



AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT

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OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

October 16, 2024

Dear AUB Students,

I hope this message finds you and your loved ones well and safe. As we move forward with this fall term during exceptionally touch circumstances, I am writing today to share updates on our academic continuity plan.

The recent survey conducted by our Office of Student Affairs revealed the magnitude of the challenges affecting our student body – large scale of forced displacement, loss of loved ones, and destruction of homes and neighborhoods. Our thoughts are with each and every one of you who has been adversely affected during this period.

The survey also revealed the dedication and resilience of our student body in pursuing their education at AUB. Over 90% noted their ability to actively participate in online learning (either without issues or with some challenges) and around 60% noted their ability to participate in on-campus learning (either without issues or with some challenges). Over the last ten days, we have also received encouraging indicators about student attendance and engagement in online classes from across all faculties/schools, and around 2,000 students accessed AUB's campus during this period to use the libraries, research labs, and other facilities.

With your best interests at heart, and to offer a more engaging student experience for those of you able to attend campus, the University will transition to a 'mixed learning model' with courses delivered either in a hybrid format or fully online. This step is being planned with the commitment that your course instructors will maintain flexibility and support you through appropriate academic accommodations (i.e., special measures to ensure your continued learning).

Instructional continuity effective Monday October 21

1. A select number of courses will be offered in a hybrid format, with in-person sessions on-campus and a simultaneous synchronous online option for students who are not able to come to campus.
2. A select number of courses will continue to be offered fully online, providing all students the option to join synchronously live class sessions.
3. In both cases, your instructors will promptly upload all course materials (recordings of lectures, readings, resources, etc.) to Moodle (or other platforms such as YouTube) for asynchronous access. This ensures that those of you who are unable to attend live class sessions (on-campus or online) can still engage with the course contents at their own pace.
4. For labs, studios, and clinical rotations, faculties/schools are developing plans to resume as many of those as possible in-person. These plans will allow students and faculty who can make it to campus to complete the experiential/hands-on learning components of their courses. Those of you who cannot come to campus will be accommodated to complete these components in this or a future term, and the university will support completion through various reasonable options, such as the use of the 'incomplete' notation.
5. Your course instructors will let you know which of your lecture-based courses will be offered in a hybrid format and which of your labs, studios, or clinical rotations will be offered in-person. Please be in contact with them if you have any questions in that regard.
6. Please continue to check your email and Moodle site on a regular basis and be as responsive to your course instructors and academic/research advisors as possible.

Do you have questions or concerns?

While we work towards expanding university operations on-campus, we continue to prioritize the safety of our community and remain committed to providing as much support as possible to our students. For information regarding the provided academic accommodations and support services, please review the [student FAQs](#).

If, after reviewing the FAQs and following up with your course instructors and academic advisors, you still feel your questions/concerns have not been addressed adequately or you would like to petition for any special circumstances, please email ask_ecad@aub.edu.lb for guidance.

Stay well and take care,

Zaher Dawy, PhD
Provost