

College of Health Sciences

The Master of Public Health (MPH) program provides health professionals a thorough grounding in population-based approaches to health care problem identification, investigation, analysis, and managed response.

The curriculum emphasizes basic public health sciences and essential managerial and analytic skills including project planning and evaluation, epidemiologic investigations, understanding complex dimensions of health, effective communication to professional and lay audiences, and leadership. The first year of study provides exposure to the breadth of public health disciplines; the second year provides advanced training in key methodological disciplines and concludes with a student directed (internship) project.

Program graduates have assumed senior positions in the Armenian health care system and international organizations. The College of Health Sciences benefits from an affiliation agreement with the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health and a number of the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER). In addition, the College of Health Sciences co-sponsors the School for Health Care Management and Administration (SHCMA) in cooperation with the Ministry of Health of Armenia, and provides technical and logistical support to SHCMA faculty.

The Center for Health Services Research and Development (CHSR) is an applied research and development center within the College of Health Sciences. The Center's principal objective is to provide supervised field training opportunities for students enrolled in the AUA Public Health program. Students have played integral roles in many of the Center's projects, including a recent evaluative survey on family planning and contraceptive practices, quality of care assessments of a major medical facility, and national surveys on infant mortality, breast-feeding practices, and the treatment of acute respiratory infection, as well as a major USAID funded project benefiting Nagorno Karabagh.

The CHSR is well known, both within and outside Armenia, as a regional research center. The Center's principles of rigor, methodologically sound research with the need to provide policy-makers with pragmatic information that allows them to translate effective policies into action.

The CHSR includes the Guro Mkhitarian Eye Institute for Preventive Ophthalmology (IOMEPH), which seeks to minimize blindness and eye disease by promoting preventive activities, developing professional and public awareness of the problem, and fostering development of the local health system's capacity to effectively identify and prevent vision disorders before they lead to blindness.

Department of English Programs

The Department of English Programs offers a Master of Arts degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (M.A.T.EFL) as well as a certificate program in Teaching English as a Foreign Language.

The TEFL M.A. and Certificate programs are designed to meet the demands of an educational system in transition. Based on the most highly developed and advanced linguistic, pedagogical, and sociological principles for the development of curricula, textbooks, and examinations, the curriculum provides training to future teachers of English.

"Measured against current TEFL teacher education standards, AUA's program is the best program I know of in the CIS."

Rita Pagan Regional English Language Officer U.S. Embassy, Yerevan, Yerevan

Environmental Conservation and Research

The Environmental Conservation and Research Center (ECRC) is a core of the Academic Program in Environmental Science and Conservation and a Research Program in Environmental Conservation. ECRC is generously endowed by Sarkis Arapyan, who also funds the highly successful Birds of Armenia Project that operates within ECRC.

The Academic Program in Environmental Science includes an introductory course on environment that is required for first year students in all degree programs. In addition, the Academic Program offers a Certificate in Environmental Science and Conservation open to second-year degree students. That all degree students at AUA can extend their professional training with an environmental education. This has allowed new graduates to go on from AUA to pursue degrees in environmental engineering or careers in interdisciplinary fields such as environmental advocacy.

The Research Program in Environmental Conservation conducts basic and applied research and operates community outreach programs to improve the level of environmental education and awareness in Armenia. The Research Program provides research and employment opportunities for AUA students and brings to the region international standards for research and community engagement. It supports a state quality laboratory and a computer lab housing a Geographic Information System (GIS), and publishes international articles on new insights in Armenian environmental problems. The Center has worked on projects funded through the United Nations Development Program, U.S. Agency for International Development, the NATO Science Programme, the Global Research Development Fund, the Tufenkian Institute, and the Urban Institute, among others.

Birds of Armenia, a special long-term project focused on bird conservation and public awareness, has published a *Field Guide to the Birds of Armenia in English* (1999), *Field Guide to the Birds of Armenia in Armenian* (2000), and *A Handbook of the Birds of Armenia* (2000), most detailed and up-to-date scholarly treatise available for the birds of Armenia (including more species found throughout Transcaucasia).

AUA Papazian Library

The AUA Papazian Library is one of the most popular libraries in Armenia, and the only fully automated library in the region. It serves not only the student faculty, and staff of the university, but also students and scholars from other institutions and the community at large.

The recently renovated ground floor of the library includes lecture rooms for group discussion and study; as well as an electronic media center for reviewing audiovisual materials, CDs, and slides.

The library was one of the first in Armenia to set up a center for providing the general public with free access to the Internet within the framework of the Internet Access and Training Program (IATP) established by IREX.

The On-line Public Access Catalog (OPAC) is available through public terminals located in the library as well as throughout the university via the AUA computer network.



THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA



Extension Program

The Extension Program offers organized lectures and courses on topics such as English language skills, business and finance, computer software usage, monetary policy, and Armenian as a Foreign Language. An interactive speaker lecture series brings guest speakers from Armenia and abroad to lecture by internet in question and answer sessions with the general public. The lectures are placed on AUA's website (www.aun.edu/arm) in both English and Armenian, allowing for the free exchange of opinion regardless of location.



American University of Armenia

An affiliate of the University of California, in partnership with the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU), the American University of Armenia (AUA) was established in 1991 as an independent postgraduate institution of higher learning located in Yerevan, Armenia.

It is a setting that values academic excellence, free inquiry, scholarship, leadership, and service to society. AUA students prepare to address the needs of Armenia and the surrounding region for sustainable development. The language of instruction at AUA is English.

AUA offers master's degrees in Business Administration, Industrial Engineering and Systems Management, Computer and Information Science, Political Science and International Affairs, Public Health, Law, Comparative Legal Studies, and Teaching English as a Foreign Language.

A unique feature of the curriculum is that courses in environmental science are required of all students enrolled in AUA's various degree programs.

AUA's Papazian Library is one of the fully automated libraries in the region, facilitating academic research and the pursuit of knowledge.

Six research centers provide excellent opportunities for students to acquire first-hand experience in their field through practical work with foreign and local faculty and experts. These include the Center for Business Research and Development, Engineering Research Center, Center for Policy Analysis, Center for Health Services Research and Development, Legal Research Center, and Environmental Conservation and Research Center.

AUA graduates acquire a broad set of research and problem-solving skills and skills and are prepared to identify and analyze problems, make decisions, and communicate solutions. Over 900 graduates now occupy key positions in governmental agencies, foreign missions, non-governmental organizations, and private companies. Some have launched their own businesses, or pursued doctoral degrees.



College of Business and Management

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) program develops future business leaders. As future entrepreneurs, students learn cutting-edge business skills, new managerial techniques, and leadership skills through course work as well as individual and group projects.

MBA graduates are successful business leaders employed by multi-national organizations such as Coca-Cola, Procter & Gamble, Johnson & Johnson, and the World Bank.

The Center for Business Research and Development (CBRD) carries out organized research and development projects through teams of faculty, local experts, and graduate students. The Center focuses on developing reliable economic business and industrial information about Armenia and the region. As the first organization in Armenia to provide Western research and consulting services to the areas of business and management, the CBRD has developed a unique mix of knowledge and capabilities, including business analysis and planning, feasibility studies for business start-ups, market research and analysis, industry analysis, due diligence reviews and financial analysis, production planning and optimization, and accounting conversion.

"Our team includes qualified graduates from the Engineering College of the American University of Armenia who have strong up-to-date technical, computer, and language skills. These AUA graduates have been able to quickly apply themselves and grow in the field of renewable energy. We take pride in having them as members of our team and are confident that they will have a significant role in the rehabilitation and modernization of Armenia's scientific and industrial potential."

Victor Aghan Executive Director, Sarkis J.C. Teren



College of Engineering

The College of Engineering offers programs leading to a Master of Engineering degree in Industrial Engineering and Systems Management, and a Master of Science degree in Computer and Information Science (CIS).

The Industrial Engineering and Systems Management program focuses on methods of production and service, as well as concepts and techniques of managing resources to maximize benefits. Students receive training in the use of specialized software for optimization, simulation, statistical analysis, data processing and management, computer-aided design, and computer-aided manufacturing. Classroom instruction is supplemented by field trips to various service centers or manufacturing plants, and by lecture participation in applied research projects in the Engineering Research Center (ERC).

Through their study of technological trends and emerging opportunities, students in the Computer and Information Science program acquire the skills to become productive leaders in the computing and related industries. The curriculum includes broad training in the technical area of the field, with special emphasis on software engineering and a business, as well as in business, management, and entrepreneurship. Practicum and project courses offer opportunities to work on real-world software projects.

The CIS program provides special opportunities for students through the collaborative relationships between the program and other academic institutions, and local industry. Courses are provided by faculty at AUA and via distance education by faculty based at locations within the US.

The ERC conducts basic and applied research on economic and technological problems that are relevant to the industrial development of Armenia and the surrounding region. Qualified students, employed as research assistants, gain valuable experience working alongside faculty and local experts.

The ERC operates a number of research facilities, including a modern computer laboratory, an earthquake simulator, two strong-motion seismographs, a computer-aided manufacturing laboratory, and a solar monitoring station.

The ERC has completed a number of important projects, including the investigation of the methods for seismic strengthening of damaged buildings; development of seismic base isolation technology for existing and new buildings; development and operation of a novel solar-powered decision responsive cooling system; reliability theory; and the design of a laser scanner for monitoring defects in solar cells.

"AUA gives us a new way of learning: we developed the ability to recognize different views and respect our differences. We were able to build on the solid foundation we received under the old system and add a new dimension of active learning: proofing, questioning, seeking different answers."

Ali Babakian, M.A. Class of 1995 Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy

Hannik Melkonian, M.A. Class of 1996 Human Resources Assistant, U.S. Embassy

Liana Abrahamyan, M.A. Class of 1997 Procurement Assistant, U.S. Embassy



School of Political Science and International Affairs

The School of Political Science and International Affairs provides a variety of courses in a two-year study of government, politics, policy, and administration. Students learn to think critically, analyze complex situations and problems, and develop their writing skills.

The school's approach is multidisciplinary with a strong emphasis on the understanding of democratic governance at the local, national, regional, and international levels. The curriculum includes courses in the following areas: political theory and methods, international politics, comparative politics, public administration, and policy analysis.

The Center for Policy Analysis (CPA) conducts multidisciplinary applied research in a broad spectrum of contemporary social, political, and legal fields concerning Armenia and the surrounding region. The CPA provides opportunities for exceptional students to explore and understand the process of gathering data for policy documents and publications.

In addition to publishing reports and studies, the Center has worked on seminars and grants for the Urban Institute of Washington, D.C., the World Bank, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Information Agency, UNICEF, UNICEF, and the Soros Foundation, among others.

The Center is a member of the Transition Policy Network, a consortium of research institutes in Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) that collaborate on policy reform projects.



Department of Law

The Department of Law offers a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree to students holding a prior degree in law and a Master of Comparative Legal Studies (MCLS) degree to students whose prior degree is in a subject other than law.

Students in both tracks study the Western legal tradition and the rule of law. They learn modern "best practices" standards in comparative and international law so as to equip themselves to assist Armenia and the surrounding region to develop both economically and in just societies governed by law.

Students in the Law Department take courses in four areas: (i) comparative law, institutions, and legal traditions; (ii) international law, both private and public; (iii) business law and (iv) clinical training, in courses such as negotiation, legal argument, trial advocacy, and legal writing. Courses typically include comparative constitutional law, public international law, human rights law, international commercial law, corporate finance and government, media law, intellectual property law, and Armenian law as a comparative perspective.

"In Armenia and its neighborhood—including the former USSR, Turkey, and Iran—Iraq, rational, accessible law and governance are necessary for sustainable development and human fulfillment. AUA is dedicated to helping this region address its common problems in ways that, above all, can sustain hope for a better future."

Professor Larutian D. Johnston Associate Dean, Department of Law

The Department's faculty includes two full-time resident professors and a number of "visitors" (often quite distinguished) from the United States, Armenia, and various other countries. Law Department graduates hold influential positions in government, law firms and business enterprises, non-government organizations, foreign missions, universities, and other endeavors.

The Legal Research Center (LRC) is an integral part of the Department of Law. The LRC focuses on law efforts and on transferring the information infrastructure of law and governance in the region. The LRC's growing collection of books and loose-leaf services is augmented by WebEx, a vast Internet-accessible database of comparative and international law, as well as other databases in Armenian, Russian, and English. The LRC seeks to achieve its goals through classroom education of AUA students and by participating and advising students to participate in projects of law reform and legal development in Armenia and the surrounding region.

