



THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO

معهد الشرق الأوسط للتعليم العالي

UNESCO UIL Webinar series - Higher Education

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## معهد الشرق الأوسط للتعليم العالي

### About AUC:

Founded in 1919, AUC is a leading English-language, American-accredited institution of higher education and center of intellectual, social and cultural life of the Arab world. Its community of students, parents, faculty and staff, trustees, alumni and other generous sponsors represent more than 60 countries. The University offers 36 undergraduate, 44 master's and two PhD programs rooted in a liberal arts education that encourages students to think critically and find creative solutions to conflicts and challenges facing both the region and the world. It also offers a globally recognized professional community-based education in English to meet the needs of the dynamic Egyptian and broader regional economies





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Its six schools are School of Business, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, School of Sciences and Engineering, School of Continuing Education, and Graduate School of Education. AUC offers more than 30 undergraduate majors and 50 graduate programs serving around 4,800 students, as well as educational opportunities to enhance the professional and job skills of more than 40,000 non-degree students. Guiding these exceptional students is a faculty of more than 300 professional and dedicated scholars who hold advanced degrees from leading universities around the world.





## Engagement in the Public Discourse on COVID-19

- **AUC as a pace setter and model:** In consultation with the Government of Egypt it was the first to model lock down of the university and turning to online teaching. All higher education followed the model.
- **AUC maintains a regular on line communication for information on COVID-19**



## Provision of learning opportunities for local communities during COVID-19

- Through its adult and Continuing Education program AUC has continued its learning mission to professionals and the surrounding community seeking learning opportunities through non formal education on line.
- The Graduate School of Education offers a professional educator program to teachers, leaders and school principals on line



## Students' social engagement during COVID-19

- Launching online awareness campaigns introducing preventive measures, discussing the consequences and physical/psychological effects of COVID-19.
- Sharing the hotline numbers provided by the Ministry of Health on social media platforms.
- Coordinating with external service providers to deliver food and essentials to elderly people in their houses to avoid crowds, and hence minimizing the risks of them being infected as the easier target for the virus.
- Distributing alcohol sanitizers, masks, gloves, and other hygiene products amongst groups that can't afford to buy these important items and need it to protect themselves while going to their workplaces.
- Coordinating with charity organizations to prepare and increase the number of Ramadan packs to serve more people including elders' houses and orphanages along with their normal targeted communities in areas like Kafr Hakim, Manshyet Naser, Misr El-Adima, Ein Shams, Batn El-Baqara, Arba'a wa Nos, Meet Okba and Qena.
- Transferring funds to support some of the families who lost their jobs due to the current circumstances.



## Mental Support

The university has an online counseling facility for the AUC community for psycho social support. Currently we are trying to replicate this service to the broader community in schools in particular. AUC has just launched a research call/award for faculty and students to support the broader community. Several of the proposals are tackling the psychological well being of communities and service institutions.



## Local Government

The Middle East Institute for Higher Education MEIHE at the Graduate School of Education has launched an initiative to turn the neighboring New Cairo into a learning City. The initiative is continuing on line for the initial planning phase.

MEIHE has also presented a proposal for enhancing teacher performance during COVID-19 by supporting the formation of Peer Communities of Learners through technology





Public Universities

Helwan University:

The students along with the department of Home Economics are providing the medical profession with protective garments

Ainshams University:

The department of Engineering is exploring the production of affordable ventilators

Cairo University:

The school of Medicine is actively engaged in the national and global research to find a cure for COVID-19





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Thank You

Merci

Gracias

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