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THE UNIVERSITY

The American University of Kuwait (AUK) is an independent, private, equal opportunity, and coeducational liberal arts institution of higher education. The educational, cultural, and administrative structure, methods and standards of AUK are based on the American model of higher learning. The language of instruction is English.

Established by Amiri Decree 139 in 2003, AUK received its institutional accreditation from the Private Universities Council (PUC)—Ministry of Higher Education in the State of Kuwait, as of February 1, 2006.

AUK offers students a quality education based on an American college model. The faculty, administration, and staff work hard to create a caring environment where every aspect of the student's development gets attention and support. The course of study is designed to prepare students for the contemporary world where critical thinking, communication skills, and lifelong learning have become imperative. The Liberal Arts education system aims not only to guide the students to fulfill their educational goals, but to also instill effective critical thinking skills that they can apply in their future careers in the fields of their choice.

The AUK faculty is comprised of a highly-qualified group of international academics experienced in the American style of higher education. There are over 114 faculty members at AUK, 81 percent of whom have earned PhDs or terminal degrees. With most class sizes ranging from 10 to 39 students, developing bonds between students and professors is easy.

MISSION STATEMENT

The American University of Kuwait is a liberal arts institution dedicated to teaching, learning, and scholarship. The university offers programs that provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary for lifelong learning and professional success. AUK enriches society by fostering an environment that encourages critical thinking, effective communication, personal growth, service, and leadership.

VALUES

The AUK community strives to uphold the following values:

- Freedom of thought, expression, and intellectual inquiry.
- Respect for individual identity and rights, and cultural diversity.
- Commitment to high standards of morality, integrity, and social responsibility.
- Adherence to high professional standards and ethics.

VISION

AUK aspires to be a leading university recognized locally, regionally, and internationally for its institutional distinctiveness, academic excellence, and the accomplishments of its graduates.

INSTITUTIONAL & PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

LOCAL INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

The American University of Kuwait received its institutional accreditation from the Private Universities Council (PUC)—Ministry of Higher Education in the State of Kuwait, as of February 1, 2006.

PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

- The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) has awarded AUK full accreditation for its College of Business and Economics. AACSB International (AACSB), a global nonprofit association, connects educators, students, and business to achieve a common goal: to create the next generation of great leaders.
- The BSc degree program in Computer Science is accredited by the ABET Computing Accreditation Commission, the global accreditor of college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology.
- The BE degree program in Electrical Engineering is accredited by the ABET Engineering Accreditation Commission, the global accreditor of college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology.
- The BE degree program in Computer Engineering is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, the global accreditor of college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology.
- The Intensive English Program is accredited by the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA).
- The College of Arts and Sciences is accredited by the American Academy for Liberal Education (AALÉ).

UNIVERSITY CULTURE

The American University of Kuwait is committed to creating an enlightened and progressive educational culture in which all students, faculty, and staff—regardless of nationality, creed, or position—co-exist to create a dynamic and equitable environment. All members of AUK are expected to respect the diverse nature of the AUK community and interact in a manner that is respectful of such, and that supports a commitment to lifelong learning and the pursuit of academic excellence in higher education. The University encourages the freedom to engage in academic inquiry and the fair exchange of ideas and supports open access to the dissemination of information.

The University founders uphold the philosophy that one cannot create a true enlightened academic environment without practicing the very virtues and ideals it hopes to instill in its students. In upholding the highest standards of professional behavior and ethical conduct among its faculty, staff, and students, the university hopes to create a community of scholars and students who will benefit from AUK's collegial atmosphere.

In its commitment to a liberal arts model of education, the University encourages students to take courses and participate in activities that go beyond their selected fields of study or major. To cultivate

this breadth of knowledge, the university requires of all students a foundational set of general education requirements upon which students build their university education. The University offers a wide range of specializations in arts and sciences, as well as opportunities for second degrees, double majors, minors, and electives in a variety of disciplines. AUK believes in strengthening students' basic skills in writing and communication, logical reasoning, quantitative reasoning (through mathematics and statistics), and scientific reasoning. AUK's solid liberal arts and sciences curriculum is designed to instill in students the passion for lifelong learning, and promote academic excellence, professionalism, and leadership qualities.

AUK AND DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, is the international partner institution to the American University of Kuwait (AUK), as defined by the Private Universities Council of the State of Kuwait (Resolution no. PUC (5/21-2/2005). Dartmouth and AUK have worked closely together since 2003, when the two institutions signed a memorandum of understanding that facilitated a series of advisory, consultative, and cooperative projects. The initial agreement was recently renewed for a fourth time in April, 2018 to extend through 2022. The two institutions share a commitment to excellence in higher learning, and the agreement between them reflects AUK's growing stature as a premier academic institution in the Gulf region and beyond. With its deep and historic commitment to the liberal arts, Dartmouth recognizes the importance of AUK's mission and works to support the university as it develops a superlative education based on the principles of critical inquiry, mastery of subject material, depth of curriculum, and a vibrant experience in the classroom and on campus. Dartmouth and AUK collaborate on numerous programs, and Dartmouth provides a wide range of administrative and academic consulting services to AUK. The two institutions have developed a flourishing relationship that involves faculty, students, and staff in both locations. Dartmouth experts in engineering, information technology, library sciences, communications, governance, and other areas routinely visit Kuwait, while students, faculty, and staff from Kuwait travel to the United States to work with their counterparts at Dartmouth. AUK's commitment to providing a premier learning environment based on the American model resonates with Dartmouth's history and its understanding of the importance of higher learning in a global context. Since the relationship began, the two institutions have steadily deepened and expanded their partnership, creating a dynamic, evolving, and unique cross-cultural collaboration.

Dartmouth College is a member of the group of universities in the United States known as the "Ivy League." It was founded in 1769 and offers a broad-based undergraduate education, as well as advanced degrees in the arts and sciences, medicine, engineering, and business administration. Dartmouth has been accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) since 1929.

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The mission of the library at the American University of Kuwait is to support the research, teaching, and learning needs of the AUK community through information resources, expertise, and innovative services. To achieve this mission, the library provides access to print and electronic information resources in addition to information literacy sessions to students and faculty. This opens the door for library users to browse through the spectrum of information resources as they seek to achieve their educational aspirations.

The university library occupies a beautiful, two-story modern space. It is a state-of-the-art, technologically-modern building. The library houses a print collection of books, references, audiovisual materials and periodicals in English, Arabic, and other languages related to the disciplines and academic programs that are offered at AUK. It also subscribes to online databases and scholarly journals needed for classroom instruction and academic research. Within the library, there are computer workstations that allow access to the library's online catalog and electronic databases, as well as the internet. All library resources are available to members of the AUK community and other authorized users with a valid AUK I.D.

As an important resource for learning, teaching, and research, the university library provides academic support for students, faculty, and staff to help them identify, locate, and use the library resources. The library staff coordinates collection development, cataloging, and the utilization of print and electronic resources.

In addition to the above, the library provides services and facilities to the AUK community, such as the circulation desk, reference services, and the reserve section, where faculty can place course materials on reserve and make them available for use for a limited time period within the building. The library also provides document supply services, photocopying machines, group study rooms, and a conference room with a multimedia system and video conference facility.

Library membership is granted to members of the local research community who would like to benefit from the resources for research purposes.

The university library is distinguished by its emphasis on the student learning experience. As knowledge in all disciplines changes, one of the primary tasks of the library user is the mastery of information strategies and skills that are transferable across subject areas and practical for a lifetime. The university library attempts to provide students, faculty, and staff with the tools and skills necessary to enhance their learning experiences, to increase their efficiency in retrieving, creating, and communicating scholarly information, and to become lifelong learners. For more information, please visit www.auk.edu.kw/academics/library.

UNIVERSITY LABORATORIES

COMPUTER LABORATORIES

The Information Technology Department (IT) maintains a computer network that serves the students, faculty, and staff of AUK. The University has 20 instructional computer labs—17 Windows-based labs and 3 iMac labs—as well as a PC-equipped library. Approximately 735 computers are available to students for research and learning purposes.

Several academic software applications such as Matlab, Quartus, Multisim, SPSS, 3D Studio Max, Oracle, Java, Eclipse, BlueJ, Visual Studio, MS Project, Enterprise Architect, Adobe CC, Adobe Premiere, Lightwave, to name a few, are deployed in the computer labs on an as-needed basis.

All computers are connected to the internet. AUK's computer network uses state-of-the-art fiber optic cables and both wired and wireless access points to ensure complete network coverage of the campus. AUK has an internet link from one service provider for a total available bandwidth of 140 Mbps from two different internet service providers (70 Mbps LAN – 70 Mbps Wi-Fi), on which internet filtering is applied to ensure that bandwidth is available for academic and administrative use.

ENGINEERING LABORATORIES

The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences has four electrical and computer engineering laboratories that support laboratory courses. The laboratories contain state-of-the-art devices carefully designed to provide excellent teaching, learning, and undergraduate research environments. Supported by modern measurement devices and aided by hardware/software co-design software, the laboratory equipment supports module-based and component-level implementation options, and services several courses in the programs including: electric circuits, electronics, digital logic design, computer organization and architecture, signals and systems, microprocessors and computer interfacing, embedded systems design, VLSI, data communications and computer networks, measurement and instrumentation, automation and data acquisition, electric machines, electric drives, power systems, power electronics, control systems, programmable logic controllers, among others.

SCIENCE LABORATORIES

The biology laboratories provide students with basic laboratory skills in life science and research, including the use of microscopes, cell structure and function, enzymes, photosynthesis, cellular reproduction, genetics, biotechnology, and animal dissection.

The objective of the physics laboratories is to help students become better physics problem-solvers. The experiments are designed to expose students to different measuring instruments and to illustrate phenomena in the different areas of physics: mechanics, thermodynamics, electricity, and optics.

The chemistry laboratory provides students with quality reagents, equipment, and instrumentation to perform the basic experiments in introductory chemistry, ranging from volumetric to gravimetric analysis, and enables students to collect accurate data for interpretation and evaluation.

The objective of the mathematics laboratory is to aid students from different disciplines in developing their mathematical abilities, and to develop skills in study design and analysis of data, using industry standard statistical software such as Spreadsheet and Minitab. Students should be able to write and present statistical reports clearly and concisely to non-statisticians. Matlab allows symbolic operations in several areas including calculus, linear algebra, and differential equations.

The labs are fully equipped for instructional laboratory exercises. Standards of use are established and rigorously enforced by the faculty and the lab assistants to help ensure safety.

UNIVERSITY CENTERS

CENTER FOR GULF STUDIES (CGS)

The Center for Gulf Studies is a research center that aims to promote greater cultural understanding of and increased interest in the Gulf by facilitating free and open academic discourse on a range of issues that both shape and challenge this critical region of the world. The Center's goal is to enable scholars as well as political and civil society actors, both within and outside the region, to contribute and add value to the burgeoning field of Gulf Studies. To this end, CGS seeks to encourage, support, and cultivate interesting and original research on the Gulf, and to create an environment in which students and faculty can interact and collaborate with researchers and activists from around the world in creative and engaging ways. Visit the Center for Gulf Studies website at: www.auk.edu.kw/cgs.

CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN INFORMATICS, SCIENCES, AND ENGINEERING (RISE)

The Center for Research in Informatics, Sciences, and Engineering serves as AUK's primary catalyst for interdisciplinary research and development (R&D) activities. The Center employs a holistic approach to R&D by integrating a plethora of academic disciplines and interests, forging strong intellectual connections among local & international innovators, academia & industry practitioners, and technology & society. RISE is dedicated to promoting innovative scientific discourse through expanding cross-border research collaboration, fostering industry-academia partnerships, and serving as a platform for community engagement and outreach. For more information on RISE, please visit the RISE website: www.auk.edu.kw/RISE.

CENTER FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION (CCE)

Center for Continuing Education (CCE-AUK) offers a wide range of educational, development programs and services for individual professionals, corporations, and AUK alumni since its establishment in 2006.

CCE is expanding its education and training services to offer international exam preparation programs, teaching and career development programs to the public/ individual market to ensure the provision of quality continuing education for present and future clients. Also, targeting corporate clients: banks, oil sector, telecommunication organizations to provide them with customized, tailor-made programs in the fields of business, management, finance, information technology, and health and safety.

Listed as an approved training center at the Civil Service Commission and endorsed by PAAET, CCE has been operating successfully for more than 10 years with an average annual turnover of more than 2000 learners across business, leadership, soft skills, entrepreneurship, teacher training, and language courses.

To learn more about CCE and all of the courses/programs it offers, please visit the website:

www.auk.edu.kw/cce.

CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE (CTE)

The Center for Teaching Excellence strives to inspire educators to adopt innovative and modern pedagogic strategies in teaching. It aims to provide AUK faculty with continuous support and resources necessary to apply modern curricula to their classrooms, and promote a holistic educational culture that allows faculty to utilize technology while harnessing the best methods of teaching to ensure constructive and active learning environments.