Begins for Medicine II
Tuesday-Thursday	3-5 May	Fall 2016 Semester Pre-Registration <sup>(1)</sup>
Friday-Saturday	6-7 May.	Reading
Monday-Tuesday	1-9 Jun.	Spring 2016 Semester Final Examinations <sup>(1)</sup>

## **SUMMER SEMESTER 2015/2016**

Wednesday	1 Jun.	Pre-Registration for Medicine III & IV - Academic Year 2016-2017
Wednesday	1 Jun.	2015-2016 Academic Year begins for Medicine III & IV
Wednesday	1 Jun.	Summer 2016 Semester Begins <sup>(1)</sup> .
Wednesday-Friday	17-19 Jun.	Summer 2016 Semester Late Registration <sup>(1)</sup> /Drop/Add Period <sup>(1)</sup>
Monday	20 Jun.	Summer 2016 Semester Begins for Medicine I.
Monday-Wednesday	4-6 Jul.	Id al-Fitr, Holiday
Monday	18 Jul.	Drop Period Ends <sup>(1)</sup>
Tuesday	21 Jul.	Reading Period <sup>(1)</sup>
Friday-Monday	22-25 Jul.	Summer 2016 Semester Final Examinations <sup>(1)</sup>
Monday	15 Aug.	Assumption Day, Holiday
Tuesday	16 Aug.	2016-2017 Academic Year Begins for Medicine I & II

Tuesday 16 Aug. Pre-registration for Medicine I & II- Academic Year 2016-2017  
Wednesday-Friday 24-26 Aug. Fall 2016 Semester Pre-Registration<sup>(1)</sup>  
Monday-Friday 29 Aug.-2Sept. Fall 2016 Semester Late Registration <sup>(1)</sup>

\*This is a Student Based Calendar

<sup>(1)</sup>For all Faculties except Medicine

<sup>(2)</sup> Id al-Fitr, Muslim New Year, Ashoura, and the Prophet's Birthday are determined after sighting of the moon.

Accordingly, the actual dates may not coincide with the dates in this calendar.

# **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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His Beatitude Patriarch John X, Chairman.  
His Eminence Metropolitan Elias (Audi).  
His Eminence Metropolitan George (Khodr).

Sami Abi Esber	Robert Debbas	Anis Nassar
Elias Arous	Robert Fadel	Ghassan Ouais
Sajih Atie	Nabil Habayeb	Elie A. Salem (Ex Officio)
Tali' Bashour	Ibrahim Haddad	Paul Salem
Antoine Bekhazi	Makhluf Haddadin	Hanna Shammas
Nicolas Chahine	Mounir Issa	Samir Thabet
Marwan Chedid	Farid Karam	Adnan Takla
Joseph Chikhani	Samir Khairallah	Abdallah Tamari
Youssef Choucair	Salwa Houry	Abdallah Zakhem
Jamal Daniel (Honorary)	Youssef Matar	Salim Zeeni

## **Executive Committee:**

His Eminence Metropolitan Elias (Audi)  
Sami Abi Esber  
Antoine Bekhazi  
Youssef Choucair  
Robert Debbas  
Makhluf Haddadin  
Samir Khairallah  
Anis Nassar  
Paul Salem  
Adnan Takla

## **Academic Committee:**

His Eminence Metropolitan George (Khodr)  
Tali' Bashour  
Nicolas Chahine  
Ibrahim Haddad  
Makhluf Haddadin  
Salwa Houry  
Paul Salem  
Samir Thabet

## **Finance Committee:**

Marwan Chedid  
Joseph Chikhani  
Robert Fadel  
Salwa Houry  
Youssef Matar  
Adnan Takla  
Abdallah Tamari  
Abdallah Zakhem

## **Development and Public Relations Committee:**

Sami Abi Esber  
Marwan Chedid  
Mounir Issa  
Farid Karam  
Anis Nassar  
Hanna Shammas  
Salim Zeeni

## **Planning and Construction Committee:**

Sajih Atie  
Nicolas Chahine  
Joseph Chikhani  
Youssef Choucair  
Robert Debbas  
Nabil Habayeb  
Samir Khairallah  
Ghassan Ouais

## **Secretary of the Board:**

Itamar N. Diab

# **UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION**

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## **Office of the President**

Elie A. Salem, President

Itamar N. Diab, Director

Karim Nasr, Assistant to the President for Academic Advancement

Hamdi Chaouk, Assistant to the President for Developmental Affairs

Elie Inaty, Assistant to the President for Information Systems and Technology

## **Vice-Presidents**

Tali' Bashour, Honorary Vice President for Medical Affairs in the U.S.

Nadim Karam, Vice President for Health and Community Relations

George Nahas, Vice President for Planning and Educational Relations

Michel Najjar, Vice President for Development, Administration and Public Relations

## **Académie Libanaise des Beaux Arts**

Andre Bekhazi, Dean

George Fiani, Director, Balamand Campus

## **Saint John of Damascus Institute of Theology**

Rv. Fr. Porphyrios (Fadi) Georgi, Dean

## **Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**

Georges Dorlian, Dean

## **Faculty of Business and Management**

Karim Nasr, Dean

## **School of Tourism and Hotel Management**

Hamid El-Debs, Director

## **Faculty of Sciences**

Jihad Attieh, Dean

## **Faculty of Engineering**

Michel Najjar, Dean

## **Issam M. Fares University Institute of Technology**

Michel Najjar, Dean

Elias Khalil, Director, Akkar Campus

## **Faculty of Health Sciences**

Nadim Karam, Dean

## **Saint George Faculty of Post Graduate Medical Education**

### **Faculty of Medicine & Medical Sciences**

Camille Nassar, Dean

**Faculty of Library and Information Studies**

Georges Nahas, Dean

**Office of Admissions and Registration**

Walid Moubayed, Dean

**Office of Student Affairs**

Antoine Gergess, Dean

**Careers Services**

Omayya Kuran, Director

**Athletics**

Tony Dib, Director

**Office of the Comptroller**

George Dahdah, Chief Financial and Business Officer

**Office of Procurement and Campus Services**

Philip Hawi, Director

**Office of Construction and Maintenance**

Nizam Houry, Director

**Office of Landscaping, Gardening and Agriculture**

Bassam Serhan, Director

**Office of Human Resources**

Tony Chammas, Director

**Office of Public Relations**

Georges Dorlian, Director

**Office of Development**

Haissam Haidar, Director

**Center for Economic and Capital Markets Research Center**

Paul Doueihi, Director

**Institute of the Environment**

Manal Nader, Director

**Institute of Aeronautics**

Oussama Jadayel, Director

**Institute of History, Archeology and Near Eastern Studies**

**Department of History and Documentations**

Souad Slim, Director

**Institute of History, Archeology, and Near Eastern Studies**  
**Department of Digital Humanities**  
Elie Dannaoui, Director

**Institute of History, Archeology, and Near Eastern Studies**  
**Department of Religious Art and Architecture**  
May Davie, Director

**Institute of History, Archeology, and Near Eastern Studies**  
**Department of Archaeology and Museology**  
Nadine Haroun, Director

**Information Technology Center**  
**Computer Center**  
Michel Habib, Director

**Information Systems**  
Jamil Kobrossi, Director

**Special Programs**  
John Nakat, Director

**The Issam M. Fares Library and Learning Center**  
Olga Ayoub, Director

# **BALAMAND: HISTORY AND EVOLUTION**

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## **DAYR AL-BALAMAND**

Dayr al-Balamand, or Belmont Abbey as it was named by the Cistercian monks who built it in 1175 AD, rises on a plateau which overlooks the Mediterranean to the West and the verdant olive groves of the al-Kurah district to the East. Belmont is French for “beautiful hill.” It is believed that the Belmont Abbey was constructed on the site of an ancient Byzantine Abbey.

The plan of the Abbey conforms to the communal life style of the Cistercian Order, with the main buildings surrounding the cloister in a concentric pattern. The size of the church indicates the presence at one time of a large community within the Abbey. The main hall, vaults of the capitulary halls, church gallery, kitchen, refectory, and cellars were all built in the Thirteenth Century. The western part of the church and the sacristies are probably the only sections that survive from the earlier Byzantine period. The stone bell tower with its four cornices, a typical mid-Twelfth Century design, still reigns over the Abbey and is the only such surviving tower in the East.

With the departure of the Cistercians from the region around 1289 the property reverted to the Greek Orthodox Church. The Abbey was rebuilt in 1603. The Abbey prospered and became an important center of Orthodox theology containing a vast library of manuscripts and religious books. The monks copied manuscripts for distribution to the other monasteries that proliferated in the al-Kurah district and its environs.

The Abbey became a sanctuary for the families of the region during times of political conflict, epidemics, or natural disasters. At the end of the Seventeenth Century and the beginning of the Eighteenth Century, the Abbey experienced a period of great prosperity, after which it suffered a decline in the wake of the schism that led to the rise of the Greek Catholic community.

The Greek Orthodox part of the complex, though relatively new, blends smoothly with the old Cistercian architecture, both in the building materials used and in the design. The church gallery was built in the Seventeenth Century, the capitulary hall was transformed into Saint George’s chapel, and the large entrance to the refectory made into a porch. The Church of Our Lady was enhanced with a new altar, a Seventeenth-Century iconostasis of sculpted wood, icons of great value, Persian tiles, and floors of white marble.

In 1833 a theological institute was established and authorized by the Ottoman authorities to offer instruction at elementary, secondary, and university levels. The institute adopted Arabic instead of Greek as the language of instruction. This resurgence alarmed those of the clergy who favored Greek hegemony, and the institute was closed down in 1840.

In 1921 the Abbey opened a high school for students of all persuasions who came from near and far away. It was closed down three years later, reopened in 1960, and remains to this day one of the finest educational institutions in the area.

In 1966 a building for the newly established Theological Institute was made possible through a grant from the Antiochian Orthodox Archbishop of North America, Metropolitan Antony Bashir. His successor, Metropolitan Philip Saliba, continues his generous support to the Institute.

In 1970 the Institute was renamed the Saint John of Damascus Institute of Theology after its patron Saint John of Damascus, an eminent eighth century theologian. In the 1970s, the Institute flourished under the leadership of Bishop Hazim, who later became the Patriarch.

A massive restoration program has been undertaken in the Abbey leading to the restoration of the church, the icons, and the many magnificent halls that were, until recently, in utter disrepair. The Great Hall of the Abbey has now become the venue for lectures, concerts, and recitals, and a major center of cultural activity in North Lebanon. Work is proceeding on two important halls to serve as museums of anthropology and of archaeology.

The Abbey is now under the direction of His Eminence Bishop Ghattas Hazim. It is in continuing interaction with the faculty and students of the University in the full belief that the Abbey and the University are as complementary to each other as faith is to reason.

In 1988, The University of Balamand was founded.

## **THE UNIVERSITY**

The birth of a University often depends on the fortunate confluence of a number of factors. Of these factors, perhaps the most important is the presence of one individual who acted as guide, goad, and catalyst.

Late Patriarch Ignatius IV, the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and all the East, who had served previously as the Abbot of the Balamand Abbey, believed the time was opportune in 1988 to establish a University. By then, the events were calling for action. The Lebanese war was coming to an end, and concerned citizens were faced with the legacy of a war that had raged since 1975. Lebanese society was in disarray. North Lebanon, generally marginal in state planning, was further marginalized and impoverished during the long war. Confessional thinking and parochial loyalties were exacerbated, threatening future divisions in the society. Ethical standards and spiritual principles were greatly compromised.

The Late Patriarch, in consultation with his bishops and leading figures in the community, decided to establish a university that would issue forth from the Greek Orthodox community but would be a full-fledged university serving the cause of knowledge and the interests of the community, Lebanon, the Arab East, and Lebanese communities abroad.

As the extensive Balamand property in the al-Kurah district is under the direct administration of the Patriarchate, the Patriarchate allocated a scenic hill of 454,000-m<sup>2</sup> (45.4 Hectares) overlooking the Mediterranean to be used as a University campus. Construction began in 1988, the year the University was licensed by the Lebanese Government, and has continued at a rapid pace. Buildings accommodating the Faculties of Arts and Social Sciences, Engineering, Graphic Design, Interior Design, Sciences, Business and Management, Medicine and Medical Sciences, and the School of Tourism and Hotel Management have been completed. The Student Union building and the Administration building were completed in 2004. All buildings have been donated by Lebanese and Arab benefactors.

When it was founded, the University of Balamand incorporated two previously independent programs - the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts (ALBA) and the Saint John of Damascus Institute of Theology. Alexis Boutros founded ALBA, the first exclusively Lebanese institute of higher learning, in the 1930s. It joined the University of Balamand in 1988 and brought with it rigorous and well-established programs in architecture, decorative arts, plastic arts, and urban studies.

Similarly, the Institute of Theology, founded in 1970, had enjoyed an established record for some two decades in graduating theologians and spiritual leaders before it joined the University. The Saint John of Damascus Institute of Theology is the Faculty through which the University delves into Orthodox theology, culture and history, and through it, the University hopes to further the revival of Balamand Abbey as a vibrant spiritual center.

The Government decree of 1988 authorized the establishment of the University of Balamand starting with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. Académie Libanaise des Beaux Arts (ALBA), and the Institute of Theology. Five years later, four more Faculties were added. These are the Faculty of Sciences, the Faculty of Engineering, the Faculty of Business and Management, and the Faculty of Health Sciences. A Government decree of 1999 authorized the establishment of the Saint George's Faculty of Post Graduate

Medical Education and the University Institute of Technology, the Government decree of 2000 authorized the establishment of the Faculty of Medicine & Medical Sciences. The latest is the Faculty of Library and Information Studies which was established in 2012.

The University follows the American educational model. The language of instruction is English, but the University also offers programs in French and Arabic. The entire program of ALBA, Sin el Fil campus, is taught in French, while its programs at the Main Campus are taught in English.

A Board of Trustees made up of leading Lebanese and Arab personalities and chaired by His Beatitude the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and all the East governs the University. The Board of Trustees elects the president of the University and, upon the recommendation of the president, appoints deans, directors, and faculty members in the ranks of associate and full professors.

The president and the deans, and directors, working as a University Council, manage the University by consensus. Similarly, each Faculty has its own council, thus involving faculty members in decision making.

The first president of the University was Dr. George Tohmeh (1988-1990), a Syrian professor of philosophy and history and a prominent diplomat. He was followed by His Excellency Mr. Ghassan Tuani

(1990-1993), a leading Lebanese statesman, diplomat, and journalist. The current president, Dr. Elie A. Salem, served as Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at the American University of Beirut and as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The immediate agenda of the University is to strengthen existing programs, expand existing Faculties, and attract highly qualified faculty and students. The University is new and it must proceed with innovation, fortitude, and determination, conscious always of its commitment to inspire the new generation and to better serve the needs of society.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The University of Balamand is a private non-profit independent Lebanese institution of Higher Education. It was founded in 1988 by the Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and All the East upon the direction of Patriarch Ignatius IV. The University admits students from Lebanon and the Region at large without discrimination on the basis of religion, gender, or physical handicap.

Inspired by the Tradition of the Antiochian Christian Orthodox Church in promoting the welfare of humanity and its highest values, the University commits itself to Christian-Muslim understanding, openness, tolerance, and compassion. The University is dedicated to graduating professionals who are well-rounded, critical thinkers, life-long learners, and active citizens in their societies.

The University seeks to limit the influence of dogmatism and fundamentalism in intellectual, social, political, religious and cultural manifestations. The University believes in responsible freedom, in the role of reason in uncovering truth, and in the deepening of human existence under God. Through quality education, rigorous research, concern for public good, and engagement with the community, the University seeks to contribute to nation building, ethical standards, inter-cultural dialogue, environmental responsibility, and human development.

## **FACULTIES OF THE UNIVERSITY**

The University of Balamand has 10 Faculties and one Institute: Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts, Saint John of Damascus Institute of Theology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Faculty of Sciences, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Business and Management, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, the Saint George's Faculty of Postgraduate Medical Education (located in the Saint George's Health Complex in Achrafieh, Beirut), Issam M. Fares Faculty of Technology, and the Faculty of Library and Information Studies.

The language of instruction in the various Faculties/Institutes is as follows:

<b>Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts</b>	English/French
<b>Saint John of Damascus Institute of Theology</b>	Arabic, English, and Greek
<b>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences</b>	English, French, and Arabic
<b>Faculty of Business and Management</b>	English
<b>Faculty of Sciences</b>	English
<b>Faculty of Engineering</b>	English
<b>Faculty of Health Sciences</b>	English/French
<b>Saint George's Faculty of Postgraduate Medical Education</b>	English
<b>Faculty of Medicine &amp; Medical Sciences</b>	English
<b>Issam M. Fares Faculty of Technology</b>	English/French
<b>Faculty of Library and Information Studies</b>	English/French

*N.B: Saint George's Faculty of Postgraduate Medical Education, and the Faculty of Medicine & Medical Sciences offer only graduate and postgraduate degrees.*

*N.B: Issam M. Fares Faculty of Technology offers only undergraduate degrees.*

**P.S: See other language requirements under the various Faculties.**

## ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

The degrees granted by the University of Balamand, like the degrees of all universities operating in Lebanon and licensed by its Government are recognized worldwide. The University of Balamand offers curricula leading to degrees in more than 56 Graduate majors, 1 Post-Graduate major, 1 Doctor of Medicine, 1 Doctor of philosophy, 26 Medical Speciality Degree programs.

These degrees are distributed as follows:

<b>Programs</b>	<b>Degrees</b>
<b>Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts (ALBA)-Sin El Fil-Beirut</b>	
Architecture	Licence
Arts Décoratifs	Licence
-Section Arts Graphiques et Publicité:	Licence
* Graphisme et Publicité	Licence
* Illustration - Bande Dessinée	Licence
* Animation 2D/3D	Licence
* Graphisme-Multimédia	Licence
*Photographie	Licence
-Section Architecture Intérieure	Licence
* Architecture Intérieure	Licence
-Section Design	Licence
* Design Produit	Licence
Arts visuels	Licence
Cinéma et Réalisation Audiovisuelle	Licence
-Réalisation Audiovisuelle	Licence
-Television	B.F.A.
Institut D'Urbanisme	Licence
-Architecture du Paysage	Licence
<b>Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts (ALBA) Balamand-Al Kurah</b>	
Architecture	B.S.
Interior Architecture and Design	B.F.A.
Computer Graphics and Interactive Media	B.F.A.
Graphic Design	B.F.A.
Art Teaching Diploma	T.D.
<b>Saint John of Damascus Institute of Theology</b>	
Theology	B.Th.
<b>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences-Balamand-Al Kurah</b>	
Languages, Translation	B.A., Diploma
Arabic Language and Literature	B.A., T.D.
French Language and Literature	B.A., T.D.
English Language and Literature	B.A., T.D.
Psychology	B.A.

Education	B.A., T.D.
Physical Education	B.A., T.D.
Mass Media and Communication	B.A.
History	B.A.
Philosophy	B.A.
Political Science and International Affairs	B.A.
<b>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences-Souk El Gharb-Aley</b>	
Education	B.A.
Mass Communication	B.A.
<b>Faculty of Business and Management</b>	
Business and Management	B.B.A., T.D.
Economics	B.S., T.D.
Tourism and Hotel Management	B.B.A.
<b>Faculty of Business and Management-Souk El Gharb-Aley</b>	
Business and Management	B.B.A.
<b>Faculty of Sciences</b>	
Computer Science	B.S., T.D.
-Information Systems	
-Software Engineering	
Mathematics	B.S., T.D.
Physics	B.S., T.D.
Chemistry	B.S., T.D.
Biology	B.S., T.D.
Environmental Sciences	B.S.
<b>Faculty of Sciences-Souk El Gharb-Aley</b>	
Biology	B.S.
Computer Science	B.S.
-Information Systems	B.S.
-Software Engineering	B.S.
<b>Faculty of Engineering</b>	
Computer Engineering	B.S./B.E.
Electrical Engineering	B.S./B.E.
Civil Engineering	B.S./B.E.
Mechanical Engineering	B.S./B.E.
Chemical Engineering	B.S./B.E.
<b>Faculty of Health Sciences-Balamand-Al Kurah and St.Georges Health Complex- Achrafieh</b>	
Nursing	B.S.
Public Health and Development Sciences	B.S.
Medical Laboratory Sciences	B.S.

Health Promotion	B.S.
Nutritional Sciences	B.S.
<b>Faculty of Health Sciences-Souk El Gharb-Aley</b>	
Nursing	B.S.
Public Health and Development Sciences	B.S.
Nutritional Sciences	B.S.
Medical Laboratory Sciences	B.S.
<b>Issam M. Fares Faculty of Technology-Balamand-Al Kurah</b>	
Aircraft Maintenance Engineering	B.Tech.
Mechatronics Engineering	B.Tech.
Telecommunications and Networks Engineering	B.Tech.
Business Management and Administration	B.Tech.
Agricultural Engineering	B.Tech.
<b>Issam M. Fares Faculty of Technology-Beino-Akkar</b>	
Aircraft Maintenance Engineering	B.Tech.
Mechatronics Engineering	B.Tech.
Telecommunications and Networks Engineering	B.Tech.
Business Management and Administration	B.Tech.
Civil Engineering and Construction	B.Tech.
Agricultural Engineering	B.Tech.
<b>Issam M. Fares Faculty of Technology-Souk El Gharb-Aley</b>	
Mechatronics Engineering	B.Tech.
Civil Engineering and Construction	B.Tech.
<b>Faculty of Library and Information Studies-Balamand-Al Kurah</b>	
Library and Information Science	B.L.S.
<b>Faculty of Library and Information Studies-Souk El Gharb-Aley</b>	
Library and Information Science	B.L.S.

**Abbreviations:** **B.A.:** Bachelor of Arts **B.A.A.S.:** Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies  
**B.E.:** Bachelor of Engineering **B.S.:** Bachelor of Science **B.B.A.:** Bachelor of Business Administration  
**B.L.S.** Bachelor Degree in Library & Information Science **B.Th:** Bachelor of Theology **T.D.:** Teaching Diploma **B.Tech:** Bachelor of Technology

# **ACADEMIC SUPPORT FACILITIES**

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## **LIBRARIES**

The University of Balamand Library System is the key resource and service gateway of the institution. It includes five libraries: the Issam Fares Library Learning Center; two ALBA libraries, one in Sin-al-Fil and the other on the Main Campus; the Library of the Saint John of Damascus Institute of Theology; and the Habib and Fouad Abi Chahla Medical Library in Achrafieh. They all work to provide resources and assistance to students, faculty, staff and the UOB neighboring community in general.

Some of the sources available include print and online books and journals, online databases, and multimedia resources. The Library, likewise, holds a series of Special Collections (including the Nour Fares Collection (18th and 19th century travels in the Middle East), and the Scaife Collection (English literature and history). Furthermore, the Theology Institute Library has a unique collection on Eastern Christianity and a valuable set of Arabic and Syriac manuscripts while the ALBA Library has the complete personal library of Alexis Boutros, the founder of ALBA. Borrowing privileges, online searches and resources access, current awareness services, article delivery, interlibrary loan, and facilities reservation are some of the many services provided. The Library also offers a significant service of continuous instructional programs to all its users in order to enhance information literacy leading to a more efficient and effective use of information available both in the Library and on the Internet.

## **LABORATORIES**

Students have access to several laboratories (biology, physics, chemistry, computer, civil, chemical, anatomy, electronics, and surveying) located in the various Faculties. Laboratory supervisors are available to assist students. Programs to establish networking for computer laboratories with other universities and access to data servers are in progress.

## **STUDENT LIFE**

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### **STATEMENT OF POLICY FOR STUDENTS**

The aim of the University of Balamand is to create and maintain a community where each student may pursue studies in an atmosphere of academic freedom and co-operation in a climate of tolerance and mutual respect. Students are encouraged to express themselves and to pursue activities within the Policies and Regulations of the University. Activities of divisive partisan character that impair the spirit of the University are prohibited.

### **OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

The Office of Student Affairs is responsible for students' extracurricular activities. It coordinates a variety of social and athletic activities, enriching students' experiences in various areas.

The Office holds various events and functions throughout the academic year, bringing together faculty members, staff members, students, and often members of the community.

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

#### **CAMPUS LIFE AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT**

Clubs and Societies represent a wide variety of interests in which students experience growth outside the classroom setting. Professional staff members and advisors are available to assist individuals forming a club or society, and to advise registered groups.

Students are encouraged to join clubs and societies and participate in social, cultural and athletic events.

A current list of clubs and societies includes the following: 18+ Club, Adventure Club, Animal Impact

Club, Anti-Discrimination Group, ALBA Society, Bader Club, Business Students Society, Ciné Club, Cultural Club, Cross Country Cycling Club, Debate Club, Dorms Club, Engineering Students Society, Engineering Without Borders, Folk Dance Club, Freethinkers Club, Highlights Club, Hospitality Students Society, Interactive Club, Knowledge Club, Leisure & Fun Club, LeMSIC Club, Mass Communication Club, Medical Students Society, Mediterranean Development Forum, Music Club, Meaningful Youth Club, Nature Club, Nursing Society, Nutri- Club, Oriental Choir, Photography Club, Political Science Club, Psychology Club, Red Cross Youth Club, Science Meets Art, Social Club, Society & Community Club, Science Students Society, Theater Club, UOB Internet Society, UNESCO Club, and Ushering Committee.

The Student Activities' Center at Zakhem Building offers an assortment of educational, recreational and cultural programs for the campus community. It coordinates the facilities, services and programs designed to meet the campus out-of-classroom needs. The Center also serves as the administrative liaison to student clubs and societies.

Campus traditions include: a welcoming reception for new students at the beginning of the Fall semester, flag raising on Independence Day (November 22<sup>nd</sup>), a Halloween Party (December 4<sup>th</sup>), an Iftar the Holy month of Ramadan, a Christmas Festival (week of December 25<sup>th</sup>), teacher appreciation day, students appreciation day, a Spring Festival (last week of May), Founder's Day (June 4<sup>th</sup>), the Awards Ceremony (last week of the Spring Semester) and the Graduation Exercises (3<sup>rd</sup> week in July).

The Campus Life and Student Development Office is located in Zakhem building, Office of Student Affairs, Room 120. Working hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. Telephone: 06/930250, ext: 3935. Email: clubs@balamand.edu.lb

### **THE ATHLETICS SECTION OF THE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.**

The University of Balamand Athletics Department provides services in concert with the mission of the University and the underlying mission of the Office of Student Affairs. These are best characterized by the goal of accessibility. The athletic activities' mission is to be accessible to students of all skills, abilities and interests, and to provide an extra curricular environment which will enrich learning and personal growth. In providing this learning environment, the program places emphasis on the academic success of Student Athletes, the fair and equitable treatment of women and men, the principles of fair play and amateur and semi-professional athletics competition and the health and welfare of Student Athletes.

The University of Balamand presents Varsity Teams in: volleyball (men + women), soccer (men), futsal (men + women), basketball (men + women), track and field (men + women), tennis (men + women), table tennis (men + women), swimming (men + women), badminton (men + women), squash (men + women), handball (men), martial arts (men + women), rugby (men) and parkour (men + women). Other sports activities include bootcamp, aerobics and fitness, body-building and Yoga.

The Varsity Teams participate in tournaments organized by the University of Balamand and other universities in Lebanon as well as tournaments organized by the Lebanese Federation for University Sports. They also participate in international sports tournaments.

The Varsity Teams utilize a number of on-campus and other public and private venues for practice and competition. The Hariri Gymnasium, the Philip Saliba Stadium and the tennis courts of the new athletic complex serve as the headquarters for the athletics programs on the main campus in El-Koura.

# **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

As a community committed to intellectual endeavors, the University of Balamand recognizes honesty as the foundation of the academic activities of its faculty members and students. UOB strives to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and judgment they need to function in society as educated adults. Falsifying or fabricating the results of one's research, presenting the words, ideas, data, or work of another as one's own, or cheating on an examination corrupts the essential process of higher education.

## **2. GUIDELINES FOR ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students assume full responsibility for the content and integrity of the coursework they submit. The following are guidelines to assist students in observing academic integrity:

- Students must do their own work and submit only their own work on examinations, reports, and projects, unless otherwise asked by the instructor. Students are urged to contact their instructor about appropriate citation guidelines.
- Students may benefit from working in groups. They may collaborate or cooperate with other students on graded assignments or examinations if instructed to do so by the instructor.
- Students must follow all written and/or verbal instructions given by instructors prior to taking examinations, placement assessments, tests, quizzes, and evaluations.
- Students are responsible for adhering to course requirements as specified by the instructor in the course syllabus.

## **3. FORMS OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following:

- a. Plagiarism is intentionally or carelessly passing off another person's work as one's own. It is taking and using information, ideas, opinions, theories or another person's actual words or source without acknowledging the source, thereby creating the impression that the work is one's own.

Plagiarism can occur in the following ways:

- i. Using text from another source (e. g. books, journals, newspapers, web sites, etc.) without documenting the source
  - ii. Using direct quotation (the exact words or verbatim) from a text without quotation marks, even if the source has been cited correctly
  - iii. Paraphrasing or summarizing the ideas or text of another work without documenting the source
  - iv. Substituting a word or phrase for the original while maintaining the original sentence structure or intent of the passage with or without citing the source
  - v. Using graphics, visual imagery, video or audio material without permission of the author (or publisher) or acknowledgment of the source
  - vi. Translating text from one language to another without citing the original work
  - vii. Obtaining packaged information, foreign language translation or a completed paper from an on-line source and submitting it as one's own work without acknowledgment of the source
  - viii. Presenting the work of another as one's own.
- b. Cheating is giving or receiving, or attempting to give or receive any unauthorized aid during an examination to improve a grade or obtain course credit. Cheating is not limited to examination situations alone, but arises whenever students attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage.
  - c. Duplicate Use of Written Work is the submission of the same paper, or substantially similar papers for two different courses without the consent of the instructors.

#### **4. PENALTIES FOR ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

- 4.1. If a student is found guilty of violating academic integrity policies, any one or a combination of the following penalties may be imposed:
- Failure of the assignment, project, or examination on which the student was found to be academically dishonest.
  - Failure of the course in consultation with the Dean. Such offense will be documented in the student's record to note repeat offenders.
- 4.2. Any case of cheating will automatically result in a grade of zero on the assignment in question. Repeat offenders must be administratively dropped from the course, with a grade of 40, and referred to the University Disciplinary Committee which will consider suspension or expulsion from the university.
- 4.3. The Faculty Dean may also raise the case to the University Disciplinary Committee where the latter may issue the following disciplinary sanctions after a hearing, in accordance with the Academic Integrity and Copyright Policies:
- Placement on Academic Probation
  - Suspension from the University for a definite period of time ranging from a semester to a full academic year
  - Dismissal from the University.

#### **5. ENCOURAGING RESPONSIBLE WORK**

Faculty members should encourage students to do responsible work. This is best accomplished by designing assignments, which require students to draw on their personal skills and do their own work. Lists of possible assignments duplicated/little changed from year to year should be avoided.

#### **6. PLAGIARISM STATEMENT FOR SYLLABUS**

Faculty members are requested to include a statement on plagiarism in the syllabus of each course and make reference to the UOB Policy on Academic Integrity and Copyright.

### **ACADEMIC COPYRIGHT POLICY**

#### **1. DEFINITIONS**

According to the Oxford English Dictionary, copyright is “the exclusive right given by law for a certain term of years to an author, composer, designer, etc. (or his assignee), to print, publish, and sell copies of his original work.”

The Lebanese Copyright Law endorsed on April 3, 1999, and entered into force on June 6, 1999 “has now extended to computer software, video films and all kinds of audio-visual works. The law now provides stiffer penalties for offenders and better compensation to the persons whose rights have been infringed. The manner in which the copyright is breached has also been extended.” (as stated on the website of the Ministry of Economy and Trade).

The Lebanese Copyright Law makes it illegal to import, make, distribute, sell, or rent copies of copyrighted materials without authorization from the owner. No copies except one backup copy are allowed without the specific authorization of the copyright owner.

#### **2. FAIR USE:**

“Fair use,” a concept embedded in the law, recognizes that certain uses of copyright-protected works do not require permission from the copyright holder or its agent. These include instances of minimal use that do not interfere with the copyright holder's exclusive rights to reproduce and reuse the work.

The Lebanese law does allow the practice of “fair use,” a legal concept that allows the reproduction of

copyrighted material for certain purposes without obtaining permission and without paying a fee or royalty. Purposes permitting the application of “fair use” generally include reviewing, news reporting, teaching, and scholarly research.

Chapter VI of the Lebanese Copyright Law (Exceptions) Item 25 & 26 on the Protection of Literary and Artistic Property (No. 75 of April 3, 1999) states that

25. “... It shall also be permitted, without the authorization of the author and without obligation to pay him compensation, to use a limited part of any legally published work for purposes of criticism, argumentation or citation or for an educational purpose, provided that the part used does not exceed what is necessary and customary. **However, the name of the author and the source shall always be indicated, if the name of the author is included in the work.**

26. It shall be permitted, without the authorization of the author and without obligation to pay him compensation, to copy or reproduce articles published in newspapers and magazines or short excerpts of a work, provided that it is done solely for educational purposes and within the necessary limits of such purpose. **If the names of the author(s) and the publisher appear on the original work, they shall be mentioned in each and every use of the copy of the article or work.”**

### **3. WHAT CAN BE PHOTOCOPIED?**

A single photocopy of a portion of a copyright-protected work, such as:

1. A maximum of three (3) chapters from a book (never the entire book);
2. An article from a periodical or newspaper;
3. A short story, essay, or poem. One work is the norm whether it comes from an individual work or an anthology;
4. A chart, graph, diagram, drawing, cartoon or picture from a book, periodical, or newspaper.

**However, in all cases, the name of the author and the source should always be indicated.**

### **4. WHAT SHOULD BE AVOIDED?**

1. Making multiple copies of different works that could substitute for the purchase of books, publisher’s reprints, or periodicals;
2. Copying the same works from semester to semester;
3. Copying the same material for several different courses at the same or different institutions.

### **5. WHEN IS PERMISSION REQUIRED?**

1. When the material is used for commercial purposes
2. When the material is used repeatedly
3. When a work longer than 2,500 words is used in its entirety

### **6. WHAT ARE THE PENALTIES?**

The University of Balamand does not condone nor tolerate the unauthorized copying of licensed material by staff, faculty, or students. The University shall adhere to its contractual responsibilities and shall comply with all copyright laws, and expects all members of the University community to do so as well.

Members of the University community who violate this policy may be subject to discipline through standard University procedures. It falls on the Dean and faculty members to report such cases. Subject to the facts and circumstances of each case, such individuals shall be solely responsible for their defense and any resulting liability.

## **7. FOR FURTHER INFO:**

Complete version of the Law on the Protection of Literary and Artistic Property (No. 75 of April 3, 1999) can be found at the following website:

*<http://www.economy.gov.lb/MOET/English/Panel/IPR/Copyright>*

## **DISCIPLINARY PROBATION**

Illegal actions and misconduct such as cheating on tests, plagiarism, and disrupting classes and examinations are subject to disciplinary action. A student placed on disciplinary probation is not eligible to receive financial aid during the period of probation. Upon recommendation of the Faculty in which the student is enrolled, the student may be removed from disciplinary probation after one semester. In cases of severe or repeated infractions of University regulations, a student will be subject to suspension or dismissal from the University.

## **FINANCIAL AID AND STUDENT WORK PROGRAM**

Financial aid is given to qualified and needy students whose financial situation cannot cover educational costs. University financial assistance may be in the form of either scholarships (partial or full), student work, or deferred payment of tuition fees. Students should submit an application for financial aid to the Office of Financial Aid and/or an application for student work to the Office of Student Affairs.

Students should comply with the following:

1. Be enrolled as regular students
2. Have a good academic record
3. Be in financial need
4. Should not be on disciplinary probation.

- Continuing students who are interested in applying for financial aid for the next academic year should apply by mid May.

- New students may also apply for financial aid and submit the applications by mid October (if joining UOB in the Fall semester ) or by mid March (if joining UOB in the Spring semester).

- Deffered payment is handeled during the registration process through the Comptroller's Office.

- Student work opportunities are available on Campus. Jobs vary from clerical work to laboratory and library assistance. Student work applications should be completed and submitted online at the following link: [www.balamand.edu.lb/OSA/studentwork](http://www.balamand.edu.lb/OSA/studentwork) at the end of each semester. New students are not eligible for student work.

## **SIBLING GRANT**

A Sibling Grant (7.5% for second, 12.5% for third) is given when two or more brothers and/or sisters are registered at the University of Balamand. No application is needed to qualify for this Grant.

## **UNDERGRADUATE MERIT SCHOLARSHIP**

Full-time undergraduate students who are placed on the Dean's Honor List and demonstrate academic excellence by achieving a semester general grade average of at least 85 out of 100 are eligible for a merit scholarship. For more details, contact the Office of Admissions & Registration. No application is needed to qualify for this scholarship.

## **STUDENT HOUSING**

Dormitory building accommodating 95 male students and another accommodating 188 female students are available. Each dormitory has single, double, and triple rooms with shared kitchens and bathrooms. Reservations should be made in July for the fall semester, in December for the spring semester, and in June for the summer semester. Reasonable rentals for students may also be found in nearby cities and villages.

## **FOOD SERVICE**

The Cafeteria located in Zakhem Building is a great place to go for everything from a quick snack to breakfast, hot meals, soup and sandwiches, munchies, fresh fruit, salads and hot and cold beverages. In addition to the many items on its regular menu, the cafeteria features daily specials and special holiday meals. A Kiosk that serves quick snacks and sandwiches is located in Khoury Building. Operating hours are Monday - Friday (8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.). Other dining services are also available in the parking building facing the UOB main gate.

## **SHUTTLE SERVICE**

A shuttle service (for free) is available on campus to facilitate transportation between different buildings. A bus commuting system is also provided to and from the University to the city of Tripoli at a reasonable cost.

## **MEDICAL SERVICES**

The University offers medical services to students in an infirmary located in the Student Activities Center equipped to deal with minor medical problems. All students are insured against accidents that occur within the University or while using its facilities.

## **ADMISSIONS**

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The Office of Admissions and Registration processes admission to all University Faculties. All inquiries, requests for application forms, and correspondence must be sent to the Office of Admissions and Registration.

### **SELECTION OF APPLICANTS**

The University Admissions Committee, based on the recommendations of the Faculty sub-committees, selects applicants for admission. The Office of Admissions and Registration is responsible for handling admissions procedures.

### **ADMISSION POLICY**

Applicants to the Sophomore Class must hold the Lebanese Baccalaureate or its equivalent.

The University admits qualified students without regard to race, color, sex, religion, age, physical handicap, or national origin.

The University receives applications on dates announced by the Office of Admissions and Registration. Application forms are obtained from the Office of Admissions and Registration.

The Office of Admissions and Registration provides notification of the time and place of the required entrance examinations.

### **RECORD OF NATIONALITY**

The student's nationality as stated on the application form may not be changed after enrolment.

### **PROBATIONAL ADMISSION**

Applicants who do not meet University admissions requirements may be granted, upon the recommendation of the Admissions Committee, conditional acceptance. This acceptance continues until the end of the first regular semester. (See requirements of appropriate Faculty).

### **ACADEMIC ADVISING**

Each department provides its students with a faculty advisor who helps students select their courses and work out their academic programs in the context of the requirements of the department concerned and the interests and capabilities of the student.

## **FEES AND EXPENSES (2015-2016)**

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### **APPLICATION FEE**

Applicants must complete the University Application Admission Form and pay an application fee of L.L.113,000. This fee is not refundable.

### **ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS FEES**

<i>Entrance Exams</i>	<i>Non-refundable Fees</i>	
	<i>Lebanese Pounds</i>	<i>US Dollars</i>
Languages (per test)	60,000	40
TOEFL	135,000	90
SAT On Campus	210,000	140
Interview	60,000	40
Drawing	60,000	40
Medical Examination	120,000	80
Physical Examination (Sports)	60,000	40

### **TUITION FEES**

<i>Program</i>	<i>Tuition / Credit Hour</i>	
	<i>Lebanese Pounds</i>	<i>US Dollars</i>
Freshman	641,000	425
Arts and Social Sciences	572,000	379
Business and Management	633,000	420
Sciences	641,000	425
Health Sciences	641,000	425
Engineering	708,000	470
ALBA-Sin El Fil Campus*	347,000	230
Architectural Project*	347,000	230
ALBA-Balamand Campus	541,000	359
Technology	362,000	240
Library and Information Studies	572,000	379

\*ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) offered at Sin el-Fil Campus where French is the language of Instruction.

## **RESIDENCE FEES PER USD (PER SEMESTER)**

<i>Rooms</i>	<i>Freij</i>		<i>Bait Al Talibat</i>	
	<i>Fall/Spring</i>	<i>Summer</i>	<i>Fall/Spring</i>	<i>Summer</i>
<b>Single</b>	<b>2,060</b>	<b>1,373</b>	<b>2,160</b>	<b>1,440</b>
<b>Double</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>1,160</b>	<b>773</b>
<b>Triple</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>480</b>		

## **LIBRARY AND LABORATORY DEPOSIT FEE**

A library and laboratory deposit fee of L.L. 250,000 is required of every student enrolling in UOB. This deposit is held until the student graduates or discontinues his course of study, at which time the deposit, minus debts incurred, will be returned.

## **NATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY FUND (NSSF)-MEDICAL BRANCH**

Lebanese Law requires Lebanese students to enroll in the NSSF medical branch. The fee for the year is L.L. 202,500.

## **STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE**

A fee of L.L. 190,000 is charged every semester to cover student activities.

## **INTERNET FEE**

A fee of L.L. 40,000 is charged every semester to cover internet use.

## **LATE REGISTRATION FEE**

A L.L. 100,000 late registration fee is charged to all students who register during the late registration period.

## **DEFERRED PAYMENT**

Students who fail to honor a deferred payment arrangement are charged a late payment fee of L.L.50,000.

## **METHOD OF PAYMENT**

Payment should be made by certified bank check or banker's check payable to the University of Balamand at the Cashier's Office or as a cash deposit in the University's bank accounts.

## **WITHDRAWALS**

If a duly registered student withdraws for justifiable reasons, the following refund schedule will be applied:

1. Before the official beginning of classes 75% of tuition
2. During the first week of classes 50% of tuition
3. During the second week of classes 25% of tuition

**Refunds are not made for the summer session.**

**Note: The University reserves the right to change any or all fees at any time without prior notice. Such changes are applicable to students currently registered in the University as well as to new students.**

## **REGISTRATION**

Registration at the appointed time is required of all students in accordance with announced procedures and regulations. Late registration is subject to a late registration fee.

New students must make sure that clearance for admission, as specified in the Letter of Admission, is made at the Office of Admissions and Registration before proceeding to registration. Identification cards are issued to all students upon completion of registration.

## **CROSS-REGISTRATION**

### **A. Students enrolled at the UOB may take courses at other Universities**

A student registered at the University of Balamand may be allowed to cross-register at other institutions if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The semester for which the course is to be cross-registered is the semester at the end of which the student expects to graduate.
2. The course in which the student intends to cross-register is equivalent to a course offered by the University of Balamand.
3. The course is required of the student by the University of Balamand.
4. The course is not offered at the University of Balamand during the semester at the end of which the student expects to graduate.
5. The Chairman of the Department in which the student is majoring sends the Office of Admissions and Registration a written statement confirming that all of the conditions listed above have been met.

### **B. Students enrolled at other universities taking courses at the UOB**

For purposes of cross-registration, students studying at other universities who wish to take courses at the University of Balamand should complete the following procedures:

1. Secure the permission of their institution to take specified courses at the University of Balamand.
2. Secure the permission of the Faculty concerned at the University of Balamand.
3. Present these written permissions to the Office of Admissions and Registration at the University of Balamand.
4. Register in accordance with the instructions specified in the registration procedure.

## **PASSPORTS AND VISAS**

Foreign students need to have passports that are valid for at least one year from the date of their joining the University. They should secure an entry visa to Lebanon from the Lebanese embassy or consulate in their home country. The Office of Admissions and Registration provides the necessary documents for admitted and registered foreign students to acquire Lebanese official residence permits.

## **NATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY FUND (NSSF) MEDICAL BRANCH**

(Applicable to Lebanese students only) To facilitate enrollment in the NSSF medical branch, Lebanese students, whose membership in the NSSF is mandatory, must have the following items with them at registration:

1. A duly completed social security application form (this form will be distributed at the time of registration).
2. A photocopy of the Lebanese identity card or family record.
3. The NSSF number (if already registered).
4. The NSSF number of either parent.
5. 30% of the legal minimum salary as a fee for the year.

## **MEDICAL RECORD**

The Entrance Medical Record Form is sent only to new students who have already been accepted for admission to the University. It should be completed by the student's family physician and returned at the specified date. Information will be kept confidential.

## **PAYMENT OF FEES**

1. Fees must be paid in full following registration every semester. Deferred payments will only be agreed to under specific circumstances and must be arranged before registration.
2. Students who fail to honor a deferred payment arrangement forfeit the right to apply for deferred payment arrangements in future semesters. The Comptroller's Office will notify the Office of Admissions and Registration to withhold grades, future registration privileges, transcripts, diplomas, and other academic information until the account is settled.

## **CHANGE OF MAJOR**

1. Students wishing to transfer from one major to another within any Faculty or from one Faculty to another may do so only after they have completed at least one semester of work in their current majors.
2. The transfer request should be submitted to the Office of Admissions and Registration during the month of November for the following spring semester and during the first half of the month of August for the Fall semester.
3. Students may change their major twice in the same Faculty.
4. Student requesting to shift to another major may stay in their Faculty as a majorless student for one semester only. A summer session in which the student registers for 6 credits or more is counted as one regular semester.
5. The departments and the Admissions Committee of the Faculty concerned must approve all transfers.

## **NAMES ON DIPLOMAS AND DEGREES**

1. Names on degrees and diplomas will be spelled exactly as they appear on passports or identity cards. Lebanese law requires Lebanese students to write their first name, father's name, and family name in that order.
2. Names on the University of Balamand degrees and diplomas appear in Arabic and in English or French. If a name on a passport or an identity card does not appear in any of these languages, the name will be spelled on the University of Balamand degrees and diplomas according to the personal preference of the student concerned in this application form.

# **INFORMATION FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS**

## **DEGREES**

Please refer to “Academic Offerings”.

## **UNIVERSITY ORIENTATION PROGRAM (UOP)**

The University of Balamand offers an Intensive Language Program and a Remedial Program that prepare students for the language aptitude entrance examinations required by the different departments at the University.

Failure to meet language requirements set by the University may place a student in the Intensive Language Program. This Program helps the student improve his/her language ability. Students have a period of one year to fulfill the language requirements and to join the regular program; otherwise they will have to reapply to the University.

The Remedial Program is designed to prepare students who completed their secondary education outside Lebanon and those who obtained the appropriate technical baccalaureate for the entrance examinations set by the University. Cases are studied individually and acceptances are issued upon the recommendation of the Admissions Committee. Students have a period of one year to finish this program. At the end of this year they must retake the required entrance examinations.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

An individual file is prepared for every applicant at the Office of Admissions and Registration. It includes:

- 1- Application form and a non-refundable fee of \$ 75 (L.L. 113,000).
- 2- Photocopy of the applicant’s identity card and passport, if available.
- 3- Three recent passport size photos.
- 4- Grades for the three years of schooling prior to the year in which the student is submitting the application. Average and rank in class are needed. School grades must be submitted in by the school administration in sealed envelopes.
- 5- SAT is required of all the undergraduate applicants except for transfer students. Students are responsible for registering and taking the SAT. Applicants planning to enroll in the spring semester, must take the SAT by the December testing session of the previous year. Applicants planning to enroll in the fall semester must take the test by the December testing session of the year before their planned enrollment. For students who take the SAT more than once, the University will use the highest score achieved in each section.
- 6- Applicants to the freshman class should:
  - a- Hold a secondary school certificate based on 12 years of schooling, starting with Grade One, awarded by government or private schools and recognized by the Lebanese Ministry of Education and by the University.
  - b- Obtain “permission” from the Equivalence Committee of the Lebanese Ministry of Education allowing them to pursue their higher education on the basis of a foreign program.
  - c- Take, prior to their admission, the SAT.
  - d- Take, either prior to their admission or during their Freshman year, SAT Subject Tests as follows:
    - Students who choose the sciences track should take:  
Mathematics II (obligatory) plus two tests chosen from Biology, Chemistry, or Physics.

-Students who choose the art track should take:

Mathematics I (obligatory) plus any two tests.

To be eligible for promotion to Sophomore class the applicant should obtain a minimum cumulative total score (SAT + SAT Subject Tests) of:

\* 2,750 for freshman sciences.

\* 2,600 for freshman arts.

**\* The attention of applicants is drawn to the following:**

- 1- Applicants, regardless of the outcome of the application process, may reclaim none of the documents mentioned above.
- 2- An application is valid only for the academic year for which a student has applied.
- 3- The name of the applicant will be recorded in University files as it appears on his/her identity card or passport.

## **ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND EXAMINATIONS**

### **CRITERIA AND ADMISSION PROCEDURE**

The criteria for acceptance are the entrance examinations assigned by the University (SAT or other Exams), the secondary-school grades, and the rank in class.

Priority of admission is generally given to the best-qualified applicants.

Students who are academically admissible but who fail to meet the University's language proficiency requirements set by the University may be placed in the University Orientation Program (UOP) for intensive language study.

### **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT**

#### **English Language Examination:**

Prior to registration at the University, students admitted to UOB must demonstrate a level of English proficiency consistent with the demands of a program carried on almost exclusively in the English language. This may be done in any one of the following ways:

<b><u>Test</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum Score Required</u></b>
TOEFL (Internet-based),	71 Or
TOEFL (Paper and pencil),	527 Or
SAT (Writing)	380 Or
IELTS	5.5

Institutional Paper and pencil TOEFL can be taken at UOB three times per year on published entrance exam dates at a cost of 135,000 L.L. (\$90).

Information and application forms for each of the above-mentioned tests can be obtained at the following addresses:

<b><u>TOEFL:</u></b>	Educational Testing Service	AMIDEAST
	Rosedale Road, PO Box 6155	OR
	Princeton, NJ, 08541-615	Riad El Solh, Bazerkan Bldg.
	USA	Beirut, Lebanon
		E-mail: <a href="mailto:Lebanon@AMIDEAST.org">Lebanon@AMIDEAST.org</a>

IELTS: Applicants may contact the British Council in their respective countries.

Upon registering for these tests, applicants must specify that results be sent to the Office of Admissions & Registration of UOB. For example, applicants who may choose to take the TOEFL / SAT must use the Institutional code number for UOB: 2960, when registering for the test.

### **French Language Examination (French Majors only):**

Candidates must demonstrate a level of French language proficiency consistent with the requirements of their program of study. To ascertain this proficiency, the candidate must pass the French Entrance Examination as required by the concerned Faculty. The examination includes:

- a. an objective section testing general linguistic knowledge,
- b. an essay testing written expression,
- c. an interview.

### **READMISSION**

Students in good standing who withdraw from the University voluntarily and who subsequently seek to return may be granted readmission to their former program provided that their return takes place not later than four regular semesters from the end of the session in which withdrawal took place.

### **TRANSFER FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES**

Candidates transferring from recognized institutions of higher education are eligible for consideration for admission subject to the following conditions:

They hold the Lebanese Baccalaureate or its official equivalent

They had met the requirements for admission to the University of Balamand prior to their admission to the institution from which they are transferring.

They have submitted their scores for the SAT, school and university grades if they are applying to the sophomore year. Transfer applicants to the junior or senior years do not need to submit SAT scores.

Transfer candidates may be given credit for courses satisfactorily completed in their previous institutions if these courses are comparable to UOB courses pending review by the relevant departments and faculties at UOB. Seeking grade of 70 is required for transfer program. Credits alone are transferred, not the grades. All transfer courses must be approved by the Admissions Committee.

Students may not enroll at the University of Balamand and at the same time at another institution without the specific approval of the Dean of Admissions and Registration and the appropriate academic Faculty committee.

### **GRADING SYSTEM**

The “Rules and Regulations” section of this Catalogue contains detailed information regarding the academic regulations of the University.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Students are advised to check, by themselves and with their respective advisors, that all graduation requirements are fulfilled. Failure to do so may mean a longer period is needed to complete graduation requirements. To graduate with a bachelor's degree, a student must complete the following:

### **RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS**

1. A minimum of six semesters of residence beginning with the sophomore year, at recognized institutions of higher education, provided that:
  - at least the final three semesters and forty-five credits are completed at the University of Balamand. Two regular summer sessions are considered equivalent to one semester.
2. A maximum of ten semesters is allowed for the graduation of students who begin with the sophomore year, and six semesters for those beginning with the junior year. A student who fails to complete a degree within these specified times must petition the Dean for an extension of residence.

### **NUMBER OF CREDITS REQUIRED**

Generally, a minimum of 90 credits for a B.A., B.S or B.L.S., 100 for a U.D.T., 115 for a B.F.A., and 27 credits for a T.D.

See departmental regulations for the exact number of credits.

### **ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REQUIRED**

1. A passing grade in all courses.
2. A cumulative general average of 70 or above.
3. Students already holding a bachelor's degree who wish to obtain another bachelor's degree must complete all the requirements of the department for that second degree. (Note that a minimum of 36 credits must be completed successfully in at least 3 semesters)

### **GRADUATION WITH HONORS**

1. A student achieving a cumulative average of 90 or above at the University of Balamand will receive his bachelor's degree with high Distinction.
2. A student achieving a cumulative average of 85 or above at the University of Balamand will receive his bachelor's degree with Distinction.

# **ACADEMIC RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## **A. CREDIT LOAD**

1. To be considered as a regular student, a student must register for 12 credits or more per semester. No minimum credit load is required during a summer session.
2. Students may seek the approval of the Faculty Council to drop the credit load below 12 .
3. Special Orientation Program students may register for more than 15 credit hours per semester following the approval of the special program director.
4. The credit load for sophomore, junior, and senior students is cited under the “Credit Load” of the appropriate Faculties.
5. Credit load for student on Academic probation is detailed in a scholastic standing section.

## **B. CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS**

Students will be classified according to the following categories:

Category	Year	Number of credits earned or Status
Regular	Preparatory	Special Orientation Program students
	Freshman	See «Academic Support Facilities», «Freshman Program» section
	Sophomore	Students who have earned less than 27 credits.
	Junior	Students who have earned between 27 and 56 credits.
	Senior	Students who have earned 56 credits or more.
	Majorless	Students who are placed out of a departement/faculty may remain for one semester as majorless before choosing major.
Special	Part-Time	See below
Continuing Education Program (CEP)	Non-degree option	See «Academic Support Facilities», «Continuing Education Program»
	Non-credit option	See «Academic Support Facilities», «Continuing Education Program» section

Classification in a given class does not necessarily imply that the requirements of the previous class have been completed. A student requesting a certificate stating that he/she has completed a given class must have completed all of the requirements for that class.

### **Special Students:**

Part-time students may be classified in two categories:

- 1- Full-time students who, under pressing circumstances, cannot take the required full-load. Such students may register for fewer than 12 credits after getting the approval of the Dean and the Advisor of the Faculty and department concerned.
- 2- Persons interested in rejoining the University after a lapse of time. The requirements to join this program are the Lebanese Baccalaureate or its equivalent and the placement test in the corresponding languages. Interested candidates must also have an interview with the Dean of Admissions and Registration

and a representative of the department concerned.

The academic rules and regulations for special students are the same as for full-time students.

The Office of Admissions and Registration receives and processes applications of regular and special students and the CEP office handles the applications of its students.

### **C. CORRECT USE OF THE LANGUAGE**

Good command of the language of instruction is a basic requirement for graduation. Grades on papers (theses, term papers, essays, or examinations) and oral presentations will take into account language proficiency.

### **D. GRADING SYSTEM**

1. All final course grades are expressed in numbers ranging from 40 to 100.
2. The Dean of the Faculty concerned must approve transferable courses from other institutions.
3. The grading system is as follows:

Graded	Notation
95 to 100	Outstanding
85 to 94	Excellent
80 to 84	Very Good
75 to 79	Good
70 to 74	Fair
60 to 69	Weak
40 to 59	Fail

Non-Graded	Notation
Aud	Audit
CBE	Credit by Examination
F	Fail
I	Incomplete
M	Graduate course
N	Non-credit, not counted in average
P	Pass
R	Repeated course for raising average
S	Satisfactory
T	Counted after a change of major
V	Non-credit, counted in average As of Fall 2014, «V» : Non-credit, counted only in semester average
W	Withdrawal
WF	Administrative Withdrawal
Y	Final grade issued on an annual basis
Z	Counted toward a degree (in the case of year to be repeated)

## **E. INCOMPLETE GRADES AND MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS**

1. Course work must be completed by the date on which the semester ends. In exceptional cases, and with the approval of the instructor, the chairman of the department, and the Dean, a student may be allowed to make up incomplete work before the end of the Drop/Add period of the next semester.
2. The time and date of make-up tests within the period specified in (1) above will be set by the instructor concerned with due consideration for the student's schedule. Approval of the head of the department is required for setting the time and date.
3. Failure to complete the requirements for incomplete courses within the periods specified above will result in a grade of zero for the missing work with the course grade computed accordingly. Failure to make-up a missing final examination will result in a final grade of 40 on the course.

## **F. ATTENDANCE AT AND WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSES**

### **1. CLASS ATTENDANCE**

1. Students are expected to attend all classes and laboratory sessions.
2. Absence, whether excused or not, from any class or laboratory session does not excuse students from their responsibility for the work done or for any announcements made during their absence.
3. A student who is near missing one-sixth of the course sessions will be receiving a written warning from the instructor. Once the number of missed sessions reaches one-sixth of the course sessions, the instructor notifies the student in writing and copies the Registrar that it is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw from the course before the end of the drop period, otherwise he will earn a WF as a final grade for the course.

If the number of missed sessions accumulates to more than one-sixth after the drop deadline, the student will receive as well a grade of WF.

A WF grade is counted as a numerical grade of 40 for the course in computing the student's averages.

### **2. WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSES**

1. Students are permitted to withdraw from courses not later than 10 weeks after the start of the semester (four weeks in the case of the summer session).
2. Students withdrawing from a course will receive a grade of "W" for this course. A "W" grade and the corresponding course credits are not included in computing the semester or the cumulative average.
3. The student's academic advisor must approve all withdrawals. Withdrawing from an entire semester requires the approval of the Faculty Council.
4. If a student withdraws or is dropped (for any reason) from one course or more resulting in a credit load below 12 credits, the case will be reviewed by the Faculty Council. The Council will determine:
  - \* The eligibility of the student to continue the semester
  - \* The withdrawal of the student from that semester
  - \* The dismissal of the student from the Faculty

## **G. REPEATING COURSES**

1. A student may repeat a course only once to achieve its required grade; a W or a WF (40) on a transcript is counted, for this purpose, as a grade.
2. Students may not repeat a course in which they have already achieved a grade of 70 unless the department rules require a higher score.
3. A student repeating a course more than once must seek the approval of the Dean.

## **H. SCHOLASTIC STANDING**

### **1. DEAN'S HONOR LIST**

To be placed on the Dean's Honor List at the end of a given Fall or Spring semester, a student must:

- . Be registered for at least 12 credits,
- . Not be on Probation,
- . Have a semester average of at least 85 or be ranked in the top 10 percent of the class and have a semester average of at least 80,
- . Have no failing, withdrawals, repeated, or incomplete grades,
- . Have no disciplinary action in his/her record,
- . Be deemed worthy by the Dean to be placed on the Honor List.

### **2. EVALUATION OF ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE**

The evaluation of the academic performance of a student begins when a regular student has reached at least the level of ENGL 101 or FREN 003 and has registered for a minimum of 6 of the required credits from his/her plan of study.

Students transferring from another institution of higher education or from another department at UOB receive a written statement from their new department showing their academic status in conformity with the faculty and department rules.

#### 2.1. Department Requirements

Students joining a department must pass the courses indicated in the University Catalogue as department requirements with a minimum grade of 70 or higher for each course in the specified period of time. Students who fail to fulfill the department requirements within the specified period of time will have one regular semester to pass the required courses with a minimum grade of 70 or higher for each course. If they fail to do so, they will be dropped from the Department. Dropping any of these required courses is not recommended.

#### 2.2. Academic Probation

If a student enters the University with a conditional acceptance, the conditions for its removal must be fulfilled by the end of the first semester. Starting from the second semester, a student must maintain a cumulative average of 70 or above. Failure to do so by the end of a semester places the student under academic probation. Under such circumstances, the student may be required to take a lighter credit load, which may result in a delay in graduation.

Such students will not be allowed to take more than 12 new credits in the semester during which they are on probation and will also be required to retake the courses they had failed the next time they are offered. Such students will be encouraged by their advisor to take courses in the Summer Semester.

#### 2.3. Removal of Probation

A student placed on probation has to achieve a cumulative average of 70 or above in the next semester in order to remove the probation.

#### 2.4. Continued Probation

Students who are on probation and who fail to achieve a cumulative average of 70 in the next semester will be placed on continued probation if their semester average is 70 or higher.

### 2.5. Strict Probation

A student placed on probation and who fails to achieve a semester average and a cumulative average of at least 70 or placed on continuing probation and who fails to remove it, is placed on strict probation for one semester under the following conditions:

1. The student is allowed to register for a maximum of 12 credits.
2. The student registers only for courses in which the grade earned was less than 70. To remove the strict Probation the student must:
  1. Not fail any course.
  2. Obtain a cumulative average of 70 or above.

### 2.6. Dropping from the Department

Students will be dropped from the Department for any of the following reasons (other than those mentioned in paragraph 2.1 above) if:

- a. They are subject to probation for a third time.
- b. They are on Strict Probation and are not able to remove the probation by the end of the next semester.

## **DISMISSAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY**

Students dropped from a Department have one semester as a majorless student to meet the transfer requirements to other Departments. If, at the end of the semester, they fail to meet these requirements, they will be dropped from the University.

## **READMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY**

When a student is dismissed, the implication is that the student is not qualified to continue at the University. Consideration for readmission is given for one of the following reasons:

- a. If the student was not able to do work efficiently because of health reasons. In such cases, the University is to be notified promptly by the student and will require a medical report from the University Physician. The report is to be presented to the Dean's Office within 30 days after the student is dismissed.
- b. If, after spending a minimum of one year at another recognized institution of higher education, a satisfactory record is achieved (a general average of at least 70 that includes courses relevant to the major), the student may seek readmission to the University.

## **I. SUMMER SESSION**

The summer session extends over eight weeks of teaching. The maximum academic load during the summer session is 10 credits (7 credits for students on probation).

The courses offered during the summer session are identical in scope and content with those offered during the regular academic year. A summer session in which the student is registered for at least 6 credits is considered as a regular semester.

## **J. ADMISSION OF TRANSFER STUDENTS**

Candidates transferring from recognized institutions of higher education are eligible for consideration for admission subject to the following conditions:

- They hold the Lebanese Baccalaureate or its official equivalent.

- . They had met the requirements for admission to the University of Balamand prior to their admission to the institution from which they are transferring.
- . They successfully completed at least 20 credits in the institution from which they are transferring.
- . They pass language entrance examination(s) and/or any other tests required by the Faculty to which they are applying.
  
- . Such candidates may be given credit for courses completed in other institutions if they have passed these courses with a grade equivalent to 70 or above, and if these courses are approved for a degree from the University of Balamand.

The Admissions Committee will approve transfer cases on an individual basis.