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ABSTRACT

The report describes the educational system of Kuwait from primary school through university. An introductory section gives an overview of the system, and subsequent sections detail curricula at each level, pre-university (including primary, intermediate, and secondary) and university-level. Pre-university education is divided into four instructional sectors: general, vocational, religious, and special education. University-level education includes applied education and undergraduate and graduate study at Kuwait University. A brief section on private education describes four school types, following either the British, French, or American educational systems or the Ministry of Education curriculum. Samples of student records are reproduced. Two appendixes provide notes on what happened to the educational system during the Gulf War and the names of private schools. (MSE)



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System of Education in Kuwait

WORKING PAPER August 1993

Ismail Safwat Registrar and Director of Admissions American University in Cairo Egypt

Projects for International Education Research (PIER)

American Association of Collegiate Registrars Admissions Officers (AACRAO)

NAFSA: Association of International Educators

Washington, DC



The System of Education in Kuwait

by

Ismail Safwat

American University in Cairo

1993

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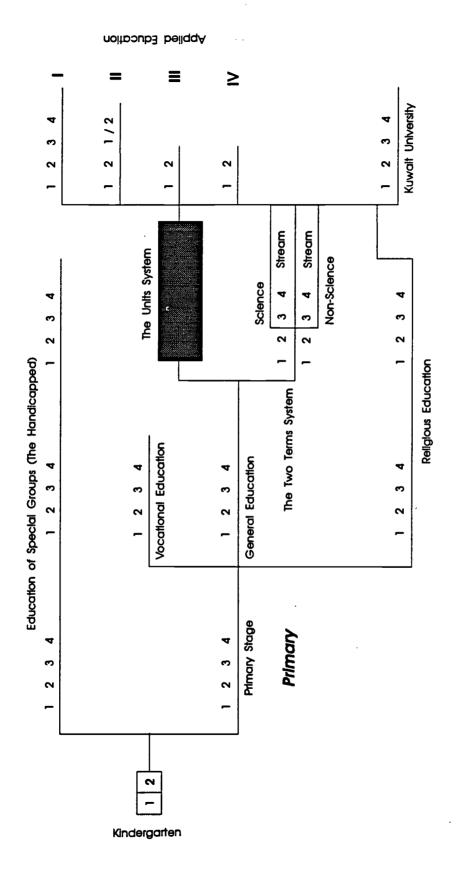
In the U.S., Cynthia Fish of CUNY-Baruch College and Kristine Aulenback, Placement Coordinator, Middle East Region, Partners for International Education and Training, were kind enough to review this special report on Kuwait.

Ismail Safwat
Registrar and Director of Admissions
American University in Cairo
Egypt



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Structure of the Kuwait Educational System



Intermediate Education

Secondary

Colleges of Applied Education I. College of Basic Education

College of Basic Education
 College of Technological Studies
 College of Business Studies

College of Health Sciences

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Prepared by: Ismall Safwat, Registrar and Director of Admissions, American University in Cairo



I. Introduction

Education in Kuwait started during the nineteenth century as informal education taught through the mosques. In mosque schools, students studied Islamic studies and Arabic language. By the end of the century (around 1887), religious private schools were being established, but only at the primary level. These privately founded schools taught the Koran and mathematics.

In 1912 the first private school to teach subjects in addition to the *Koran* and mathematics was established; then followed a number of other private schools. In 1937 the government set up the first two governmental schools (one for boys and another for girls). By 1942 the secondary education level for boys was implemented, and schools were established accordingly. In 1946 the secondary education level schools for girls were established. Beginning in 1978, a number of the secondary schools started to apply the unit system (credit hours system).

Education in Kuwait is divided into preuniversity education and university education. Preuniversity-level education is divided into four types: general education, vocational education, religious education, and education for the handicapped. University-level education is di-

vided into applied colleges and Kuwait University, which is the only university in Kuwait. (See page vi for the chart on the Structure of Kuwait Educational System.)

Education in Kuwait is sponsored by the following organizations:

- Preuniversity education is sponsored by the Ministry of Education.
- Applied education and vocational education are sponsored by the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training which is affiliated with the Ministry of Higher Education.
- University education is sponsored by Kuwait University.

Most of the education in Kuwait is governmental and free. However, the government approves the establishment of some private schools, provided that these schools are supervised by the Ministry of Education. (See Chapter IV for a discussion of private education.) Coeducation is permitted only at the University of Kuwait and at some of the private schools.

II. Preuniversity Education

Each of the four types of education at the preuniversity level are divided into three stages: the primary stage, the intermediate stage, and the secondary stage.

The curriculum for the primary stage is similar in general, vocational, and religious education while it differs in the fourth type (the handicapped) because of the nature of this group. The curriculum of the primary stage consists of Arabic language, Islamic studies, mathematics, social studies, physical education, art, music, and free activities. There are 30 lessons per week. Each school manages the evaluation of students in this stage individually throughout the four years. Examination results and students' transcripts are authenticated by the Ministry of Education.

A description of the four types of education starting at the intermediate stage which begins upon completion of the four-year primary cycle follows.

A. General Education

1. The intermediate stage: The intermediate stage is four years in length. At the third and fourth year, students study Arabic language, Islamic studies, English language, science, mathematics, social studies, physical education, civics, music, art, applied studies, free activities, and home economics (for girls only). The academic year is divided into two terms of three-and-one-half months each. Boys have 30 lessons per week, and girls 32 per week.

During the four years of this stage, 50% of the grade of every subject each term derives from an evaluation of the students' classwork. The other 50% is for the final term examinations administered by each school individually. The minimum passing grade is 50% both in



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the total and in each individual subject. Examination results and students' transcripts are authenticated by the Ministry of Education.

- 2. The secondary stage: During this four-year stage, schools follow either the two-terms system or the units system.
- a. The two-terms system is divided into two streams: the science stream and the non-science stream (see Table 2.1). In the first two academic years, the students of both streams study the same subjects: Islamic studies, Arabic language, English language, French language, mathematics, science subjects, social studies, art and applied studies, computer studies and home economics (for girls only). The academic year is divided into two terms of three-and-one-half months each. Boys have 30 lessons per week each year, girls 32 lessons per week. Upon reaching the third year, students are divided into science and non-science streams. In each stream students study different subjects. Boys in both streams have 30 lessons per week, and girls 32 per week. Subjects and grades are assigned to each subject in the fourth year, as shown in Table 2.1.

Grades for physical education and home economics are not considered towards the final total grade. The total grades achieved by the student are transferred to percentages.

The minimum passing mark is 50% both in the total and each individual subject. The student who passes the final examination of the fourth year is granted the governmental Secondary School Certificate. Holders of this certificate are eligible to enroll at Kuwait University or the applied colleges sponsored by the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training.

b. The units system is similar to that implemented in the United States. The number of units required for graduation is 40. A unit is equal to five lessons per week (55 minutes per lesson) for a period of 15 weeks (a semester). The system offers eight different options (streams) of study. Table 2.2 shows the eight options and the distribution of the units in each option.

Students are evaluated as follows: 50% of the total grade is for classwork, the other 50% is for final exams in each term run by each school individually. The grading system applied by schools is the 4-point scale where A = 4 is the highest grade and D = 1 is the lowest passing grade. The minimum passing grade in each course is a "D" and the minimum cumulative average for graduation is also a "D."

The student who successfully completes the graduation requirements earns the Secondary School Certificate which is issued by the school and authenticated by the Ministry of Education. Holders of this certificate are eligible to enroll at Kuwait University or the applied colleges. (See Documents 2.1 and 2.2 for sample secondary school transcripts for the two-terms and units systems, respectively.)

B. Vocational Education

The length of study for vocational education is four years after completion of the primary stage. Lessons during the four years total 35 hours per week. Fifteen of these are designated to the general subjects such as Islamic studies, Arabic language, English language, social studies, mathematics, and science, in addition to five lessons per week to cover the general technical subjects such as engineering drawing, fundamentals of industry, and industrial safety. The other 15 lessons per week can be taken by the student in one of the following specializations: electrical connections and communications, offset printing, welding and forming, architecture and furniture, designing, painting and decoration, and formwork and reinforcing.

The student who successfully completes this stage earns a Technical Vocational Diploma issued by the Public Authority of Applied Education and Training. Students with this diploma are not permitted to continue their study in any degree program in Kuwait.

C. Religious Education

Religious education requires eight years of study after the four-year primary stage. It is divided into the intermediate and secondary stages.

In each of the four years of the intermediate stage, students take 33 lessons per week: 18 lessons per week in Islamic studies and Arabic language. The remaining 15 lessons each week are designated for English language, social studies, mathematics, science, physical education, art, and applied studies.

The number of lessons in the secondary stage totals 33 per week. Twenty-one lessons per week are for Islamic studies, Arabic language and logic; the remaining 12 lessons per week are designated for English language, social studies, mathematics, science and physical edu-



Table 2.1. Secondary Curriculum in Science and Non-Science (Two-Term) System

| | Sci | ence | Non- | Science |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Subject | Maximum Grade | Minimum Grade | Maximum Grade | Minimum Grade |
| Islamic Studies | 40 | 20 | 40 . | 20 |
| Arabic Language | 60 | 30 | 60 | 30 |
| English Language | 60 | 30 | 60 | 30 |
| French Language | • | • | 40 | 20 |
| Mathematics | 100 | 50 | - | - |
| Biology | 40 | 20 | • | - |
| Physics | 80 | 40 | - | - |
| Chemistry | 60 | 30 | - | • |
| History | • | - | 40 | 20 |
| Geography | • | - | 40 | 20 |
| Logic and Philosophy | • | - | 20 | 10 |
| Psychology | - | • | 20 | 10 |
| Physical Education | • | - | - | - |
| Home Economics | - | - | • | • |
| Total | 440 | 220 | 320 | 160 |

Table 2.2. Secondary Curriculum in the Units System

| The Options | General Units, All Options | Units Relevant to Options | Complementary Options | Elective Units |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Islamic Studies | 22 | 9 | 3 | 6 |
| Arabic Language | 21 | 10 | 3 | 6 |
| English Language | 21 | 8 | 3 | 8 |
| Social Studies | 23 | 8 | - | 9 |
| Mathematics | 23 | 7 | 7 | 3 |
| Science Subjects | 23 | 8 | 4 | 5 |
| Commercial Studies | 23 | 10 | 1 | 6 |
| Industrial Studies | 23 | 9 | 3 | 5 |

cation. At the end of the fourth year the Ministry of Education administers one final examination for all students.

Students who pass this examination are granted the Religious Secondary School Certificate that entitles holders to enroll in selected majors offered by Kuwait University or by the applied colleges.

D. Education of Special Groups (Handicapped)

Special groups include mute, deaf, mentally retarded, blind, and paralyzed students. Each of these

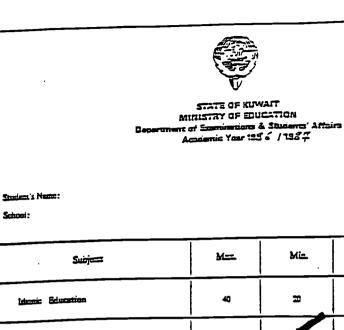
groups has special programs according to the nature of the handicap. Programs for mute, deaf, and mentally retarded students provide vocational training. Programs for the blind and paralyzed are similar to general education programs in both the intermediate and secondary stages (i.e., four years for the intermediate stage and four years for the secondary stage). Blind and paralyzed students, however, can enroll in selected majors at Kuwait University or the colleges of applied education when they have successfully completed their secondary school education.



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|-------------------------|-----|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Idenic Education | 40 | 22 | 55. <i>5</i> | |
| Acrise - Language | 60 | = | 48.5 | |
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| Papie | (a | 40 | 69.5 | |
| C7 | 60 | - 30 | 50 | |
| Biolog | 40 | 20 | 36.5 | |
| PINAL TOTAL | 443 | = | 378.5 | |

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Document 2.1. Secondary School Transcript, Two-Term System.



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Document 2.2a. Secondary School Transcript, Unit System, page 1.

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Document 2.2c. page 3.

III. University Level Education

A. Applied Education

Authority of Applied Education and Training. The four colleges in this category are the College of Basic Education, College of Business Studies, College of Health Sciences and College of Technological Studies. Students who are holders of the Kuwait Secondary School Certificate or its equivalent can be accepted by these colleges. All colleges use the credit hour system and follow the 4-point U.S. grading system. Based on their academic achievement, a very limited number of the graduates of these colleges may transfer to the Kuwait University. All transcripts are issued in both Arabic and English and could be received in both languages.

1. College of Basic Education

The length of study is eight semesters. The college's objective is to prepare teachers (both males and females) in all the majors for the different types of education (general, technical, and vocational). To graduate, students must achieve a cumulative average of not less than 1.5 (overall and in the major).

The college offers majors in Islamic studies, Arabic language, social studies, science, mathematics, art education, physical education, music, library sciences, education technology, kindergarten (for girls), home economic (for girls), and interior design (for girls). One hundred-thirty credit hours are required for graduation, 23% from general courses (e.g., Islamic studies, Arabic language, English language) taken by students in all majors, and 31% in education-related courses (e.g., education theories, educational psychology, method of teaching), including 10 credit hours for field training. The remaining 46% is designated for courses in the major. The graduate of this college earns a Bachelor of Arts in Basic Education.

2. College of Business Studies

The length of study is four semesters. The college's objective is to prepare qualified assistants to work in the administrative, commercial and financial affairs areas.

The college offers majors in accounting, business administration, insurance, banking, computer science, medical secretary material management, cooperatives management, and postal services.

Sixty-eight credit hours are required for graduation, 31% to 43% of the total credit hours for general courses taken by students in all majors (e.g., Islamic studies, Arabic language, English language, law, economics), including four credit hours for intensive field training. The remaining courses are designated for the major subjects. The graduate of this college is granted the Applied Diploma in Business Studies. (See Document 3.1 for a sample transcript.)

3. College of Health Sciences

The length of study is four semesters. The college's objective is to prepare technicians who can work in the different areas of health services. The college offers majors in general nursing (for girls), pharmacy technician, dentistry technician, medical records, environmental health, and dietetic sciences.

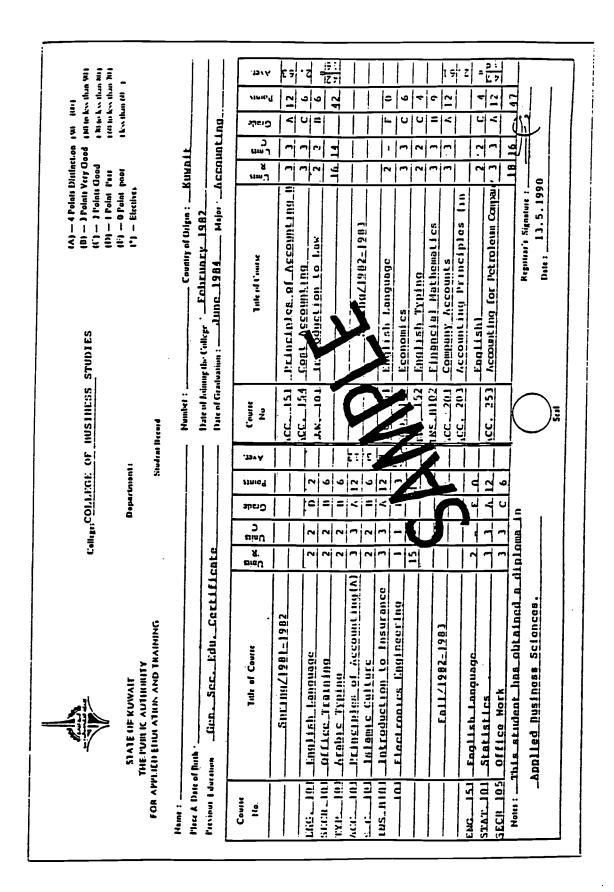
Sixty-eight credit hours are required for graduation, 25% to 30% of the total credit hours for general courses (e.g., Islamic studies, Arabic languages, English language, psychology, sociology, mathematics, chemistry) taken by the students in all majors, including a field training period. The remaining courses are designated for the major subjects. The graduate of this college earns the Applied Diploma of Health Sciences.

4. College of Technological Studies

The length of study is five semesters. This college's objective is to prepare technicians in the areas of industrial and technological development. The college offers majors in the following:

- Electronic Engineering Technology (biomedical equipment, equipment and systems of industrial electronics, communication equipment and systems)
- Electrical Engineering Technology (electrical machines, transmission and distribution of electrical energy)





Document 3.1a. Applied Colleges Transcript, College of Business Studies, page 1.

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Document 3.1b. page 2.



- Chemical Engineering Technology (petroleum, chemical industries)
- Civil Engineering Technology (building construction, infrastructure, quantitative survey)
- Mechanical Engineering Technology (power, automotive production, marine engineering, refrigeration)
- Applied Sciences (applied chemistry, applied physics)

Eighty-four credit hours are required for graduation, 33% of the total credit hours for general courses (e.g., Islamic studies, Arabic language, English language) taken by the students in their majors. The remaining credit hours are taken in the major courses. The fifth and last semester prior to graduation is designated for field training. Students spend 300 hours in the field in addition to 175 hours in industrial training. Students are granted eight credit hours for these two training periods.

The graduate of this college earns the Applied Diploma in Technological Studies. All diplomas of the College of Technological Studies are granted by the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training. (See Document 3.2 for a sample transcript from the College of Technological Studies.)

B. Kuwait University

1. Bachelor of Arts

The Kuwait University, the only university in the country, was established in 1966. It started implementing the credit hour system in the Faculty of Commerce in 1973. The credit hour system was adopted by the whole university in 1976. The academic year is divided into two semesters of 15 weeks each and a summer session of eight weeks. The grading system at the University follows the 4-point scale, with A=4 as the highest grade and D=1 as the lowest grade.

The minimum cumulative average for graduation is 2.00 both overall and in the major. Upon completion of graduation requirements, students earn a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science according to their major. (See Document 3.3 for a sample transcript from Kuwait University.)

The university colleges and the majors they offer are as follows:

a. The College of Arts

The College of Arts offers majors in Arabic language, English language, history, geography, philosophy, psychology, sociology, and social work. All majors require 126 credit hours. These hours are distributed in all majors (except in the social work major) as follows: 24% of the total hours for university required courses, 38% for major requirements, 14.5% for related subject requirements, 15% for the minor and 4.5% for electives. A major in social work requires 24% for university requirements, 24% for basic courses in social work, 48% for professional courses of social work and 4% for electives.

b. The College of Commerce, Economics, and Political Science

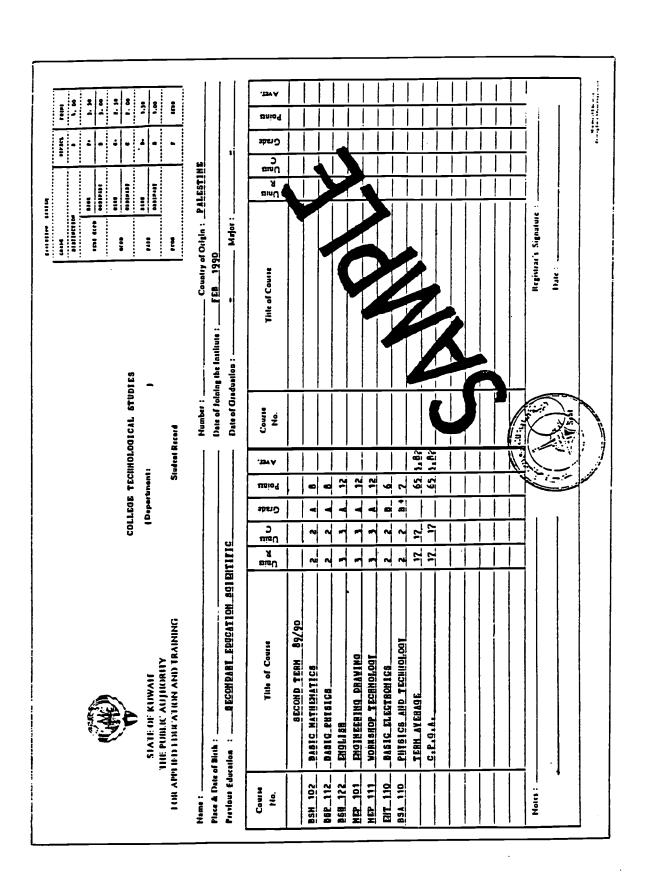
The College of Commerce, Economics, and Political Science offers majors in business administration (marketing, banking, industrial management, personnel management), economics, accounting, political science, and insurance and statistics. All majors require 120 credit hours distributed as follows:

- Business Administration major with its different sub-majors—25% of the credit hours are designated for university requirements, 26% for college requirements, 24% for courses taken by students in all the sub-majors, 15% for courses of the chosen subdivision major, and 10% for electives.
- Accounting major—25% for university requirements, 27.5% for college requirements, 22.5% for courses in the major, 15% for the related subject courses and 10% for electives.
- Political Science major—25% for the university requirements, 35% for courses in the major, 20% for minor courses, 10% for the related subject courses, and 10% for electives.
- Insurance and Statistics major—25% for university requirements, 27.5% for college requirements, 20% for courses in the major, 17.5% for the related subject courses, 10% for electives.

c. The College of Engineering

The College of Engineering offers majors in chemical engineering, civil engineering, electrical engineering and mechanical engineering. The number of credit hours required for graduation in all majors is 144, dis-



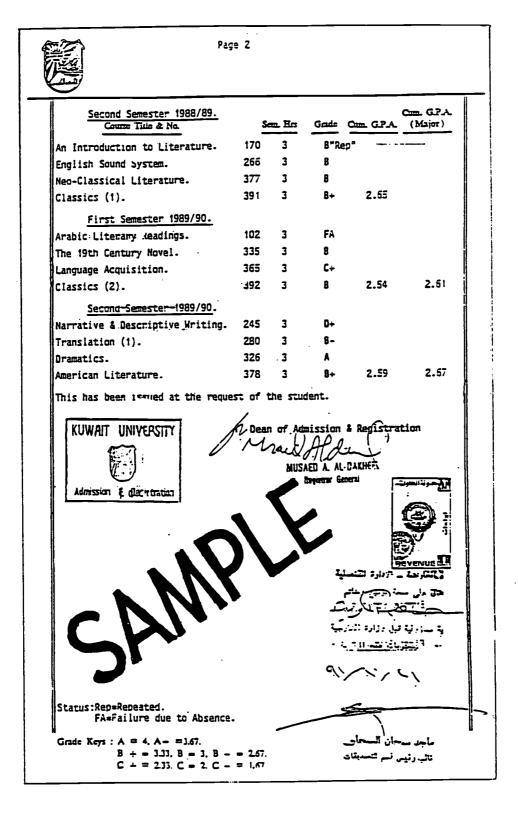


Document 3.2. Applied Colleges Transcript, College of Technological Studies.

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| Man & Environment. | 101 | • | B- | | | 1 1 |
| Principles of Education. | 201 | -3 | 8- | 2.40 | | |
| Second Semester 1987/88. | | | | | | |
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| Group Discussion. | 225 | 3 | В | | | |
| Introduction to Psychology. | 101 | 3 | В | | | |
| English Language. | 135 | 3 | A | 2.57 | | |
| Summer Semester 1987/88. | | | | | • | |
| Principles of Philosophy. | 103 | 3 | 8- | 2.67 | | |
| First Semester 1988/89. | | | | | | |
| Sentence & Paragraph Styling. | 140 | 3 | D+ | | | |
| An Introduction to Literature. | 170 | 3 | FA | | | |
| Introduction to Drama. | 2:5 | 3 | C | | | |
| Introduction to Linguistics. | 255 | 3 | B- | 2.33 | | |
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Document 3.3a. Sample Transcript, Kuwait University, page 1.





Document 3.3b. page 2.



tributed as follows: 10% for university requirements, 41% for college requirements, and 49% for the major.

d. The College of Shariaa and Islamic Studies

The College of Shariaa and Islamic Studies offers two majors: Fundamentals of Religion and Shariaa (jurisprudence and sources). The number of credit hours required for graduation is 131, distributed as follows: 14% for university requirements, 31% for college requirements, 53% for courses in the major and 2% for electives.

e. The College of Law

The College of Law requires 120 credit hours to graduate, distributed as follows: 10% for university requirements, 85% for courses in the major, and 5% for electives.

f. The College of Science

The College of Science offer majors in mathematics, computer science, chemistry, physics, applied physics, zoology, botany, microbiology, geology, organic chemistry, statistics and operational research, and applied statistics. The number of credit hours required for graduation is 126, distributed as follows: 19% for university requirements, from 9.5% to 19% for college requirements, from 37% to 48% for courses in the major, 19% for the minor and 4.5% for electives.

g. The College of Education

The College of Education is responsible for preparing and training teachers for all general educational levels in all the majors necessary for the different schools' curricula. The faculty is divided into two main departments:

 A department for preparing and training kindergarten and primary school teachers in the following specializations: kindergarten, social and Islamic studies, Islamic and Arabic language studies, Arabic language, social studies, science, and mathematics. Credit hours required for graduation total 129, divided as follows: 21% for university requirements courses, 44% for specialization courses, 35% for vocational teaching courses (e.g., school management, fundamentals of education, primary and kindergarten curricula, teaching systems, educational systems, applied and practical education). A department for preparing teachers for intermediate and secondary schools. Specializations in this field are Islamic studies, Arabic language, English language, history, geography, psychology, social studies, philosophy, sociology, mathematics, chemistry, biology, physics, and geology. Credit hours required for graduation total 129, divided as follows: 19% for university requirements, 49% for the major specialization courses (if some of these courses are used for a minor, they must not exceed, in this case, 17%, on condition that the minor complements the major [e.g., history with geography, chemistry with physics]), 32% for the preparatory professional courses, (e.g., school management, fundamentals of education, curricula, technology of education, systems of teaching).

h. The College of Allied Health Sciences and Nursing

The College of Allied Health Sciences and Nursing includes seven specializations: health information management, physiotherapy, technology of radiology diagnosis, technology of nuclear medicine, medical technology, technology of therapeutic x-ray, and nursing. The credit hours required for graduation total 124 for all specializations except the physiotherapy which stipulates 123 credit hours. The credit hours are divided as follows: from 19% to 23% for university requirements, from 13% to 19% for faculty requirements, and from 59% to 64% for specialization courses.

i. The College of Medicine

The College of Medicine study period is divided into two main stages:

- The first stage, the stage prior to the clinical stage, lasts eight scholastic semesters. During this stage the student studies basic medical sciences (e.g., anatomy, biochemistry, human biology and pharmacy, bacteriology). The credit hours needed to complete this stage total 122. The student who completes 122 credit hours earns a Bachelor of Science in the basic medical sciences. Credit hours are divided as follows: 20% for university requirements, 22% for faculty requirements, 62% for specialization requirements.
- 2) The second stage, the clinical stage, lasts three years. During this period students receive practical training in educational hospitals and external clinics, and medical centers in the following areas:



- First year: surgery, pathology, community medicine, internal medicine
- Second year: internal medicine, psychiatry, dermatology, tropical medicine, surgery, pathology, community medicine, gynecology, pediatrics
- Third year: internal medicine, surgery, gynecology, pediatrics family medicine

After terminating this stage successfully, the student earns a Bachelor of Science in Medicine and Surgery.

2. Master's Programs at Kuwait University

The university offers some master's programs in the Colleges of Art, Science, Medicine, and Engineering. To join the master's program, the student must have a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree with an overall average of not less than 2.67 on a 4-point scale or the equivalent. The passing grade in the master's program is 3.00 in each course and in the total average. To earn the Master of Arts, a student must successfully complete 21 credit hours of courses, write an accepted thesis, and pass a comprehensive examination. In some cases and with the approval of the department of major, the student can substitute the thesis for three courses (equivalent to nine credit hours).

Master's programs are offered in the following disciplines:

Department of Mathematics, with subdisciplines in pure and applied mathematics, mathematical statistics, and computer science.

Department of Physics, with subdisciplines in atomic physics, molecular physics, solid state physics, nuclear physics, and theoretical physics.

Department of Chemistry, with subdisciplines in organic chemistry, inorganic chemistry, analytical chemistry, physical chemistry, and biochemistry.

Department of Geology, with subdisciplines in petrology, sedimentation, and structure.

Department of Zoology, with subdisciplines in reproductive biology, marine biology/ecology,

animal behavior, parasitology, desert biology/ecology, and embryology.

Department of Botany and Microbiology, with subdisciplines in cytogenetics, plant ecology, and plant physiology.

Department of Anatomy, with subdisciplines in human gross anatomy, histology, human development, human neuroanatomy, and cellular ultrastructure.

Department of Pharmacology-Toxicology, with subdisciplines in neuropharmacology, cardiovascular pharmacology, biochemical pharmacology, clinical pharmacology, thermal pharmacology, and pharmacology of smooth muscle.

Department of Physiology: The department offers only the Master of Science in Physiology.

Department of Microbiology, with subdisciplines in bacteriology, immunology, clinical immunology, virology, medical parasitology, and mycology.

Department of Mechanical Engineering, with subdisciplines in mechanical design and thermofluid engineering.

Department of Civil Engineering, with subdisciplines in structural engineering, construction engineering, water resources and environmental engineering, geotechnical engineering, and transportation engineering.

Department of Electric and Computer Science Engineering, with subdisciplines in systems and electronics and communications.

Department of Chemical Engineering, with subdisciplines in petroleum and petrochemicals, water technology, and desalination.

Department of Philosophy, with subdisciplines in history of philosophy, philosophical problems, and Islamic thought.



IV. Private Education

The Kuwait government allows some private institutions to establish private schools. All four types of schools charge tuition. See Appendix B for the names of private schools following the American, British, and French systems. These private schools are divided into four types as follows:

- The first type follows the British system and prepares students to sit for the General Certificate of Education (GCE), General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) or the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) exams.
- The second type follows the French system and prepares the students to obtain the French secondary school certificate (the *Baccalaureate*).
- The third type follows the American system. It prepares its students to obtain the American high school diploma.
- The fourth type of schools follow the Ministry of Education curriculum. Students registered at these schools sit at the end of their secondary stage for the Ministry of Education final examinations as do their colleagues who are enrolled in the governmental schools.

El Bayan private school is unique. It has been granted special recognition by the Ministry of Education. All diplomas and certificates granted by this school are recognized by the Ministry. The length of study is 12 years (six years at the primary stage and six years at the secondary stage). The school follows the unit sys-

tem. The grading system is based upon a 4-point scale, where A = 4 and D = 1. The school is coeducational and charges tuition.

Until grade 10, students study the same subjects, with some electives, as their counterparts in governmental schools in addition to the Ministry of Education program in Islamic studies and Arabic language.

Starting in grade 11, students can choose one of three streams: the science stream, the nonscience stream, or the international stream. In the first two streams, students follow the same curriculum as the two equivalent streams in the governmental schools. In addition, their program includes some electives (3 units per year for the last two years in the science stream and 2.5 units per year for the last two years in the non-science stream). The total number of units required for graduation in both streams is 7 units per year in the final two years.

To graduate, the student must pass the school curriculum requirements and successfully take the final examinations of the Ministry of Education. Students in the third stream (international stream) study the Ministry of Education programs in Islamic studies and Arabic language. In addition, these students study mathematics, science, social studies, and foreign languages (optional). The minimum cumulative average for graduation is 1.00 (on a 4-point scale). Students who successfully finish the graduation requirements are granted the high school diploma. The school also prepares some of its students to sit for subsidiary subjects for the International *Baccalaureate*. Graduates can enroll at Kuwait University and the colleges of applied education.



Appendix A. What Happened During the Gulf War

- All transcripts, records, and files of students in schools, applied colleges and Kuwait University were secured and were not subjected to any damage.
- 2. Students who succeeded in leaving Kuwait during the war attended different schools and universities abroad. In addition, the Kuwait government, with the approval of the Egyptian government, opened five schools in Egypt following the Kuwaiti system of education.
- Students who remained in Kuwait during the war time did not lose a year. Kuwait's government

opened the schools, after the war was over, from the first of August 1991 through the end of July 1992. This period was divided into two equal periods (from August through the end of January 1992 and from February 1992 through the end of July). An intensive program was offered in every period to cover the program of a whole academic year. This procedure kept the students from losing any time on their academic paths. The same procedure was implemented in the applied colleges and at Kuwait University.

Appendix B. Names of Private Schools

American System

- The American International School (from K-12 grade)
- 2. The American School (from K-12 grade)
- 3. El Bayan School (now from K-8 grade)
- 4. The Universal American School (now from K-6 grade)

British System

- New English School (from Nursery-International General Certificate of Secondary Education [IGCSE])
- 2. Kuwait English School (from Nursery-IGCSE)
- 3. Gulf English School (from Nursery-IGCSE)

- 4. Kuwait International English School (from Nursery-Junior 4)
- 5. The Fahaheel English School (from Nursery-Junior 4)
- 6. Sunshine School (from Nursery-Junior 4)
- 7. The English School (from Nursery-Infant 3)

The British schools include two years at the nursery stage, then three years at the infant stage plus four years at the Junior stage and five years at the Senior stage.

French System

 The French Lycée (from K to terminal— Baccalaureat)





American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 330, Washington, DC 20036-1171



NAFSA: Association of International Educators

1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20009-5728





U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI) Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)



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