Higher Education in Dubai
Investment in education means investment in the lasting peace and security, which our people undoubtedly deserve.

- HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum
Dubai in 1991
Dubai in 2011
About UAE

- His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum; Vice President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai.
- The UAE consists of 7 Emirates which were united on 2nd of December 1971.
- Dubai is the business capital of the UAE.
About DUBAI

- Dubai has the second largest population in the UAE with 2 million people, 88.5% are expatriates from all over the world. Only 11.5% are local Emirati.

- 82% of population aged between 15 and 49 years old.
UAE’s Population Explosion

Total UAE population in 2005
4,106,427
851,164 Emirati
3,255,263 Expatriate

Total UAE population in 2010
8,264,070
947,997 Emirati
7,316,073 Expatriate

Total Higher Education Enrollment
116 Higher Education Institutions
116,912 enrollment for 2010-11

Source: Commission for Academic Accreditation, National Statistics Bureau, KHDA
Working towards UAE’s vision for a Knowledge Based economy

The Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) of the Government of Dubai works toward achieving this goal for the Emirate of Dubai

KHDA Vision
Lifelong learning to fulfill Dubai’s aspirations

KHDA Mission
To assure quality and to improve accessibility to education, learning and human development, with the engagement of the community
Desired outcomes for Higher Education in Dubai:

- Students with greater access to higher education opportunities
- A sustainable supply of skilled people in strategically targeted sectors
- Establishing Dubai as a regional hub for Higher Education
Growth of Higher Education in Dubai

1960's: Few Primary & Secondary Schools
1970's: UAE University, first University
1980's: Higher Colleges of Technology
1990's: Zayed University
2000-2003: AUD Emirates Academy
2003-2011: Foreign Universities

- Launch of Knowledge Village and Dubai International Academic City
- DIFC Education Centre - LBS
- Dubai Silicon Oasis - RIT
- Health Care City - Harvard Medical School
- 28 International branch universities

# International Branch Universities in Dubai

1. HULT Business School  
2. Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Institute for Science & Technology (SZABIST)  
3. CASS Business School  
4. London Business School  
5. Manipal University  
6. BITS, Pilani - Dubai  
7. S.P.Jain Center of Management  
8. University of St. Joseph  
9. Murdoch University  
10. Michigan State University  
11. Islamic Azad University  
12. French Fashion University ESMOD  
13. Cambridge College International  
14. Middlesex University  
15. Boston University Institute for Dental Research and Education  
16. Amity University  
17. University of Strathclyde Business School  
18. Institute of Management Technology  
19. Nicolas & Asp College of Postgraduate Dentistry  
20. Rochester Institute of Technology  
21. Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland  
22. University of Wollongong Dubai  
23. University of Exeter  
24. St. Petersburg State University of Engineering and Economics (ENGECON)  
25. Bradford University  
26. SAE Institute  
27. Heriot-Watt University  
28. Manchester Business School
Growth of Higher Education in Dubai

Since the establishment of Free Zones in 2003, there has been a 77% increase in the number of higher educational institutions offering international programs to students in Dubai.

Source: Knowledge and Human Development Authority
There is a total of 39,127 students studying at higher education institutions in Dubai.

Source: Knowledge and Human Development Authority
Current Higher Education landscape in Dubai

Dubai - A place for learning in a multicultural environment

International:

53 Higher Education Providers, 33 located in Dubai’s purpose built city zones offering international degrees.

Regional Hub for Higher Education:

More than 39,000 students enrolled in 12 higher education systems including American, British, French, Canadian, Australian, Indian, and UAE.
Selected institutions:
Hult International Business School, Middlesex University, London Business School, Heriot-Watt University, Manchester Business School, University of Saint Josephs, Rochester Institute of Technology, and Amity University.

Quality:
University and Quality Assurance International Board (UQAIB) established by KHDA to assure the quality of international higher education providers in the Free Zones based on a validation model.

Programs:
Over 390 academic program offerings, mostly concentrated in areas of Business, Management, IT and Marketing.
University Quality Assurance International Board (UQAIB)

Established in March 2008

Purpose
To provide KHDA with reputable, independent and international input and guidance on the quality of higher education provided in Dubai Free Zones

Scope
To review all new academic permit applications and renewal applications, and make recommendations to the Regulation and Compliance Commission at KHDA on accepting or rejecting the application, along with reasons to support the recommendation

Objective
To validate that the HEP Branch provides a learning context equivalent to that at the HEP Home; and that the programs achieve equivalent learning outcomes to that at the HEP Home this is known as the Equivalency Validation Model

Note: UQAIB does not do accreditation but relies on the international accreditation bodies of the home campus
In the UAE how are new forms of collaboration emerging in teaching and research?

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<tr>
<th>Collaboration with Emirate level governments and establishments of branch campuses</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Abu Dhabi – NYU (financial support, recruitment), Sorbonne (faculty, language, support)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Dubai – University of Saint Josephs (scholarships, faculty), Dubai School of Government (Harvard, degrees)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>Existing and Emerging Research</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Masdar Institute of Technology (MIT), Abu Dhabi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Khalifa University (KUSTAR), Abu Dhabi</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Amity University (Aerospace), Dubai</td>
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<td>• EPFL, Ras Al Khaimah</td>
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<th>Cultural Relevancy</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>• Home campus curriculum, host country context</td>
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<td>• Alignment with Industry</td>
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<td>• Student Learning</td>
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Dubai in 2012

- Decade of tremendous growth and development of city infrastructure
- Important geographical hub for the region
- Move to balanced and sustainable development, and strategic economic sectors have been identified
- ‘Knowledge economy’ requires a highly skilled workforce, with focus on problem solving and communication skills
- Plan to increase the number of Bachelor graduates (both Emirati and expatriate)
- Plan to provide post-graduate opportunities for the working population
Challenges in developing Higher Education

Lack of college preparation for Emiratis

Lack of adequate preparation in schools for tertiary education, including limited availability of careers guidance.

94% of Emirati students entering a federal university require a Foundation year to improve levels of science, maths, English and ethics (Ministry of Education, 2010)
Challenges in developing Higher Education

Full range of program offerings required

Academic programs in Dubai by level and major field of study
Challenges in developing Higher Education

Low Emirati participation in private sector

UAE government initiated the Emiratization program to employ Emiratis in a more efficient manner in both public and private sector.

95% of Emiratis work in the government sector; however the private sector still lags behind with low Emirati participation.
Challenges in developing Higher Education

Lack of Research & Development

The tertiary sector provides very limited pure and applied research or knowledge exchange

Underfunded national research programs

Emerging doctoral programs
Challenges in developing Higher Education

Improving and maintaining quality of higher education

Implementation of a new University Quality Assurance International Board (UQAIB) validation model

Validation of institutions and programs

Maintenance of UQAIB and its continuation
Executive Council Resolution 21 (2011)

- Decree announced in June 2011

- Higher Education institutions in the Free Zones to be regulated by the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA)

- Academic Qualifications of students from approved institutions to be certified (attested) by KHDA

- Academic Qualifications granted by the Academic Institutions and certified by the KHDA shall be recognized in the Emirate by all public and private entities for all purposes.
Observations

• Globalization is a reality in higher education.
• Brach Campuses can contribute to student access.
• Different models of governance and financing are successful.
• The passporting of quality from the home campus is an option.
• Academic programs are available for Emiratis/non-Emiratis.
• Quality Assurance is needed.
• People have the power to choose.
• Predictions are very difficult - be ready for the future
Thank you

Knowledge & Human Development Authority