

CALL FOR STUDENTS

Workshop: Lebanon Unsettled

Academic Collaboration between USEK and the Middle East Centre of the London School of Economics (LSE)

July 25-28, 2022 | USEK

Overview

The large-scale, non-sectarian protests of 2019 unsettled Lebanon's political system and challenged the very understanding of Lebanese history, space, and identity. "Lebanon Unsettled" builds on the momentum of this protest movement to help the new generation rewrite and potentially heal the country's bitterly disputed histories.

As a workshop for students, "Lebanon Unsettled" seeks to engage 30 students selected through this call for applications on the significance of the 2019 protest movement, with a particular focus on its spatial dimensions. The aim of this workshop is to examine the 2019 protests and their implications for Lebanon's young generation and to "archive" this historical moment.

We invite students to apply to this four-day workshop to analyze and reflect on the significance and impact of the 2019 protests.

The workshop will take place at the USEK Campus from July 25 to 28, 2022. A concluding roundtable will be held in Beirut on Friday, July 29, 2022, with all participants (optional attendance).

Leading scholars will provide an overview of the protest movement and present key thinkers on social movements and the intersection between urban space and revolt.

Workshop facilitators will introduce new perspectives and theoretical approaches to engage with the 2019 protest movement, as students think about how to archive and document this moment. The participants will consider the significance of different forms of space – such as public space, highways, and borders – in relation to the protest movement. As part of emphasizing spaces outside Beirut, special focus will be given to the 2019 protest movement in Tripoli, in addition to reflecting on the regional and global connections and disconnections.

Requirements to apply

Students from all academic disciplines are encouraged to apply. Applications from individuals with significant experience in activism or in the protest movement itself will also be considered. The workshop will emphasize the spatial dimensions of the 2019 protests, but participants are not required to have prior knowledge of spatial methods and/or theories.

The organizers will send selected participants a pre-workshop PDF, including reading material on social theory, archiving, and mapping to prepare ahead of the workshop.

The workshop will be held in English and Arabic. Knowledge of both languages is therefore required.

How to apply

Interested students are requested to submit their CV and send **one contribution** from the list below to lebanonunsettled@gmail.com, clearly stating **why you are interested in participating in this workshop and/or what the 2019 protests mean to you:**

1. **Video** (2 mins max.), please send a link only.
2. **Audio recording** (2 mins max.).
3. **Written abstract** (500 words max.).
4. **Image** (photo, poster), with a caption explaining its significance.
5. **Art** (a poem, drawing, map, etc.).

Submission deadline: July 10, 2022

CVs and submissions will be the main criteria for selecting a total of **30 students** to take part in the Lebanon Unsettled workshop.

Selection is a competitive process, and no attendance fees will be charged. Lunch will be provided for the duration of the workshop.

All participants must agree to the Code of Conduct that will be sent upon selection and engage in open and honest dialogue with others.

Participation is required throughout the four days of the workshop. Committed participants will be awarded a certificate of completion jointly delivered by USEK and LSE.

For more information, please contact Ms. Maria Bassil at: bassil.g.maria@gmail.com.