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The Beirut Exchange

June 10 - June 24, 2009 | Apply before April 15, 2009



In an effort to further its commitment to promoting dialogue and understanding, Mideastwire.com is pleased to announce the fourth **Beirut Exchange**. The two-week program will engage undergraduate and masters level students from around the world in a multifaceted discussion of some of the key issues facing the region.

The program rests on three tracks:

Academic	Language	Dialogue with Leaders
<p>Participants will attend a series of lectures and colloquia led by leading academics and public intellectuals. Topics will include: International law in theory and practice in the Middle East; The United Nations as peace-keeper and mediator; Engaging political Islam; Pax Syriana in Lebanon; Asymmetrical conflict: the July 2006 Lebanon war; The Dubai model and its impact on the Middle East.</p>	<p>Participants will have the option of attending 30 hours of Arabic language instruction at the Saifi Arabic Institute in Beirut. Modules for both colloquial and formal Arabic will be available at different levels.</p>	<p>Participants will have the opportunity to meet, listen and engage social, political and economic leaders from across the spectrum in both Lebanon and Syria – with a particular (though not exclusive) emphasis on exposure to leading Islamist and opposition currents.</p>

Previous Speakers

- Omar Bakri, Islamist Activist
- Bilal Baroudi, As-Salam Mosque
- Nicholas Blanford, *Times of London*
- Richard Chambers, International Foundation for Electoral Systems
- Alastair Crooke, Conflicts Forum
- Robert Fisk, *The Independent*
- Timur Goksel, American University of Beirut
- Judith Palmer Harik, Matn University
- Nadim Houry, Human Rights Watch
- Bill Grant, US Embassy
- Karim Makdisi, American University of Beirut
- Michael Miller, European Commission
- Ibrahim Mussawi, *Al Intiqad*
- Nir Rosen, Journalist
- Osama Safa, Lebanese Center for Policy Studies
- Paul Salem, Carnegie Middle East Center
- Milos Struger, United Nations
- Michael Young, *Daily Star*
- Mohammed Zadah, Iranian Embassy

Cost

\$2000 (Tuition); \$1,500 (Estimated airfare & accommodation from the European Union. Please note that only breakfast is provided as a part of the accommodation fee). All academic and language programming will take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Hamra, Beirut. Tuition is 70% refundable up to 3 days before the program commences, should the situation in Lebanon warrant a cancellation (Airline tickets and accommodation should be purchased with travel insurance.)

How to apply

To request a downloadable application or financial aid information, please email info@mideastwire.com.

About the Organizations

Mideastwire.com

is a Beirut-based media monitoring company that translates the Arabic and Persian language media into English. For more information, visit www.mideastwire.com

The Saifi Institute for Arabic Language

offers intensive Introductory and Intermediate courses designed to deepen the learning experience for students. The curriculum emphasizes the instruction of Modern Standard Arabic (Fous7a) while also giving students the colloquial tools they need to take the most away from their time in Beirut. For more information, visit www.saifiarabic.com