

For Immediate Release



AUB launches Arab uprisings resource guide

Beirut, Lebanon- 15/03/2012 - Access to up-to-date information and archives on the Arab uprisings is now simpler than ever with the creation of a [centralized AUB library research guide](#) that features everything from scholarly articles and books to blogs and news reports related to the topic.

The research guide, launched in January by AUB's Jafet Library, was designed to facilitate student and faculty research on the ongoing revolts sweeping the region that have captured the attention of liberal arts scholars from diverse fields across the globe. The guide is accessible to all online browsers for free and without any registration requirements. Browsers can access the guide via the hyperlink above or by visiting the AUB homepage at www.aub.edu.lb and then clicking "Libraries" on the top page menu, then clicking "e-reference" on the bottom left of the page, then the "research guides" tab, then clicking "browse all 111 guides" and then clicking "arab uprisings." The guide includes mostly English and some Arabic resources.

"You can find similar guides in many American universities, but what makes ours unique is that it gathers information from both the western and Arab worlds," said Fatmeh Charafeddine, a Jafet librarian who works on the project. "Resource guides from other universities don't cover the Arab point of view."

Charafeddine added that the collection and archiving of documents on the Arab uprisings, and many other topics, is nothing new for the library, but technology today provides tools that allow users to access library resources in digital form without leaving their homes or offices.

"This is the same information we used to keep in our drawers," Charafeddine said as she gestured towards her filing cabinets and stacks of folders scattered across her office. "Now the user doesn't have to come to us, they can go and open the files themselves online."

The new research guide represents merely one of more than 100 [academic research guides](#) that the AUB libraries began to introduce last spring. Visitors to the site can find research guides on nearly every academic program offered at AUB including history, business, psychology and computer science.

Charafeddine noted that librarians will keep adding new research guides that are of current interests, such as Lebanese history, Palestinian refugees and the Arab Gulf.

The library research guides are maintained and updated by a group of about five Jafet librarians. Nabila Shehabeddine is the librarian responsible for developing the Arab uprisings guide. She said the library is collaborating with AUB's Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, which recently [launched a new project](#) to examine the Arab uprisings, to update the guide.

"Of course we can't cover everything—that would be impossible," she said. "But we are definitely highlighting the most important conferences and events happening at different universities and other forums."

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Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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