



**جامعة بيروت العربية**  
**BEIRUT ARAB UNIVERSITY**



## Beirut Arab University Helps 1400 Students Earn IC3 Digital Literacy Certification in First Year

Founded in 1960, Beirut Arab University (BAU) is a private Lebanese institution for higher education and is recognized as a significant leader in teaching. BAU has more than 111,000 alumni and their distinguished faculties and innovative academic opportunities continually attract students from around the Arab World.

BAU is committed to offering outstanding educational programs in an environment ideal for academic creativity, development of leadership skills, instilling the concept of social responsibility, respecting diversity, and multicultural understanding.

A key challenge BAU faces is convincing students that technology skills are the pillars needed to support them in their future careers. The University wants all BAU students to have a basic level of computer literacy in order to be qualified once they enter the job market.

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Mrs. Abeer Hallak, Development and Innovation Coordinator for the BAU Center for Continuing and Professional Education, discovered Certiport's IC3 Digital Literacy certification program and thought it might offer a solution for BAU to ensure all students are computer literate. "As we researched IC3, we found that it measured knowledge in three key areas we wanted students to be proficient in - Key Applications, Computing Fundamentals, and Living Online," said Mrs. Hallak.

"Once we heard about the IC3 exams based on a Global Standard recognized throughout the world, we knew it was an ideal solution to help our students grasp digital concepts," said Dr. Wassim Itani, Director of Continuing Education and Entrepreneurship, BAU. "We believed the IC3 exams would be the best way to prove our students' competency."

First, BAU became a Certiport Authorized Testing Center to begin offering IC3 exams. Then they trained their instructors on delivering the IC3 program and had the instructors take the IC3 exams to ensure they were prepared. Once they were

running smoothly they introduced the program to students.

In just the first year, 1400 BAU students earned IC3 certification. Every student is now required to earn IC3 before graduation.

"Digital literacy is moving our students to a position where they can interact, communicate, and work in a digitally-enabled community," said Dr. Itani. "They are more aware of technology concepts and more prepared to sit for other, more advanced IT certifications depending on their discipline."

Beyond IC3, some BAU students in the Architecture program move on to take Adobe or Autodesk certifications. Engineering students may move on to CISCO certifications. Either way, all students are more prepared for further study thanks to the basic preparation of the IC3 exams.

"We would recommend IC3 and believe other schools must adopt this certificate to ensure their students are better prepared for the current competitive job market," said Dr. Itani. "We are planning to adopt more advanced certifications according to our students' disciplines and interests. Nothing is as important in the workplace as a proof of your digital skills."

**IC3**  
**DIGITAL LITERACY**  
**CERTIFICATION**