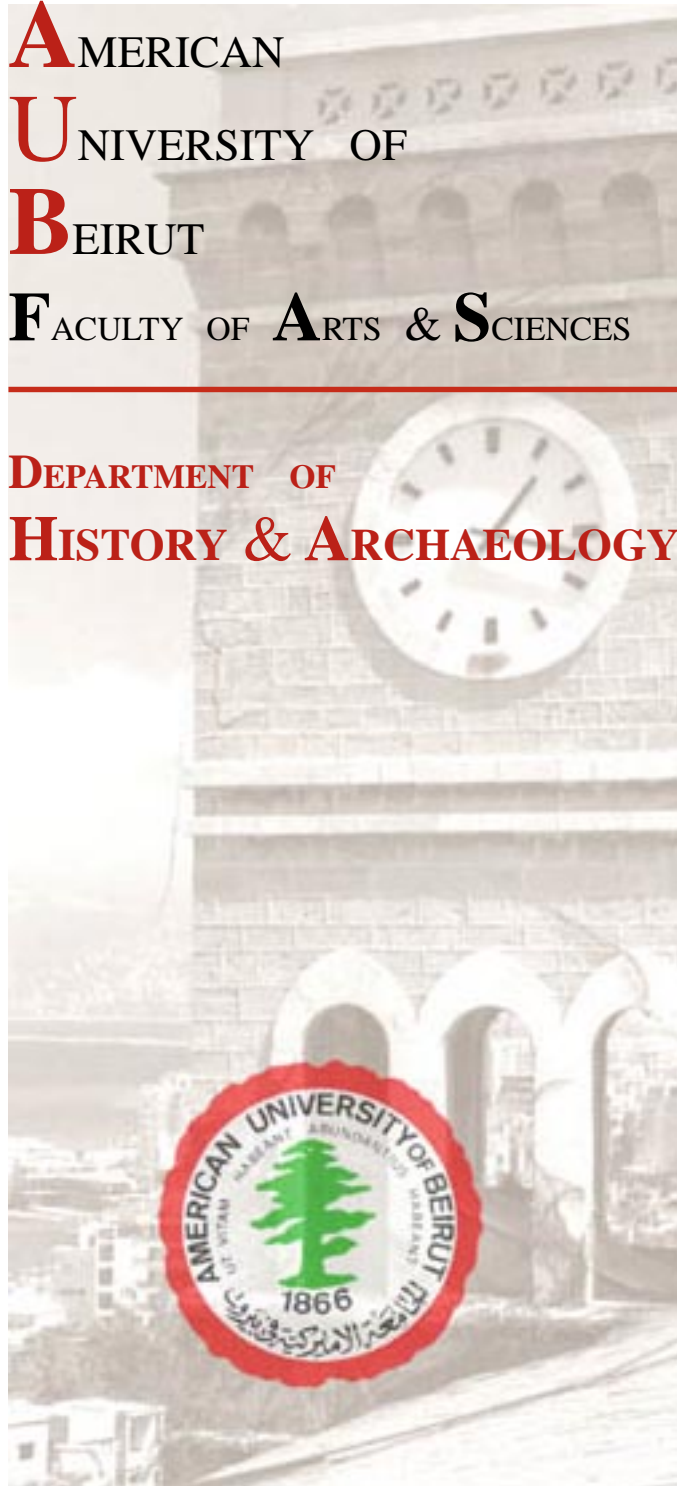


**A**ERICAN  
**U**NIVERSITY OF  
**B**EIRUT  
FACULTY OF **A**RTS & **S**CIENCES

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DEPARTMENT OF  
**HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY**



## What are Historians and Archaeologists ?

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Historians and Archaeologists are detectives in academic disguise. They are involved in solving mysteries, not of the present but of the past, the ten thousand years or so that have made us what we are today. Historians find their clues in written documents of all kinds — biographies and memoirs, court records and articles in the press. Archaeologists survey the ground and excavate beneath the earth or go underwater searching for the objects and clues which provide evidence of how the human story began. Or they specialize in ancient languages deciphering and reading the texts of the past so we can understand them today.



*Inscribed Persian helmet*

## How do You become one ?

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Students wishing to major in either History or Archaeology take 14 courses in the department, some elective courses and some required university courses. In return they get a B.A. More qualified students can go on to study for an M.A. and, in some cases, for a Ph.D. in Islamic or Modern Middle Eastern History. At that level students of high academic standard can expect some financial assistance in the shape of scholarship grants and graduate assistantships.



*Money used in Roman, Crusader and Ottoman Beirut  
Bronze coins excavated by AUB students*

## What can they do ?

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Teaching is not the only job historians can do. They can get into journalism or embark in a career of creative writing. They can become informed public relations agents, television broadcasters or simply stars. Knowledge of history can also lead to a political career, to the diplomatic service or to work in the public sector in such ministries, for example, as Tourism or Culture and Higher Education. There is also the possibility of employment in international organizations or in NGOs, in institutes of research or as archivists and professional librarians in the many universities of the region or abroad.



*Sultan Mehmed the Conqueror painted in 1479 by Gentile Bellini*

Archaeologists excavate on land and underwater, thus retrieving the heritage of the past. They can specialize in heritage management, become museum curators and conservationists or knowledgeable tourist guides. Some can become art historians while others take up landscaping and urban planning to preserve architectural and other symbols of the past. Archaeologists can also become information technology (IT) experts and so write more complex recording systems, or create reconstructions and presentations of our common human past.



*Roman pots excavated in Beirut and reconstructing domestic scene from archaeological samples from archaeological samples*





*Alhambra of Granada: view into the Court of the Lions (14th cent.)*

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