



QUOTE of the Issue

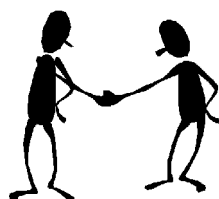
"Appreciation is a wonderful thing: It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well."

Voltaire (François-Marie Arouet) [A French Enlightenment Writer (+1778)]

2018

January

Issue 19



HAIGAZIAN UNIVERSITY

OR Dialog Letter

Editorial

Run the Race

You are different people from different backgrounds, maybe even from different countries and nationalities. But I think we all share similar emotions. I think we all feel a little bit like.... a runner about to start a race.

Now different runners have different emotions. If you've ever participated in an athletic event, you know this. Some runners are very nervous before a race; others feel very confident. Some eye the other runners and measure them up; others focus on themselves. Some are very talkative and keep joking; others wait silently and focus for what is to come.

On the Orientation Day, it will be a bit similar. We will all be dealing with the start of university life in a different way. Some of us feel nervous, while others may seem very confident. And that's totally fine. Just accept each other and enjoy it!

One aspect that can make you feel relaxed is that we are in this together. Unlike the 100 meters or the marathon, we are not competing! In fact, here at Haigazian University we try to support each other, so as to make it to the end. No one here will try to trip you up, trick you, or push you aside. Mutual support is one of the values we hold high here at Haigazian University.

I know that there's one thing that is on all of our minds: It's the goal, the ultimate aim— your degree, your diploma. That's the finish line of the race that you are starting today. This day will help you to prepare for the race. So benefit from what will be offered to you! It will help you along the way.

Mental, physical and emotional preparedness are important, but there is also the spiritual side of you. Here at Haigazian University we acknowledge that and we try to support you in your spiritual life as well. For today, I would like to read just a few words from the Bible with you, words from the Apostle Paul that speak about life in terms of an athletic race.

"One thing I do: Forgetting what is behind me and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards In Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13-14)

I hope that these words resonate with you. They speak about our great calling to participate in the race of this life. It is a calling from the almighty God not to stand on the sidelines of life and try to escape it, but to engage in it passionately, doing good wherever you can. I hope that this is your attitude in life and that it will be your attitude here at Haigazian University. Two aspects are also very clear from these Bible words: that you are not alone in the race— if God calls you to partake in it, he will support you! — and that there is a wonderful prize for people who faithfully run the race of life.

REV. WILBERT VAN SAANE, *Campus Minister*

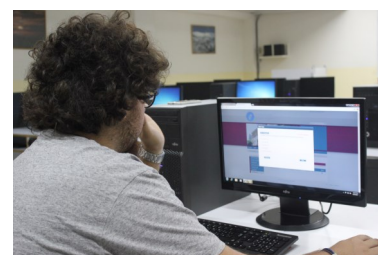
NEWS

OR099 Exam

The OR exam, which became computer-based since Spring 2017, was scheduled for the last week of September for the Fall 2018 students. The 25-minute exam is now available on more than one date and on two shifts, from 12:00 to 1:00 P.M. Students can choose the date and shift they want and sign up beforehand.

As in Spring 2017, a group of OR assistants and faculty thoroughly coordinate to prepare the exam day. The exam is set-up on the computers in MEH 408 and administered by Mr. Shant Estepan. A handful of assistants proctor the students and help Mr. Estepan with technical matters like recording grades and setting up Classroom Management.

There is also more than one version of the exam, with questions shuffled. Students can get their results right upon completing the exam.



HAGOP KARAMIAN, *ENG*

The OR Program in the Words of New Students

"I remember arriving to campus at 8:00 o'clock full of enthusiasm and ready to meet new people, make new friends, and get to know the university, which would be my home for the next four years. I was pleasantly greeted by the orientation group leaders who ushered us into the auditorium to listen to a moving welcoming speech by the president. I found the various sessions that subsequently followed to be both engaging and informative, particularly the session regarding the techniques on studying well. Another session that I really enjoyed was the one where we sang the Alma Mater. The music was touching and the lyrics were very profound and meaningful, eliciting pride in the listener. I'm also thankful to the organizers of the orientation program because if it weren't for them putting together this event, I would have never met my current friends, with whom I share many laughs and tears. I also hope to be part of the Orientation Team and help welcome prospective freshman and sophomore students to their new home."

Christina Minassian, *MLS*

"The Orientation Program at Haigazian University helps students be acquainted with the environment that they are going to spend the most important years of their lives. The Orientation Program also helps in creating a social environment from the first day by grouping students of related majors and engaging them in the prepared program. Third and most importantly, it guides and prepares them to enter the university by informing them about the university's history, values, rules and educational system."

Selina Aintablian, *ECO*

"My Orientation experience was very beneficial. The program itself was well-organized and well-planned and all the lectures were very helpful. Thanks to the instructors that were giving them. The guides were friendly and willing to assist anyone with whatever they needed. We all got to know almost everything we needed to know about Haigazian University. All the hard work is appreciated."

Rayan Khalaf, *SOW*

"Because of the Orientation Program I became familiar with HU atmosphere. The coffee break and lunch opened the opportunity for social interaction and making new friends. The OR team was so friendly and helpful during the day. Thank you for this experience."

Christelle Lattouf, *CSC*

"During the Orientation Day, I knew more about Haigazian University. That helped me to be more prepared for my new stage in life. The Orientation Day was well-prepared. Thanks to the Orientation Office and the team."

Khatchig Seropian, *BAD*

"As a new student, I'm happy and comfortable. Thanks to the friendly and supportive environment in HU."

Najwa Murr, *PSY*

"The OR Program is: Ebullient, munificent, and nurture."

Dzavy Bilalian, *FIN*

"The OR Program is: Easy, something new, and somehow fun."

Zeina Saadeh, *SPE*

Comments about the OR Program as a Whole

"Amazing"; "Beneficial"; "Enjoyable"; "Entertaining"; "Exquisite"; "Fun"

"An excellent way to introduce the university".

"It was a great idea; it helped all the students get to know each other and the university to make their first day easy."

"It was very exciting; I met new friends and the OR Assistants were very friendly."

"The Orientation Program was very beneficial for us to learn about the university before starting our classes."

OR NEW STUDENTS

Comments about the Student Life Presentation

"Attractive"; "Enjoyable"; "Helpful"; "Informative"; "Catching"

"It gave a brief presentation to enlighten us about the clubs and the student life."

"It showed how students' life is interesting".

"The student life presentation was very inspiring and fun. It definitely made me want to join some clubs."

"It showed how Haigazian University aims to provide not just studies but also memories."

OR NEW STUDENTS

Comments about the Spiritual Life Presentation

"Awesome"; "Diverse"; "Inspiring"; "Welcoming"

"Although I am not very spiritual myself, the presentation truly opened my mind to think about it."

"It was quite captivating and interesting, as well as motivating to follow up to spiritual life."

"The spiritual life presentation was very enlightening. Even as a non-Christian, it made me interested."

"The video was an interesting way in delivering a message and drew me to join the Spiritual life."

OR NEW STUDENTS



The OR Program in the Words of the OR Assistants

“HU's Orientation Program along with its director, instructors, and assistants provide a warm informative welcome to the new students and an unforgettable experience for the volunteers.”

Nayda Bidikian, *BIO*

“Being part of the Orientation team means being with new students at their first step, supporting them at the start of their professional development.”

Nareg Hanneyan, *EDU*

“The OR program is the pride and joy of Haigazian University. It is constituted of three concepts: good organization, great leadership and valuable information. The OR program is a great way for new students to start their academic year.”

Jana Zbeeb, *PSY*

“When I got accepted at Haigazian University it was hard for me to get through the orientation day. I know we all nagged about it, and when I failed the Orientation exam I felt angry and wondered why we even have to do this in the first place, but now and after joining the OR Team, I started believing in Dr. Traboulsi's vision of the orientation program because it teaches you responsibility, time management and leadership. And nevertheless, I love being part of it as it identifies us as a unique university.”

Habib Saad, *HRM*

“It was a great experience of being part of the OR team. It helped me become a more sociable person and showed me how teamwork can be.”

Nayirie Hagopian, *SOW*





Late OR Day—FL 2017

An OR Assistant's Testimonial

Throughout the semesters I would hear students telling me “We can still remember you from the orientation days”, or “we were on your team during our OR days.” Such words might be simple but they carry great value.

It all started four years ago, on my first day of University here at Haigazian University. The first thing I got to see was neither the buildings nor the classes, but students in red vests welcoming newcomers with a smile. After this day, I realized that one day I wanted to be part of this team, and I remember sending Dr. Traboulsi more than one application and even several emails in order to be part of the OR team. And this is how it all started, I have been part of the OR office for almost four years, and soon I will be graduating from Haigazian University with a lot of memories and skills. Orientation was not only about preparing a day or two for the students or ensuring that they had lunch or coffee, but it is about team work in the first place. You learn how to work as a team to reach a specific goal, how to become organized and responsible by being able to finish your task properly and on time, and how to listen to others and respect other's thoughts and ideas. You learn to become a leader that is ready to help others whenever needed and to become a role model for others. I admit my first experience was not easy but I can never forget Dr. Traboulsi telling me “You will stay on the team till the day you graduate”. Year by year the number of people and friends I used to meet kept increasing in addition to the number of skills and experiences that made me the person I am today.

I would like to take a moment to thank Haigazian University foremost for being my second home for the past couple of years. This home offers not only good education but also a supportive social life that is like no other. Secondly, I would like to thank the OR office faculty and leaders for demonstrating what true leaders are, and how team work should be. And most importantly, I can never thank Dr. Berge Traboulsi enough for all the support he provided us with, for all the trust he had in us, and for all the guidance he provided, not only in the Orientation Program but also through my academic journey here at Haigazian University. Leaving the OR team is not going to be easy, but I wish the orientation office and its leaders the best of luck in its upcoming years.

YARA NASSER, *ENG* (CLASS OF 2018)



OR Appreciation Event—FL 2017

A Senior's Testimonial

I take with me the joy of having served others and I leave with you good memories.

Being part of the Orientation Office and the Team has undoubtedly brought me one of the greatest joys at Haigazian University. But it has also conferred to me much more: I learned the value of good leadership, thanks to the efforts of my mentor and Director, Dr. Traboulsi. I learned how to be more self-confident. I had the honor of working alongside dedicated teammates, who also continued to show me the value of cooperation and collaboration. Finally, I was glad to share my experiences with new students and make them feel welcome. In short, this experience has given me a golden opportunity to uphold values like service and to sharpen qualities like responsibility.

I have spotlighted *learning* in this endeavor to become a good leader and teammate, because leadership and what this program offers are a continuous learning exercise, parallel to our academic pursuit. “Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other,” stated John F. Kennedy.

Therefore, I encourage all prospective members of the Orientation Team to make the most of this experience, and I invite you to make great changes, no matter how little.

HAGOP KARAMIAN, *ENG* (CLASS OF 2018)



JOIN THE TEAM. APPLY ONLINE.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK

ALAA TAKKOUSH
 AYA KANJ
 BAYAN AL AMINE
 HABIB SAAD
 HAGOP KARAMIAN
 HAGOP PAMBOUKIAN
 JANA ZBEEB
 JOANNA DERBEDROSSIAN
 LARA SIDANI
 LARA TALHOUK
 MARWA SAAD
 NADINE AL MAJZOUB
 NAREG HANNAIAN
 NAYDA BIDIKIAN
 NAYIRIE HAGOPIAN *
 RASHAD HASAN
 SARA MSHAYMESH
 TAREK KHARASSAN
 VAHAN SAGHDEJIAN
 YARA AMANDDEEN
 YARA BADRAN
 YARA NASSER
 YASMINE HAMDAR

* Not in the picture



OR Faculty Meeting

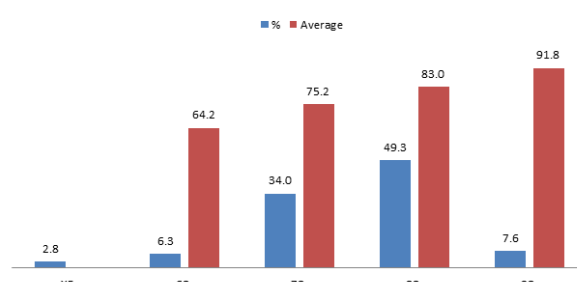
[Friday, October 27, 2017]

During the meeting, the following items were examined, discussed and evaluated:

- 145 students were registered in FL17 OR099 (3 Old + 141 New + 1 New who withdrew later).
- The updated contents of the OR099 Reference Manual and the PPTs of the various 6 sessions (1. Advising; 2. Teaching & Studying; 3. Research & Writing; 4. HU Culture; 5. Information Technology; and 6. University Life and Personal Development) meet the course objectives.
- The Computer based exam was well administered.
- The various evaluations (FL16 and SP17 University evaluations as well as FL17 OR Student Evaluation) are positive.
- FL17 Grades are satisfactory.
- FL 17 OR Days have shown the following: a) continuous improvement; b) positive atmosphere; and c) positive results.
- Other issues concerning SP18 OR Day (January 27, 2018) and FL18 OR Day (August 24, 2018) were discussed.



FL17 - OR 099 - Grades Distribution



Haigazian University Orientation Office

Fall 2017-18

OR099 Sessions Survey Results

General Info

140 Total Number of Students

4	HUM	38	SBS	30	SC	65	B&E		3	N/S			
4	ENG	0	ARM	1	ECE	3	EDU	3	PSC	16	PSY	5	SOW
10	BIO	10	CSC	0	MAT	6	MLS	4	NSD	10	SPEDU	3	N/S
5	ACC	2	ADC	26	BAD	3	ECO						
15	FIN	2	HOM	5	HRM	7	MIS						

(1) Strongly Agree (2) Agree (3) Neutral (4) Disagree (5) Strongly Disagree

1. Publications and Campus Tour

1b The Group Leaders were helpful.

[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
73.9	20.2	1.7	3.4	0.8

2. The sessions

2a Studying

2a1 The session content was valuable and worth learning.

2a2 The instructor explained the importance and significance of the session.

2a3 The concepts were explained clearly.

2a4 I enjoyed attending this session.

[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
54.3	33.3	9.4	0.7	2.2
55.8	30.4	10.9	2.2	0.7
58.0	29.0	10.9	1.4	0.7
34.1	32.6	23.9	6.5	2.9

2b Research & Writing

2b1 The session content was valuable and worth learning.

2b2 The instructor explained the importance and significance of the session.

2b3 The concepts were explained clearly.

2b4 I enjoyed attending this session.

[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
65.9	27.5	4.3	1.4	0.7
62.9	30.7	3.6	1.4	1.4
62.1	31.4	3.6	2.1	0.7
49.3	28.6	18.6	2.9	0.7

2c Advising

2c1 The session content was valuable and worth learning.

2c2 The instructor explained the importance and significance of the session.

2c3 The concepts were explained clearly.

2c4 I enjoyed attending this session.

[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
65.2	26.8	7.2	0.0	0.7
68.3	25.2	5.0	0.7	0.7
59.0	33.8	5.8	1.4	0.0
52.9	30.0	13.6	2.9	0.7

2d IT

2d1 The session content was valuable and worth learning.

2d2 The instructor explained the importance and significance of the session.

2d3 The concepts were explained clearly.

2d4 I enjoyed attending this session.

[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
77.3	15.6	5.0	2.1	0.0
71.4	20.7	5.7	1.4	0.7
72.1	17.1	7.9	2.1	0.7
64.0	24.5	7.9	2.9	0.7

2e HU Culture

2e1 The session content was valuable and worth learning.

2e2 The instructor explained the importance and significance of the session.

2e3 The concepts were explained clearly.

2e4 I enjoyed attending this session.

[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
77.9	17.9	2.1	2.1	0.0
77.1	17.9	3.6	0.0	1.4
80.0	16.4	2.1	0.7	0.7
75.7	16.4	5.7	1.4	0.7

2f Self Awareness

2f1 The session content was valuable and worth learning.

2f2 The instructor explained the importance and significance of the session.

2f3 The concepts were explained clearly.

2f4 I enjoyed attending this session.

[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
88.5	7.9	2.2	0.7	0.7
85.7	11.4	0.7	1.4	0.7
87.1	10.8	0.7	0.7	0.7
84.2	10.8	3.6	1.4	0.0

Data entry prepared by NAYDA BIDKIKIAN, BIO & NAREG HANNAIAN, EDU



HAIGAZIAN UNIVERSITY
P.O.Box: 11-1748,
Riad el Solh, 11072090
Beirut, Lebanon

ORIENTATION OFFICE
College Building, r. 405
Phone: 01.353010 | ext.: 245

