



**Saint George  
University  
of Beirut**

جامعة القديس جاورجيوس  
في بيروت



# Human Nature?

## Perspectives on Education

Faculty of Arts and Sciences  
**Colloquium**



**Roula Abi Habib Khoury**  
USJ



**Jean El Khawand**  
USJ



**Marie Anne El Khoury**  
LAU



**Hanna Fares**  
SGUB



**Emily Gafney**  
LAU



**Jihad Maalouf**  
SGUB



**Joseph Maalouf**  
LU

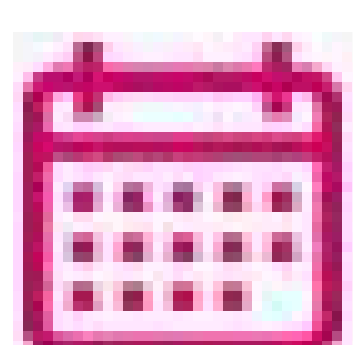


**Majed Moubarak**  
UA



**Imad Saoud**  
AUB

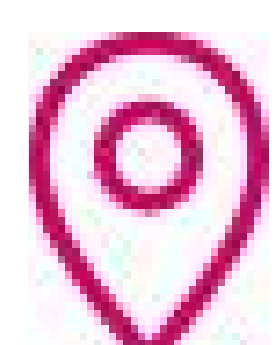
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**Saturday, May 3**



**9:30 AM**



**SGUB (Building B-C)**  
Batlouni Amphitheater





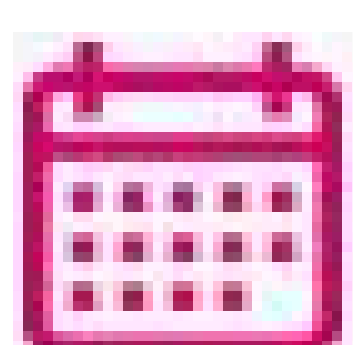
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## Human Nature? Perspectives on Education Program

09:30 – 09:35	<b>Hanna Fares, PhD, Professor of Biology, Dean of Faculty of Arts and Sciences, SGUB</b> Welcome
09:35 – 09:50	<b>Hanna Fares, PhD, Professor of Biology, Dean of Faculty of Arts and Sciences, SGUB</b> Towards Educational Systems Informed by the Human Design
09:50 – 10:05	<b>Joseph Maalouf, PhD, Professor of Philosophy, LU</b> Is the Control of Nature by Humans Limitless?
10:05 – 10:20	<b>Imad Saoud, PhD, Professor of Biology, AUB</b> An Evolutionary Limit to Learning Capacity in <i>Homo sapiens</i>
10:20 – 10:35	<b>Roula Abi Habib Khoury, PhD, Associate Professor of Sociology, USJ</b> Control over Bodies: A Sociological Perspective
10:35 – 11:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11:00 – 11:15	<b>Majed Moubarak, PhD, Assistant Professor of Physiology, UA</b> Mind and Body Synergy in Physical Education: Promoting Health and Wellbeing through integrated educational programs
11:15 – 11:30	<b>Emily Gafney, PhD, Lecturer of Philosophy, LAU</b> Embodied Learning and One's Own Body
11:30 – 11:45	<b>Jean El Khawand, PhD, Lecturer in Education, USJ</b> Reinventing School Curricula: How Natural Education Revitalizes Science and Biology Teaching?
11:45 – 12:00	<b>Marie Anne El Khoury, Clinical psychologist with a PhD in neuroscience, Assistant Professor of Psychology, LAU</b> Wired to Learn, Forced to Conform: The Neuroscience of Education Failure
12:00 – 12:15	<b>Jihad Maalouf, MD, PhD, STB, Assistant Professor of Medical Humanities, SGUB</b> Homo Criticus and Body's Imperatives

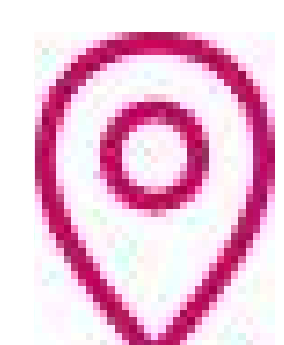
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## **Roula Abi Habib Khoury, USJ**

Roula Abi Habib Khoury is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Saint Joseph University of Beirut where she serves as the director of the Center for the study of the modern Arab world (Centre d'Etudes pour le Monde Arabe Moderne (CEMAM) and director of the Academy for Citizenship (Académie de Formation à la citoyenneté AFC-USJ). She teaches Sociological theory, Political sociology, Sociology of religion and sociology of the Lebanese society. She has been Chair of Sociology at the same university and a visiting professor at Erfurt University in Germany. She has published several sociological articles and, in joint authorship, a book about Lebanon, thirty years after the end of the war of 1975-1990.

## **Jean El Khawand, USJ**

Jean El Khawand is a university and school teacher, holding a PhD in Economics from the University of Grenoble. Currently, he is pursuing a PhD in Humanities at Saint Joseph University of Beirut and a PhD in Education at the Catholic Institute of Paris. He teaches various university subjects and teaches economics and social sciences, history-geography, and philosophy at the high school level. He holds multiple master's degrees in philosophy, economics, social sciences, education, and theology.

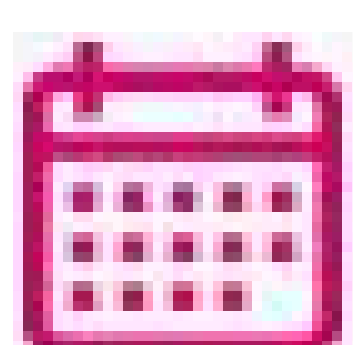
## **Marie Anne El Khoury, LAU**

Clinical psychologist with a PhD in neuroscience, with a double Masters in biology and psychology. She completed her PhD in brain thought and behavior at Pierre & Marie Curie university, in Paris. Assistant Professor in the psychology and education department at LAU. She has many publications.

## **Hanna Fares, SGUB**

Hanna (Johnny) Fares, PhD, received his doctorate degree in Biology from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Dr. Fares was a professor and interim head of the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology at the University of Arizona; he then moved to Lebanon and became the founding Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of a new university, Saint George University of Beirut. While Dr. Fares began his career deciphering cell biological processes, his current interests revolve around educational systems, including understanding and developing cooperative behavior.

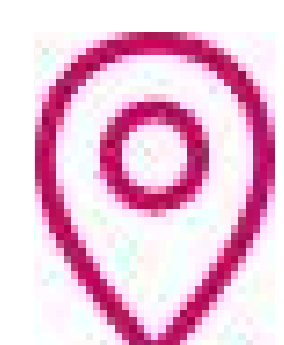
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## Emily Gafney, LAU

Lecturer of Philosophy with a focus on Ethics and Philosophy of Mind at Lebanese American University (LAU). She holds a PhD from St. Joseph University in Education, an MEd from Trinity College Dublin, and a BS in Education from the University of Vermont. Most recently she received a certificate in Dimensions of Diversity from the University of Chicago. Dr. Gafney's research interests include phenomenology, professional development, and reflective practice. Additionally, Dr. Gafney has spearheaded ethics and professionalism initiatives in higher education including founding of the Office of Professionalism and Ethics at LAU.

## Jihad Maalouf, SGUB

Jihad Maalouf, MD, PhD, MPhil, STB, is an Assistant Professor at Saint George University of Beirut. He is specialist in Medical Humanities and Philosophy of Health. He has published many articles and books. His current research interests focus on Epistemology of Health.

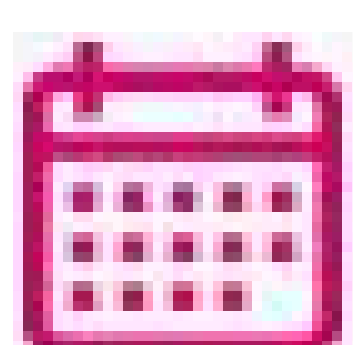
## Joseph Maalouf, LU

PhD in philosophy from Caen, Normandie and Former Professor of German and Moral Philosophy at the Lebanese University. He was also a former chairperson of the Department of Philosophy at the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences at the Lebanese University – UL – section II. He has many publications and translations in Bioethics and Philosophy of Religion.

## Majed Moubarak, UA

Chairperson – Education Motricity and Adapted Physical Activities Expert in Cardiac Physiology, Physical Activities and Health at the Faculty of Sports Sciences at the Antonine University. Experienced Researcher and Lecturer with a demonstrated history of working in the higher education industry. Taught courses across majors including but not limited to biomedical engineering, sports sciences, life sciences, and paramedical sciences. Strong education professional with a Ph.D. focused in Physiology and Pathophysiology from Poitiers University (Université de Poitiers - France). Research interests lie in health especially in cardiac physiology with a special focus on exercise physiology. A published scholar, with work appearing in indexed journals and a medical education expert.

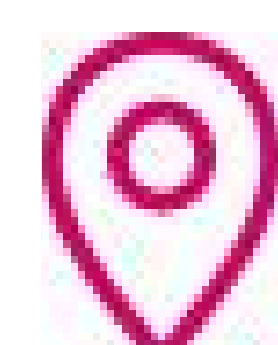
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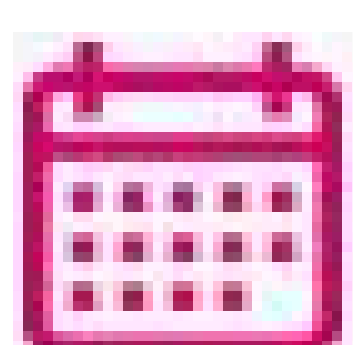
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## Imad Saoud, AUB

Imad Saoud is a professor of aquatic science at the American University of Beirut. Imad's research focuses on the eco-physiology of aquatic organisms. He is the world authority on rabbitfish biology and one of the few experts on arid land aquaculture. Lately, his researched has focused on circular economy in aquaculture and on environmental concerns related to water productivity. He has also diversified into water conservation using aquaculture to improve water productivity. Imad's work has taken him to the USA, Latin America, West Africa, Southeast Asia and the Middle East. He has previously served on the board of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the World Aquaculture Society and has served in various committees of WAS. He is presently the president of the Asia Pacific Aquaculture Chapter of WAS. Professor Saoud is also an educator. He has taught various biology courses but the main theme in all his teaching is the evolutionary and genetic raison d'être of anything related to life. He believes that nothing in life can be explained without evolution. He has previously written and spoken about the evolution of ethics and morality and also about the importance of imagination in science and learning.

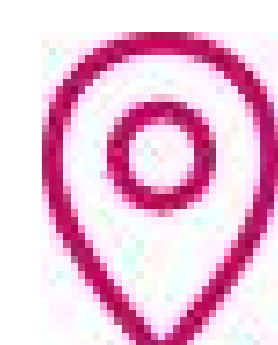
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