

# Modernizing Curriculum

with The American University of Iraq, Sulaimani



**AUIS**

The Texas International Education Consortium (TIEC) is partnering with the American University of Iraq, Sulaimani (AUIS), and the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs on a two-year grant initiative to support AUIS in its goal to modernize the university's curriculum. The program contributes to a wider effort by the U.S. Government to support American-style higher education in Iraq as part of its long-term stabilization strategy.

“Having access to cutting-edge expertise and innovation through TIEC’s world-renowned consortium members will support ongoing AUIS efforts to align all curricula with leading benchmarks. This not only allows us to meet regional and international labor-market needs and global accreditation requirements, but it also ensures our students receive the very best education possible.”

*Dr. Wolfgang Hinck, AUIS Vice  
President of Academic Affairs*

## OPPORTUNITY

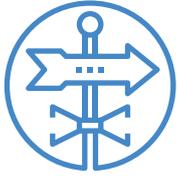
Founded in 2007, AUIS is an independent, not-for-profit university with key educational values – critical thinking, creativity, comfort with conflicting beliefs, and an inclusive sense of community – that seeks to shape a new generation of Iraqi leaders and help to bridge social and political divides.

AUIS came to TIEC with two key challenges: 1) a number of degree programs with long lengths of study that cause AUIS to lose students to competing universities; 2) a desire to make the university more attractive to prospective female students.

Together, TIEC and AUIS established four main objectives for the partnership:

- Improve course sequencing and program mapping to match course learning objectives to program learning outcomes for greater marketability;
- Improve the curriculum to incorporate diversity and gender and shorten the program graduation length to capture the interest of female prospective students;
- Modernize processes and tools to support continuous internal program review and improvement and ensure quality learning outcomes; and
- Build substantive working relationships between Texas faculty and AUIS faculty.

## APPROACH



With access to faculty and administrator expertise from 33 universities in Texas, TIEC leverages deep expertise in a vast array of content areas. An all-female Advisory Board provides specialists in curriculum review, accreditation, soft skills development, gender, and program evaluation. This project links faculty from AUIS with faculty from Texas universities to conduct course review and improvement, course sequencing, and program mapping, and will increase experiential knowledge of American-style higher education through a two-week Global Educational Leadership Tour in Texas once travel is feasible.

Since its founding in 1985, TIEC has provided educational assistance and consulting services for governments and institutions in over 40 countries across five continents. TIEC is a recognized expert with extensive experience working with governments and educational institutions to improve course and degree program quality and responsiveness and to foster equity and inclusion.

## IMPACT



“We’ve worked hard as a team to revise our department’s Diversity-Equity-Inclusion goals as a part of a new vision for the 21st century.”

*Tobin Hartnell, Ph.D., AUIS Assistant Professor and Chair of the Department of Social Sciences*



“DEI is such an important and vital part of all universities that want to thrive. This is a theme that we need to weave into the fabric of our institution, and I am so excited to be a part of this call to change.”

*Rachel Gresk, Ph.D., AUIS Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs*

## ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS



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