Course Information

Academic unit	Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Department	General Education Department
Code	GEHS245
English Title	Lebanese history and culture
French or Arabic Title *(when applicable)*	Histoire et culture libanaises
Type	☐ C ☐ CTP ☐ TP ☒ P ☐ TD ☐ S ☐ TH
Pre-requisites	None
Co-requisites	None
Number of credits	3 credits
Contact hours per week	2.5 H	
Delivery Language:	☐ French ☐ English ☒ Arabic ☐ Other (specify):
Offered	☒ Fall ☒ Spring ☒ Summer

Course prerequisite knowledge and skills

None

Course Core Information

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the history of Lebanon and its heritage, through the eyes of lifestyles, artefacts and physical buildings. Cultural heritage can be defined as physical signs of the human past that exist in the present. As conceived today, however, cultural heritage can be both tangible and intangible; it can encompass both the very old and the still in use, the man-made and the natural, the permanent and the ephemeral, the invisible, even the edible. Cultural heritage is also a profession and an academic field built upon modern ideas about how and why objects, buildings, landscapes, and traditions should be preserved, protected, and presented to people living today and in the future.

Throughout the course, students will explore the history of Lebanon from the prehistoric age, how factors such as colonialism, nationalism and war have impacted the cultural heritage. Students will be introduced to the history of the Lebanese people through their ways of life (Food, music, art, traditions....). Students will also be introduced to tangible heritage of Lebanon through museums, architecture....

Course Goals

This course has two main objectives. The first is to introduce students to the concept of cultural heritage and how it "works" in the world today. The second is to critically examine the theories, methods, and questions that shape the effort to protect and interpret cultural heritage today and how they impact modern society, our concepts of history, and our role in shaping its future.

Delivery Mode

The delivery mode of the course is based on an interactive and classic approach, where the student will be asked to attend readings given by the teacher and to actively participate in class discussions and in researching documents. Teaching includes case studies and fieldwork. This approach will emphasize research and exploration of local heritage through primary and secondary sources. The student will conduct site visits, local surveys, and research projects in specific historic locations and communities.

Course Learning Outcomes (LOs)

After successfully completing the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the role which cultural heritage plays in our society, and some of the ways in which it can be beneficial or important to us.
2. Explore some of the challenges we face in comparing the value of heritage against other values such as the value of human lives. *3.* Learn the historical development and current status of cultural heritage studies in Lebanon.

Course Timetable

Timetable

Week	Topic	LO(s)	Assessment Activities	Learning Activities
1	Preliminary chapter: Brief History of Lebanon. History and Historiography.	3	Formative evaluation	YouTube conference: Role and impact
2	Defining the difference between culture and civilization.	1, 2	Participating actively in class and peripheral participation discussions.	Reading several articles related to the definition and assessing the differences between the two terms.

3	Defining the word Heritage and specifying the difference between Tangible and intangible heritage of Lebanon.	2	Practical test on reading a primary source and active participation in class discussions.	Reading articles from UNESCO. Online conference with Vincent Michel.
4	Lebanese heritage: The traditional Lebanese clothing, food, music, architecture, buildings.	1, 2	Participating actively in class and peripheral participation.	Online videos about the different sites and monuments of Lebanon, heritage world center.
5	Lebanese heritage: Exploring the archaeological sites and monuments of Lebanon. Introduction to the Lebanese archaeological museum.	1, 2, 3	Oral Presentation and Quiz Participating actively in class and completing the task In class discussion	YouTube conference (ICOM)
6	Lebanese heritage: The traditional craftsmanship of Lebanon.	1, 2, 3	Students are required to do a small assignment on the different types of craftsmanship heritage.	Reading articles posted on the UNESCO website.
7	Lebanese heritage: Introduction to the history of the music industry of Lebanon. Oral traditions, social practices, and rituals.	1, 2, 3	3 to 4 sessions during which students must prepare and present a critical paper about their perspectives on the modern or contemporary history of Lebanon.	Online videos that show the different types of musical instruments from the past.
8	Lebanese heritage: The traditional craftsmanship of Lebanon.	1, 2, 3	Lectures/ Readings about the diverse Concepts.	YouTube video: Culture Sector Atelier HEMED-Lemans.

9	Case study: The traditional Lebanese Buildings of each period: architecture, arts.	1, 2, 3	Oral Presentation and Quiz	Conference with Dr. Linda Rizk – Atelier HEMED2015
10	Lebanese heritage: Food and diet of Lebanon.	3	The group works on creating a proposal centered on heritage and culture.	Writing biographies
	The impact of the Ottoman on the Lebanese culinary traditions.			And conducting discussion about the Lebanese heritage.
11	The role of museums in protecting, enhancing the Lebanese cultural heritage. National Museum Regional museums.	1, 3	Participating actively in class and completing the relevant task. *In class debate on the government's role in protecting the Lebanese heritage.	Power Points. Reading Articles. Discussions. YouTube conference: Prof. Dominique Avon.
12	Social phenome: presenting cultural heritage to the public.	2	Students must write an article about this topic.	Reading articles from Jstor and Research gate.
13	How colonialism in the past has influenced the Lebanese cultural heritage. How our modern world is affecting our tangible and intangible heritage.	2, 3	Participating actively in class and completing the task. In class discussions.	YouTube videos. Reading articles from Academia.
14	Summary of the key themes of the course. Presentation of the final project.	1, 2, 3	Group work on creating a proposal based on the course themes.	None
15	Presentation of the final project and class discussion.			

Course Material

Required Texts	None
Supplemental References	1. Harvey, D.C. "Heritage Pasts and Heritage Presents: Temporality, meaning and the scope of heritage studies." International Journal of Heritage Studies 7 (2001): 319-338.The Politics and Poetics of Archaeological Narrative," in Nationalism, Politics and the Practice of Archaeology. 2. Schmidt, H. "Reconstruction of Ancient Buildings," in The Conservation of Archaeological Sites in the Mediterranean Region (Proceedings of Getty Conservation Institute Conference), p. 41-50. ٣. أديب لحود، العادات والأخلاق اللبنانية، مكتبة صادر، بيروت، ١٩٥٣. ٤. أنيس فريحة، القرية اللبنانيّة حضارة في طريق الزوال، دار المكتبة الأهليّة. ٥. سامي ريحانا، موسوعة التّراث القرويّ، دار نوبليس، لبنان، ١٩٩٣. ٦. لحد خاطر، العادات والتّقاليد اللّبنانيّة، منشورات دار لحد خاطر، بيروت، ٢٠٠٢.
Required Materials	None

Course Grading System

Provide information about each assignment and assessment activity and specify their weight in the overall grade.

All course grades will be regularly shared with students, preferably on the e-learning platform.
The course final examinations date will be published by the Registrar Office in due time. No test or examination shall be given during the last two weeks before the regular examination period.

Passing grade

A minimum grade of 60 is required for this course.
The Grading policy can be found in the **Academic Rules and Regulations** published on the website.

Grading criteria

Grading Criteria (Total = 100%)	
10%	Attendance & Participation
20%	Test 1
30%	Test 2
40%	Final Exam - Project which is a PowerPoint presentation by the student on a specific topic, followed by an in-class debate with the participation of the entire class.

Course Policies and Support to students

The USEK **Academic Rules and Regulations** is the official document of record concerning academic programs and regulations. It can be found at www.usek.edu.lb .

Class attendance policy

Students can, for valid and justified reasons, be absent for a number of teaching hours equal to three teaching weeks (20% of the course's number of hours, i.e., 9 hours = 6 sessions of an hour and 15 minutes each). However, they are responsible for learning material covered in class and will fail all graded class activities (quizzes, tests, presentations, discussions, etc.) organized during these absences.

Students who exceed the authorized limit of absences will not be allowed to sit for their final exam. They must officially withdraw from the course before the official deadline, otherwise, they will be given the grade FW (Fail to Withdraw).

Students with an excused absence will be permitted to make up coursework or complete an equivalent assignment agreed upon with the instructor.

Absence to Mid-term and final exam

A student who does not show up for the Mid-term and final exams, for any reason, is given, by the teacher, a failing grade of zero. If this absence is due to special justifiable circumstances, such as:

- Death of a family member or relative.
- Hospitalization, attested by a medical report from the hospital.
- Tested positive to COVID-19, attested by a PCR test with a QR code.
- Serious accident, attested by an official report from a sworn expert.

Then the student can present a petition with supporting documents at the Student Affairs Office within the 24 hours following the missed exam. The request will be accepted for a valid justification or in case of a recurrence. A student who has shown up for the exam cannot, in any case, present a petition for a make-up exam. The Mid-term and final exams policy can be found at www.usek.edu.lb

Late Submission

Assignments are expected to be submitted by the designated deadlines. Late submissions may result in grade penalties unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism and any form of academic dishonesty are strictly prohibited. All work submitted must be your own, unless otherwise specified.

Students are expected to practice the highest possible standards of academic integrity. Any deviation from this expectation will result in an academic penalty of the student failing the assignment and may result in additional disciplinary measures. This includes, but not limited to, improper citation of sources, using another student's work, and any other form of academic misrepresentation. Suspicions of use of artificial intelligence aids will be considered as alleged violations of Cheating.

The Academic Integrity policy can be found at www.usek.edu.lb

Netiquette

Students are expected to communicate with each other and with the instructor in a learning community. They are expected to be respectful, polite, and knowledgeable during oral and written communication and when posting to the class discussion forums.

Arrangements for Students with Special Needs

USEK empowers students to manage challenges and limitations imposed by special needs. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Access Office by sending an email to accessoffice@usek.edu.lb, for any accommodation needed to fulfill course requirements (within the first week of the semester).

Writing Center

The USEK Writing Center offers writing assistance to students. Its main mission is to develop their writing skills and provide free writing support for students of all levels and at any stage of the writing process by offering inperson consultations during which writers can brainstorm ideas, adopt different writing approaches and strategies, and receive feedback from a well-trained tutor. For assistance student are encouraged to contact the center by sending an email to writingcenter@usek.edu.lb.

Technical Support

The Enterprise and Information Technology Services (EITS) at USEK provides essential assistance to students for resolving technical issues and ensuring smooth access to digital resources. It offers guidance and troubleshooting for hardware and software problems, assists with network connectivity, and helps students navigate learning management systems and online platforms. **Faculty Qualifications**

Faculty Name F.T (Full-Time) – P.T (Part-Time)	Academic Degrees related to the course	Related Coursework	Other Qualifications
Majdeline El Ters	Ph. D in History		