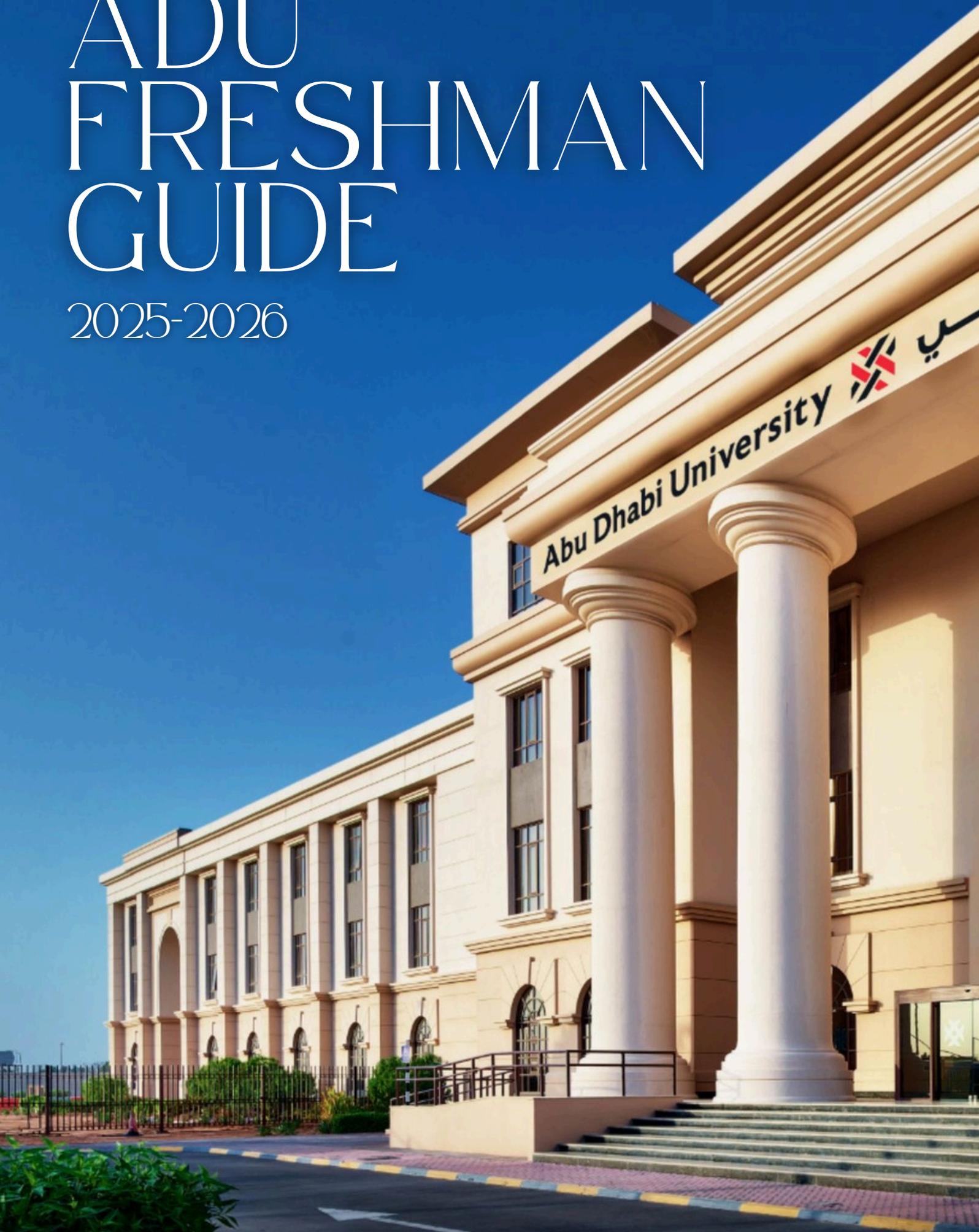




جامعة أبوظبي
Abu Dhabi University

ADU FRESHMAN GUIDE

2025-2026



EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to Abu Dhabi University, and congratulations on starting one of the most exciting chapters of your life. Whether you're feeling confident, curious, nervous, or all three at once — know that you're not alone. This Freshman Guide was created to support you as you navigate your first year, answer your questions, and help you feel at home on campus from day one.

As a second-year Biomedical Engineering student, I clearly remember what it felt like to be new at ADU — learning my way around campus, discovering opportunities, and finding my place in the university community. As the main editor of this magazine, my goal was to bring together honest advice, useful resources, and student perspectives that truly reflect life at ADU. This guide is written by students, for students, with the hope that it will make your transition smoother and your experience richer.

We're excited to have you here. Be open to learning, take chances, ask questions, and most importantly, enjoy the journey. Welcome to ADU — you belong here.

Tala Mohammad Aldabak,
Managing Editor, ADU Student



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CHANCELLOR'S SPEECH

“FORGING YOUR PATH: HOW COMMUNITY AND AGENCY DEFINE YOUR ADU EXPERIENCE”



“Welcome to Abu Dhabi University

This Freshman Guide is more than a manual; it is your blueprint for transformation. At ADU, we believe true education extends beyond lecture halls, shaped by the dynamic interaction between academic ownership and community involvement.

Academic Agency: Taking Charge of Your Journey

Your journey begins with Academic Advising—the foundation of your academic ownership. As our contributors emphasize, advisors help you "explore interests" and "connect decisions to future goals," but this requires your proactive involvement. Your education is not something that happens to you; it is a journey you actively shape. This ownership is supported by our CRASIC principles: Curiosity, Resilience, Adaptability, Self-discipline, Integrity, and Communication. These are the tools that transform potential into achievement.

Community: The Catalyst for Growth Ownership

thrives within a supportive environment. The Student Affairs Department serves as your "central hub," connecting you to career platforms, over 30 clubs, wellness counseling, and sports. These are essential spaces to practice empathy and find your "sense of identity and belonging." As our faculty advise, university is where you must "build bridges, not walls." The "symphony of languages" on our campus is the sound of a community where tolerance and active listening turn diversity into your greatest asset.

The Synergy of Success

The student stories shared here capture a vital synergy: initial fear turning into confidence through friendship, and the realization that university is about "progress, not perfection."

The ADU Promise

ADU provides a holistic environment where academic pursuits are enriched by community life. Your rights to fair assessment and a respectful voice are matched by your responsibility to engage with integrity.

As you begin, I urge you to embrace this dual mandate: be the architect of your education and an active citizen of our community. Join a club, seek out your advisors, and contribute your unique voice to our collective tapestry. Your time here is a precious opportunity to grow in both knowledge and character.

Welcome to your university.”

Professor Ghassan Aouad, Chancellor of ADU

PROVOST'S SPEECH

“OUR APPROACH TO LEARNING RECOGNIZES THAT DIFFERENT CULTURES HAVE DISTINCT LEARNING STYLES AND PREFERENCES”

Dear Students,

A very warm welcome to Abu Dhabi University and thank you for choosing ADU as the starting point for your academic journey. I know that transitioning to university can be both exciting and daunting. You leave behind long-term high school friendships to embark on a new journey but it's not a journey you need to take alone.

We have established systems that you can access for academic and emotional support.

Our Academic Success Center offers invaluable support through peer tutors—students who understand your challenges firsthand. Additionally, faculty and instructors provide regular office hours to assist with course content or guide you to the right resources.

My own journey was anything but linear. Starting a degree in a new country while becoming a father taught me the value of discipline. I used every spare moment between classes to study; while others went to coffee shops, I went to the library. By utilizing university support systems and study groups, I overcame the challenges of returning to education after many years.

I encourage you to set personal goals and balance your studies with leisure, exercise, and campus clubs. If you ever feel overwhelmed, our University Counselors provide confidential support for your well-being.

The most important advice is this: if you face a challenge, reach out. Our goal is to help you achieve yours. Welcome to the ADU family.

Sincerely,

Professor Barry O'Mahony,

Provost of ADU



VICE-CHANCELLOR'S SPEECH

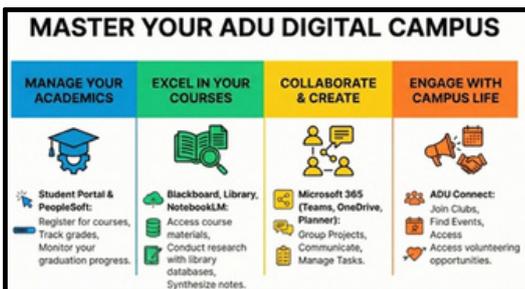
MASTERING THE DIGITAL CAMPUS: YOUR FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS AT ADU



Welcome to Abu Dhabi University. You are joining a digitally enabled academic community where our digital ecosystem is a core enabler of how you study, collaborate, and prepare for the future.

Understanding these platforms will help you navigate university life with confidence and independence.

At the heart of ADU's administration is PeopleSoft, where you will register for courses, track attendance, and monitor graduation eligibility. Your Student Portal serves as the primary gateway to these services, while Blackboard acts as the hub for accessing course materials, submitting assignments, and collaborating with faculty. Beyond coursework, ADU Connect links you to clubs, volunteering, and community initiatives.



For research, our digital library provides high-quality resources, supported by NotebookLM as an AI-assisted companion for synthesizing information. Additionally, the Microsoft 365 suite underpins your productivity and communication:

- Teams for communication and virtual meetings
- OneDrive and SharePoint for secure storage and teamwork
- Planner for managing tasks and group projects
- Sway for creating digital presentations
- Power Automate for workflow efficiency
- Copilot for AI-supported writing and analysis

I encourage you to engage with this ecosystem confidently and responsibly. This is your launchpad; use it well as you forge your future at ADU.

Professor Hamad Odhabi,
Vice-Chancellor of ADU

DIRECTORS' WELCOME MESSAGES



Welcome to your second home, ADU. You've made a great choice, and we are excited to walk this journey with you. From your first class to your final project, you will find a community ready to help—advisors, faculty, and librarians—all dedicated to your success.

University life extends beyond lectures; it is about joining clubs, building friendships, and learning to manage your time. When days feel challenging, remember that you belong here. Set clear goals, attend office hours, and book tutoring sessions. We encourage you to visit Career Services to explore internships and polish your CV. Engaging in student societies and community service will build the confidence and networks essential for your future. At ADU, we value integrity, respect, and inclusion. Treat others kindly and hold yourself to high standards. Prioritize your wellbeing—sleep well, stay active, and explore our beautiful Al Ain campus. Use our smart learning tools wisely to enhance your studies, and always reach out early to Student Affairs or Academic Advising when you need support. Our promise is to challenge, support, and celebrate you every step of the way. Your future starts now. Welcome to ADU, and welcome to a great year ahead.

Dr. Mohammad Fteiha,
Al Ain Campus Director, Center for Faculty Development & Learning Innovation



Welcome to Abu Dhabi University!
Congratulations on beginning this exciting new chapter. You are now part of a vibrant community that prizes learning, creativity, and global responsibility. At ADU, you will be encouraged to think-

Critically and grow both intellectually and personally. Our dedicated faculty is here to support you at every stage. Embrace new ideas, build meaningful connections, and seize the opportunities ahead. We look forward to witnessing your leadership and the positive impact you will make.

Dr. Sreethi Nair, Dean of CAESS



ADU is a hub of opportunity, from student organizations and creative projects to professional internships. We are proud to advance our commitment to excellence through our new MA in Digital and Strategic-

Communication and our industry-aligned undergraduate programs. Success here is about more than hard work—it's about finding balance and purpose. Embrace every chance to learn, create, and connect. We are here to guide you; make the most of this journey!

Dr. Nadim Khouri,
CAESS & Communication Chair, Al Ain Campus



Here at CAESS, whether through Media and Mass Communication, or Education, Psychology and International Relations your courses will enable you to understand people; the ideas they generate and societies in a way that enables you to change the world around you. Life at the university isn't only about classes and grades, life is much more than this: it's a time to explore, discover new passions, make your voice heard and shape who you are. "Participate, network, make use of any kind of opportunity that comes to you whether it's a research project or a student club or an initiative in your community. Welcome to your new beginning and to a journey that will shape the person and professional you aspire to become.

Dr. Sleiman El Bsawmai,
CAESS Deputy-Dean, Al Ain Campus

On behalf of the Admission & Registration Office, I extend our warmest greetings as you begin this exciting new chapter. Our team is dedicated to supporting you from your first day of classes to your graduation, ensuring you have a rewarding experience. To achieve your goals, we encourage you to:

- **Attend and Engage:** Active participation in all your classes is the first step toward success.
- **Seek Support:** Take full advantage of our resources, including academic advising, tutoring, and counseling services.
- **Get Involved:** Join clubs and extracurricular activities to build friendships and develop your leadership skills beyond the classroom.

Mr. Sameer Najib, Senior Admission & Registration Manager



Student participation in campus life events is not just about having fun—it's a crucial part of your personal and professional growth. By engaging in these events, you will develop essential skills that are key to your future career. You will gain valuable experience, enhance your leadership abilities, improve teamwork and communication skills, and learn effective time management. Additionally, campus events offer excellent opportunities to build a professional network, connect with peers, and gain practical experience. Your involvement today will contribute to your success tomorrow.

Take a few moments to explore ADU Connect:

<https://connect.adu.ac.ae> to learn more about our student events.

Mr. Sabri Abbas,
Senior Manager of Student Affairs



On behalf of the Business Support and Facilities (BSF) team at Abu Dhabi University, we welcome you and are excited to introduce the BSF Service Hub (www.bsf@adu.ac.ae). This hub is designed to simplify your access to all services provided by BSF.

Through the hub, you can submit maintenance requests, book transportation, request security services (including applying for parking stickers), report incidents, request CCTV reviews, and report lost or found items, among other services.

Our goal is to ensure a smooth and efficient experience, allowing you to focus on your academic and professional goals while we handle the operational needs.

Mr. Shadi Jamal, Senior BSF Manager

Welcome to the Department of Languages! As you begin your university journey, proactively strengthening your English will be one of your most powerful tools for academic and future success. First, engage consistently—don't just study for tests. Read widely in English, from news articles to literature in your field. Second, use our resources: visit the University Writing Center for feedback on your papers, join our weekly English Conversation Circles, and make full use of our library's digital language platforms. Third, practice actively—write, speak, and think in English daily; even keeping a journal or discussing lectures with peers builds fluency. Finally, don't hesitate to reach out to your professors and language tutors—we are here to support you. Remember, language grows with steady, confident use.

Dr. Sullay Kanu, Coordinator of Language Department



A significant challenge is the early reliance on calculators, which can leave students struggling with basic operations, fractions, and functions. This makes advanced subjects like calculus, engineering math, and data science unnecessarily difficult.

Advice for Students

- Practice Daily: Dedicate 10–15 minutes to basics like equations and graphs.
- Reinforce Learning: Use online videos and educational apps to build logic.
- Seek Help Early: Ask questions immediately; do not wait until exam week.

Recommended Resources

- YouTube: Khan Academy, Professor Leonard (Calculus), Mashal's Math Class (Arabic basics), and Eddie Woo.
- Mobile Apps: Khan Academy (lessons), Photomath (step-by-step solutions), Brilliant (logic/reasoning), Mathway (problem-solving), and GeoGebra (geometry/graphs).

Dr. Imed Bouzida, Senior Instructor in Mathematics and Statistics

NAVIGATING ADU PLATFORMS



The DATA Department's mission is to make your experience at ADU smarter, safer, and more connected. From online classes to collaborative tools, DATA ensures that every part of your learning journey is supported by modern technology and a strong cybersecurity foundation.



Navigating ADU's Digital Ecosystem

ADU's digital ecosystem integrates the essential tools you need for academic success. After receiving your student ID and password, log in to the MY ADU Portal (<https://apps.adu.ac.ae>) for single-sign-on access to:

Blackboard: Your hub for course materials, assignments, and grades.

PeopleSoft: For course registration, schedules, and financial information.

Microsoft 365: Tools like Outlook and Teams for communication and collaboration.

ADU Connect: Your source for campus news and events.

Learning and Collaboration

Your academic experience is powered by technology designed for flexibility. Blackboard manages your course content, while Microsoft Teams enables live sessions and interactive discussions with faculty and peers, ensuring a dynamic learning experience.

Cybersecurity Awareness

Protecting university data is a shared responsibility. You can help maintain a safe environment by following these habits:

Keep passwords strong and private.

Sign out of shared devices.

Avoid suspicious emails and unfamiliar links.

Use your ADU account strictly for academic activities.

If you encounter technical issues, contact the DATA Helpdesk at <https://helpdesk.adu.ac.ae> or email helpdesk@adu.ac.ae.

Mr. Sajin Salim, Senior IT Manager, DATA Department

STUDENT ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES:

REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT:

This is the gateway to your academic career at ADU. The department manages the entire student lifecycle, from initial course enrolment and class scheduling to maintaining academic records and overseeing graduation clearance. The team provides expert guidance on academic planning and ensures students meet all procedural requirements for their programs.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

Understanding that education is a significant investment, the Finance Department offers transparent and supportive financial services. The team provides comprehensive assistance with tuition fee payments, payment plan options, and a wide range of scholarships and financial aid opportunities. Their goal is to make quality education accessible and to provide clear, timely information on all financial matters.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SERVICES:

Dedicated to creating a welcoming and supportive environment for students from abroad, this office is a vital resource. It offers specialized guidance on visa processing and residency requirements, helps with cultural adjustment, and provides ongoing support throughout the academic journey to ensure international students feel at home at ADU.

Mr. Husam Ihlayyel,

Senior Manager of Financial Aid

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS:

We're excited to have you join the Abu Dhabi University community! As you begin this new chapter, the Financial Aid & Scholarships Department is here to support you in making your academic journey financially manageable and successful.

Our office is dedicated to helping students achieve their goals through a variety of financial support options, including:

- Merit-Based Scholarships
- Financial Aid Program
- Family Waivers

These options are designed to recognize your academic achievements and support you in times of financial need.

How We Support You

We're here to guide you through:

- The application process for scholarships and financial aid
- Understanding eligibility criteria and CGPA requirements

Whether you're applying for the first time or renewing existing aid, our team is ready to assist.

STUDENT ACADEMIC RESOURCES:



At Abu Dhabi University, your Academic Advisor is more than just a guide for registration; they are your dedicated mentor for both academic and personal growth. Your advisor is here to help you clarify your goals, choose the right major, and design a plan tailored to your future career or graduate aspirations.

Advising is a partnership built on trust and a shared commitment to your success. Students who connect with their advisors regularly are often more confident, better organized, and more engaged with university life. Whether you need strategies for balancing your workload or just have a quick question, your advisor is your first point of contact.

You can reach out via email, Microsoft Teams, or during office hours. No question is too small—we are here to support you and celebrate your milestones!

Ms. Tarteel Salih, CAESS Advisor

ACADEMIC SUCCESS CENTER: YOUR GUIDE TO ACADEMIC CONFIDENCE AT ADU!

Academic Success Center (ASC)

Starting university is exciting but can occasionally feel overwhelming. The Academic Success Center (ASC) is here to support you every step of the way, providing the tools and confidence needed to excel in your courses within a supportive, judgment-free environment.

Our Core Programs:

- **Peer Mentoring:** Experienced students help you settle in by guiding you through registration, advising, and navigating the ADU Portal.
- **Peer Tutoring:** High-achieving students offer one-on-one or group sessions to help you master tough subjects and improve study skills.
- **Course Assistants:** Top-performing tutors work closely with faculty to support specific courses, a great way to build professional skills for the future.

Beyond personalized support, the ASC hosts academic competitions and workshops led by faculty and students to spark creativity and intellectual growth.

Mr. Omar Shurbaji,

English Faculty & ASC Coordinator



STUDENT AFFAIRS RESOURCES



The Student Experience: Beyond the Lecture Hall
At Abu Dhabi University, your journey is holistic. The Student Affairs Department is the central hub for personal growth and well-being, providing the resources and opportunities needed to thrive academically and socially.

A Comprehensive Network of Support

The department consists of specialized units designed to enhance every aspect of student life:

- **Employability and Alumni Relations:** Prepares you for the future through career counseling, workshops, and networking. The ADU Job Platform connects students with internships and employment at leading UAE companies, while regular career fairs are hosted at the Abu Dhabi and Al Ain campuses.
- **Student Engagement:** The engine of campus energy. This office supports over 30 student clubs, manages major traditions like New Student Orientation, and organizes cultural celebrations to ensure a dynamic atmosphere.
- **Student Support Office:** Provides 24/7 access to essential services via the Student Support Portal, including:
 - **Visa & Housing:** Assistance with student visas, health insurance, and accommodation.
 - **Transportation:** Management of university shuttle services.
 - **Counseling & Wellness:** Confidential mental health support and accommodations for Students of Determination.
 - **Practical Training:** Part-time opportunities to build professional experience before graduation.
 - **Integrity & Feedback:** Managing the Code of Conduct to ensure a safe environment and addressing student complaints or suggestions for improvement.



By centralizing these services online, the Student Support Office ensures that students receive timely, reliable, and student-centered assistance, empowering them to focus on their academic and personal growth at ADU. Students can avail these services through the Student Support Portal: <https://ss.adu.ac.ae/> .

Sports and Wellness Office:
Promoting a healthy lifestyle, this unit manages ADU's state-of-the-art sports facilities, including fitness centers and multi-purpose courts. It organizes intramural sports leagues, fitness classes, and trains varsity teams that compete in inter-university tournaments.

Operating Hours:

Sunday to Thursday: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

While walk-in inquiries are welcome for quick questions, students are strongly encouraged to schedule appointments for in-depth services like career counseling or personal advising to guarantee dedicated time with a specialist. Appointments can be booked through the ADU Student Portal or by contacting the department directly.

Building a Foundation for Success

The resources provided by the Student Affairs Department are more than just services; they are integral components of the ADU promise to develop well-rounded, future-ready graduates. By engaging with this department, students do not just get support—they find their community, build their resilience, and chart a path to success that will last long after graduation.



FACULTY ADVICE



BE CRASIC: THE SIX TRAITS OF A SUCCESSFUL ADU STUDENT

Your university journey is about growth, not just grades. Every lecture and project shapes who you become. To excel, strive to be a CRASIC student by embodying six essential traits: Curiosity to ask questions, Resilience to overcome setbacks, and Self-discipline to stay focused. Along with Adaptability, Communication, and Integrity, these values will help you turn every challenge into a lesson and ensure you shine from day one. Stay Adaptable as you navigate the fast-paced changes of university life, embracing new perspectives with an open mind. Communicate with clarity and respect to build meaningful connections and open new doors. Above all, lead with Integrity; your ethics define your reputation far more than any grade.

Mr. Omar Shurbaji, English Faculty & ASC Coordinator



HOW TO WORK AND PRESENT AS A GROUP

A strong group presentation reflects a polished and professional team. Start early by dividing roles and scheduling a full rehearsal; even one run-through smooths transitions and balances speaking time. On an individual level, project confidence through strong body language and steady eye contact. Avoid reading from slides, and ensure your voice is clear and audible for the entire room.

To keep your audience engaged, bring energy to your delivery and use visual aids to reinforce key points. Opening with a compelling question or anecdote can grab attention instantly. Finally, provide a concise conclusion, thank your audience, and invite questions.

Ms. Malak Askar, ADUFG Contributor



IT ALL BOILED DOWN TO SIMPLE DISCIPLINE



In my freshman year, my grand plans for total organization quickly crumbled into stress and procrastination. I realized that a dramatic overhaul wasn't the answer; instead, I started with one tiny win: making my bed every morning.

That small habit created a ripple effect. It led to a clearer desk, which made starting homework feel less daunting. I learned that breaking the cycle of procrastination doesn't require a giant leap, but a series of effortless steps. The momentum from these minor victories—a made bed or a single checked-off task—can quietly rebuild the discipline needed to transform your college experience.

Mr. Rafik Zinoubi, CAESS Faculty & ADUFG Editor



Building Bridges, Not Walls: The Power of Tolerance and Empathy on Campus

University life brings together a beautiful mix of cultures, languages, and perspectives. This diversity offers you a daily choice: will you build bridges that connect or walls that separate?

Tolerance is the respect for differences, even those we don't fully understand, while empathy allows us to listen with an open heart and respond with kindness. When you encounter unfamiliar traditions or beliefs, simply asking "Tell me more" can open the door to friendship and immense personal growth. A tolerant campus is a strong one; when we choose respect over judgment, the classroom becomes a safe space where everyone feels valued. In a world often divided, we need bridge-builders who choose curiosity over conflict. By practicing empathy, we don't just improve our university—we make the world a better place.

Ms. Mona Said, English Faculty



Faculty Insider: Your Roadmap to Success

The first few weeks may feel overwhelming, but building a connection with your professors is the smartest move you can make. To navigate your journey with confidence, always read the rubric before starting an assignment; it is your professor's "cheat sheet" for earning every mark. Similarly, treat the syllabus as your treasure map for course details before sending an email.

When you do reach out, maintain professional communication by using specific subject lines, formal greetings like "Dear Dr. [Last Name]," and a sign-off that includes your Student ID.

Additionally, utilize office hours as a "secret superpower" to clarify lectures or discuss project plans. Showing this level of initiative helps you stand out and demonstrates your commitment to growth.

**Dr. Collette Foster,
English Faculty, ADUFG Editor**

Student Advice



University life can feel like a constant rush, but I've realized that being productive is about focus, not just staying busy. We don't need to pull all-nighters to be successful. We just need to work on the right things with a clear mind. When we manage our time well, we find the freedom to actually enjoy life while we work toward our dreams. It is so important to stay hungry for knowledge. We shouldn't just study to pass a test we should study to understand the world. By staying open to new ideas and never stopping the questions, we grow faster. Every class is a chance to sharpen our minds and become better versions of ourselves. We have to stay teachable to keep moving forward. The best part of being here is using what we learn to make things happen. We shouldn't wait for the future to start. We can use our skills right now to build something or help someone. When we use our talents to reach for our goals, the hard work feels exciting rather than like a chore. We already have everything we need to succeed. If we stay focused and keep learning, we can start building a great future today.

Mohammed Waseem, ADU Freshman Guide Contributor

I'm a passionate Architecture student at Abu Dhabi University, where I've been growing and learning since my first year. My journey here has been full of experiences that shaped me both academically and personally. The professors and teaching assistants are incredibly supportive. They always guide us, encourage creativity, and push us to think beyond the basics. The College of Engineering and Architecture has also given me the confidence and tools to explore my ideas and bring them to life. The education I've received at ADU has helped me take part in professional design projects beyond the university, allowing me to apply what I've learned in both architecture and interior design. These experiences continue to inspire me every day to keep improving and discovering new ways to design meaningful spaces.

Tooleen Ahmed Hassan, ADU Freshman Guide Contributor



When I first joined ADU, I wasn't really sure if I chose the right major. Then after some time, I found it was not the best fit and I made the decision to change and now I am really happy about this decision. That decision was not easy to make, yet it makes me realize myself better and know what really makes me motivated. Changing majors can be scary, but it helps you to grow and discover new strengths. My advice for new students is don't be afraid of change or going out of your comfort zone. You have to explore, question and experiment until you come across what works for you. Don't be too hard on yourself if things don't go as planned, everyone moves at their own pace. And most importantly, enjoy the process, meet people, get involved, and make the most out of every opportunity. University is about learning, adapting, and finding your path, and that process is just as important as the destination.

Abeer Ussama, ADU Freshman Guide Contributor



"FINDING YOUR RYTHM," Your first year might feel overwhelming, but it's really your time to settle in and find your rhythm. Don't stress too much about having everything figured out yet; first year is meant to help you adjust. Explore your interests, test different study habits, and get involved on campus. Academically, this year is one of the lighter ones, so take advantage of that. Volunteer, keep your GPA high, connect with classmates, and enjoy the experience instead of rushing through it. Grades matter, but so does balance. It's okay to take breaks and have fun along the way. University isn't about perfection; it's about progress. Think of first year as your warm-up lap, a chance to learn, grow, and prepare for what's ahead. So, relax, stay curious, and trust that you'll find your pace. You've got this!

Nayah Hatham, ADU Freshman Guide Contributor



My stay at Abu Dhabi University has been a journey of development, challenge, and success. From the very first semester, I was inspired by the passionate professors and the learning atmosphere that encourages everyone to do their best. As a student of Cybersecurity Engineering, I have gained extremely good problem-solving and analytical skills by means of hands-on projects and continuous practice. During the course of my studies I came to the conclusion that time management is the real key to success. Having multiple assignments and exams to do makes it very easy to fall behind if one doesn't plan ahead. I found out that pushing tasks to later only adds stress and can have a negative impact on one's grade.

Being organized, having a clear set of priorities, and submitting homework on time not only helped me to keep up the confidence but also to perform well in the academics.

This whole experience has transformed me into a more disciplined and focused student. I have learned that success is not about working nonstop but it is about working smart, managing time well and having a positive attitude. I am very happy with my progress so far and look forward to more achievements in the future.

Ahmad Wasfi Hamed, ADU Freshman Guide Contributor

ADU'S STUDENT COUNCIL

INSPIRING WORDS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT, ASIL SALAH

The Student Council at Abu Dhabi University consists of several roles that work together to support students and enhance campus life. The council is led by President Yusuf Amr Ahmed, and I, Asil Salah Hassan, serve as Vice President, supporting leadership, coordinating activities, and ensuring smooth operations. Other members include Amro Kamal Jalad as Marketing Coordinator, Nabiha Tanvir as Events and Clubs Coordinator, Moamen Ahmed Elalfy as Community Service Coordinator, and Awatif Asaad Ali as Academic Representative. Together, we work to ensure students feel heard, supported, and engaged while fostering a positive and inclusive campus environment.

I am currently majoring in IT Cyber Security, and serving as Vice President has been a highly valuable experience that contributed significantly to my personal and professional growth. This role pushed me outside my comfort zone and helped me strengthen my leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills while building confidence in professional settings. I actively assist in organizing initiatives, supporting events, coordinating with different departments, and maintaining effective communication between students and university administration to ensure student needs and concerns are properly addressed.

Throughout this experience, I developed essential professional and soft skills, including problem-solving, time management, adaptability, teamwork, and emotional intelligence.

Balancing my Vice President role alongside my academic studies enhanced my organizational abilities and prioritization skills.



"Together, we foster inclusive environments."

I became more disciplined in managing my time, meeting deadlines, and handling multiple responsibilities simultaneously. Working closely with council members and university staff also strengthened my ability to resolve conflicts constructively, listen actively, and contribute positively within a team environment.



NOT JUST A GRADE, BUT A TRIUMPH: CELEBRATING SALLY SUHEL

A transcript—the GPA and course credits—only tells a small part of a student’s story. Today, we share a journey that reminds us of the incredible resilience within our ADU community.

Meet Sally Suhel, a sophomore whose first year at Abu Dhabi University was a testament to profound courage. This past year, Sally faced a series of personal hardships that were heavy and deeply personal. While these challenges gave her every reason to pause or step back, Sally chose a different path: she chose to show up.

She showed up to lectures carrying weights invisible to her classmates. She showed up to study groups offering kindness even when her own reserves were low. She held onto a fierce determination that her dreams would not be deferred by circumstance. The result is nothing short of inspiring.

Not only did Sally successfully complete her demanding freshman year, but she did so with exceptional academic standing. She engaged in campus life, contributed insightful perspectives to discussions, and built a network of supportive friends and faculty who witnessed her strength firsthand.

Sally, your ADU family sees you. We see your perseverance and the bright light of potential that no hardship could dim. Your success is measured not just in credits, but in the incredible character you have shown every step of the way. You remind us all that the most important lessons are often learned outside the syllabus—lessons in resilience, hope, and the power of moving forward, one day at a time. We are so proud to have you here.

Sully Suhel, ADU Freshman Guide Contributor



ADU'S POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND VALUES



A Foundation of Mutual Respect

A respectful and cooperative atmosphere is a shared responsibility at ADU. Students have the right to be treated with professionalism and kindness by all staff and faculty. This is supported by accessible communication channels, including flexible office hours, which ensure students can seek guidance and engage in meaningful, face-to-face dialogues with their lecturers to support their academic progress.

In summary, ADU provides a comprehensive ecosystem where student rights—to clear expectations, fair assessment, a respectful voice, and holistic engagement—are intrinsically linked to their responsibilities as active and conscientious members of the academic community.



VOICE AND ENGAGEMENT BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

The ADU experience focuses on holistic development. Students have the right to provide anonymous, honest feedback each term, ensuring their voice drives institutional improvement. Beyond academics, you are encouraged to enrich campus life by joining or forming student clubs and sports teams, fostering leadership and community under the guidance of Student Affairs.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

A productive learning environment relies on mutual respect and clear standards. Key expectations include punctuality, active participation, and timely assignment submission. To minimize distractions, please avoid side conversations, refrain from mobile phone use, and limit unscheduled exits. These norms demonstrate a commitment to your education and respect for your peers and instructors.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is the foundation of honest scholarship. It requires doing your own work, properly citing the ideas of others, and rejecting all forms of cheating or plagiarism. Upholding these ethical standards ensures your successes are genuinely earned and your credentials remain authentic. Ultimately, the pride of honest achievement is far more valuable than a grade obtained through dishonest means.



جامعة أبوظبي Abu Dhabi University

- **STUDENTS' RIGHTS**

At Abu Dhabi University (ADU), a clear and reciprocal framework of student rights and obligations forms the cornerstone of a dynamic and respectful academic community. This balance empowers students to actively shape their educational journey while upholding the standards that ensure a high-quality learning environment for all.

- **CLARITY AND PARTICIPATION IN LEARNING**

The educational process at ADU is built on transparency. At the outset of each course, the syllabus serves as an essential contract, clearly outlining learning outcomes, assessment criteria, and academic expectations. This empowers students to take ownership of their studies. Within the classroom, students have the right to a forum for open discussion, where they are encouraged to voice relevant ideas and perspectives. This right is paired with the responsibility to engage constructively, respecting the instructor's role in facilitating a productive and orderly learning experience for everyone.

- **FAIRNESS AND GROWTH IN ASSESSMENT**

A core principle at ADU is that assessment should be a tool for growth, not merely judgment. The university ensures fairness by aligning all tests and assignments with the Ministry of Education's standards and the pre-defined syllabus, guaranteeing that midterm and final exams cover only material that students have had the opportunity to learn. Furthermore, the right to receive detailed feedback on graded work is paramount, transforming every assessment into a learning opportunity and fostering a culture of continuous improvement.

- **VOICE AND ENGAGEMENT BEYOND THE CLASSROOM**

The ADU experience extends beyond academics into holistic development. A key student right is the ability to provide anonymous and honest feedback on instructors, curriculum, and services at the end of each term. This confidential process ensures that the student voice is a powerful driver for institutional improvement. Additionally, students have the right to enrich their university life by forming and joining official student clubs and sports teams, fostering leadership, community, and a vibrant campus culture, subject to the supportive oversight of the Student Affairs department.

ADU COMMUNITY LIFE



SYMPHONY OF LANGUAGES AT ABU DHABI UNIVERSITY: WHEN LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS HARMONIZE

At Abu Dhabi University, English serves as our academic gateway to global knowledge, while Arabic remains the heartbeat of our cultural identity. The true student experience is learning to navigate the harmony between these two languages.

On the Formal Stage: Where Languages Embrace In classrooms, English is the primary medium for science and global discourse. However, Arabic provides a vital bridge; professors often use Arabic proverbs or local stories to illuminate complex abstract theories. This synergy is most visible in student activities:

- **Debating & Public Speaking:** Students learn to balance English's direct logic with the emotional and rhetorical power of Arabic.
- **Bilingual Events:** Cultural exhibitions and displays often use both languages, showing how different linguistic styles can enrich a single idea.



The Outdoor Spaces: A Mosaic of Dialects Outside the classroom, the linguistic environment transforms into a vibrant canvas of everyday speech. In cafés and courtyards, Arabic is freed from formal constraints, manifesting as a dazzling mosaic of dialects that build community and weave relationships. **The Melody of Daily Life** Daily conversations are filled with warmth and hospitality. You will often hear the welcoming rhythm of:

- "Hala w'Ghala" or "Marhaba milyoon" (A million welcomes).
- "Ya al-habeeb" (My dear friend) or "Ya ba'd 'umri" (A term of endearment).
- "Ya'tik al-'afya" (May God grant you health) and "Tislam li" (Bless you).

In these spaces, language is more than a tool for information—it is the music of closeness and belonging that defines our campus spirit.

Dr. Larbi Ben Thair, Senior Instructor & Coordinator of Arabic Communication Skills CAESS



(SEQUEL)

The Arabic language at ADU is a vibrant tapestry of dialects. From the Gulf, you'll hear friendly inquiries like “Wesh al-akhbar?” (What’s the news?) and reassuring replies like “Tamaam al-tamaam” (Everything’s excellent). These expressions carry a warmth that transcends borders, turning everyday talk into a melody of friendship.

Beyond the Gulf, the soundscape grows even richer:

- Egypt & Sudan: Familiar rhythms like "aywa" (yes) and the tender Sudanese "yā ḥīlaylik" (how sweet you are).
- The Levant & Iraq: Musical phrases such as "hayda" (this), "yislmū" (thanks), and the charming Iraqi “Shlonak ‘ayni?” (How are you, my dear?).
- The Maghreb: Unique rhythms from Tunisia’s "barsha barsha" (very much) to Morocco’s "zwinah" (beautiful) and Mauritania’s poetic "ash ṭārī fīk?" (what’s happening with you?).

This diversity extends far beyond the Arab world. Friends from South Asia, Iran, and beyond contribute their own notes to the symphony, using words like “Namaste,” “Theek hai,” and the Persian “Joonam” (my soul).

These expressions are more than just vocabulary; they are tiny cultural bridges. At ADU, we don't just meet at the intersection of Arabic and English—we gather at a crossroads of the world’s voices, where curiosity about a friend's dialect often plants the seeds of lifelong friendship.

**Dr. Larbi Ben Thair, Senior Instructor & Coordinator of Arabic Communication Skills
CAESS**

HOW TO “PLAY” YOUR PART IN THIS SYMPHONY



Engaging consciously in this rich environment is an integral part of your educational and personal journey at ADU. Academically, it requires fluency in both Arabic and English, but immersing yourself in the world of dialects and multiple languages demands a listening ear and an open heart.

Start by being an active listener, paying close attention to how languages and dialects intertwine to form the fabric of campus life, from classrooms to cafés. Encourage your natural curiosity, and do not hesitate to ask those around you about words or expressions that catch your attention — most students and professors take pride in sharing a piece of their world with you.

Most importantly, seek opportunities to participate in events celebrating this diversity, such as attending an Arabic poetry evening, an English debate, or a multilingual cultural activity. You do not need to be an eloquent speaker from the start; merely being present and receptive is the first and most important step.

At Abu Dhabi University, you are not merely students studying curricula — you are students in the school of life and culture. Our campus is one of the best spaces where the language of global opportunity meets the language of identity and belonging. When we open our ears and minds to this linguistic symphony, we do not simply coexist; we learn, communicate, and contribute together to creating a unique human tapestry, making us all an inseparable part of this vibrant mosaic we call Abu Dhabi University.

Dr. Larbi Ben Thaier, Senior Instructor & Coordinator of Arabic Communication Skills CAESS

FRESHMAN FAQ'S

Social & Lifestyle Questions

1. How do I find out about events happening on campus? Keep an eye on the bulletin boards in the student union, or follow the [Insert Student Activities Social Media Handle]. Most big events are also listed on the university's digital calendar.
2. How can I stay healthy? Load up on greens and protein, alongside making wise choices when exploring the campus cafeteria's menus. Also, your tuition likely covers a membership to the Campus Gym in Block B, so make use of it!
3. How can I get involved in volunteering? If you want to give back, visit: <https://www.adu.ac.ae/blog/detail/general/volunteering-opportunities-at-abu-dhabi-university>. It's a great way to meet people outside your major and build your resume while helping the local community.

Academic & Career Questions

1. What if I'm struggling with a subject? Don't wait! Visit the Academic Success Centre (ASC) on the first floor or attend your professor's office hours. Seeking help early shows commitment. To book a tutor, visit ss.adu.ac.ae/adu-connect.
2. How do I cite sources correctly? Academic integrity is vital. Most professors prefer APA style. For guides, visit the university library website at adu.ac.ae/library.
3. Can I change my class schedule after the semester starts? Yes, but you must act quickly during the "Add/Drop" period (usually 7 days for Fall/Spring and 2 days for Winter/Summer). After this, changes are much harder. Consult your college advisor if you face issues.
4. What are "Office Hours" and should I go? These are dedicated times for professors to meet students, usually posted on Blackboard/Teams or their office doors (third floor). You don't need a crisis to visit—use them to clarify lectures or discuss career goals. It's also the best way to secure future letters of recommendation.



General & Practical Questions

1. Where can I go if I feel sick or need a check-up? You don't need to call home immediately. Visit the Clinic in Block B; they handle everything from basic check-ups and blood pressure readings to first-aid.
2. What if I lose my Student ID card? Treat your ID like gold—it's your key to campus facilities! If you lose it, check with the Reception or the Lost and Found on the ground floor. If it remains missing, visit the Registrar for a replacement.
3. Where can I find tech support? For Wi-Fi issues, university website errors, or software troubleshooting, head to the IT Department on the first floor. They are your go-to team for any technical hurdles.

Tala Mohammad Aldabak, Managing Editor, ADU Student

ADU CLUBS



Through a diverse range of academic, cultural, social, and recreational clubs, students are encouraged to engage, collaborate, and contribute to a vibrant and inclusive university community. As a heads up for new and continuing students, Abu Dhabi University hosts an annual Club Fair each year, offering an excellent opportunity to meet club members, learn about their activities, and join clubs that align with their interests.

Ms. Juman Kaddoura,
Student Affairs Coordinator



Student clubs at Abu Dhabi University, operating under the Student Affairs Department, play a vital role in enriching campus life by providing students with opportunities to explore their interests, develop leadership skills, and build meaningful connections beyond the classroom.



In addition, students can explore and join clubs year-round through the ADU Connect portal, where they can also interact, collaborate, and stay connected with fellow club members. These clubs serve as dynamic platforms for creativity, innovation, and personal growth, empowering students to actively shape the ADU student experience.

ADU Chronicles



ICASF 2025

Global Experts Convene at ICASF 2025 to Reimagine University Rankings with Focus on Sustainability and Innovation



A Global Gathering

Under the patronage of H.E. Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, ICASF 2025 convened leaders from 90 countries. In partnership with the IREG Observatory, Abu Dhabi University hosted 75 global experts to discuss the future of sustainability and innovation in higher education.

Reimagining Rankings

The "Reimagining Rankings" panel addressed the tension between chasing metrics and maintaining institutional integrity. Discussion focused on practical strategies to align university goals with evolving global standards without sacrificing their core mission.

Strategic Excellence

Moderated by Prof. György Fábrí, the session explored data-driven quality assurance and international pathways. These frameworks help universities improve their global reputation while remaining steadfast in their educational and societal responsibilities.

Leadership in SDGs

Led by Chancellor Prof. Ghassan Aouad, the conference reaffirmed ADU's dedication to research and SDG 4: Quality Education. The event served as a platform for transparent partnerships and innovative dialogue on the role of academia in global development.



Defining the Future of Impact The conference concluded with a powerful message: true academic excellence cannot be captured by data points alone. Moving forward, the focus must shift toward a more responsible and nuanced system of evaluation that rewards institutional bravery, ethical research, and an unwavering commitment to sustainability. As universities evolve, their success will be measured by how effectively they inspire the next generation to solve the world's most pressing challenges, proving that innovation is most valuable when it serves the greater good.

Mr. Rafik Zinoubi,
CAESS Faculty & ADUFG Editor



ADU Al Ain Campus Summer Camp & Work Experience



In June 2025, ADU's Al Ain Campus launched its annual Summer Camp & Work Experience Program, a transformative journey blending academic discovery with professional skill-building for high school interns. The inaugural week highlighted the university's commitment to innovation through a hands-on, interdisciplinary curriculum. In the College of Engineering, students engaged with cutting-edge technology in workshops covering Machine Learning, Laser Cutting, and Structural Stability. Simultaneously, the College of Health Sciences brought scientific concepts to life with practical sessions on nutrition and medical laboratory sciences, utilizing the campus's advanced labs to provide a dynamic preview of future career paths.

Beyond technical knowledge, the program placed a strong emphasis on essential professional development. A series of targeted workshops equipped students with foundational workplace skills, including:

- Teamwork Essentials and Diversity & Inclusion – Dr. Mohammad Fteiha
- Communication in the Workplace – Mr. Rafik Zinoubi
- Time Management – Ms. Tarteel Mohamed Salih
- SMART Goals – Ms. Kathryn Swift
- Stress Management – Dr. Mary George Varghese

To foster community and connection, the week also included guided campus tours and engaging fun activities, expertly led by ADU's dedicated student volunteers and the Student Affairs team.

Dr. Mohammad Fteiha, Al Ain Campus Director, Center for Faculty Development & Learning Innovation



Abu Dhabi University and University of Technology Sydney Showcase Groundbreaking Student Collaboration on Urban Sustainability

Under the leadership of Chancellor Professor Ghassan Aouad, this event underscores ADU's commitment to building world-class alliances that enhance research and provide students with global perspectives. Similarly, UTS continues to drive innovation through strategic international engagement.

"This showcase is a wonderful realization of the vision in our MOU," noted a UTS representative. "We look forward to expanding our collaborative efforts in research, student exchanges, and joint academic programs." Both institutions extend their gratitude to the faculty and students whose dedication made this success possible, paving the way for future innovation.



"The remarkable work presented by our joint student teams is a testament to the incredible potential of this partnership," said Professor Montasir Qasymeh, leading research initiatives at ADU. "Seeing students from opposite sides of the globe combine their creativity and technical skills to solve complex urban challenges is exactly the type of transformative education we strive to provide. This is just the beginning of a long and fruitful collaboration."

Mr. Rafik Zinoubi, CAESS Faculty & ADUFG Editor

In a landmark event at Abu Dhabi University (ADU), students from ADU and the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) showcased innovative research in urban modeling and sustainability. The event celebrated a vibrant collaboration born from a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two institutions in December 2023.

The showcase was honored by His Excellency Ridwaan Jadwat, Australian Ambassador to the UAE, alongside senior leadership from both universities. Under the guidance of project leaders Dr. Apostolos Kyriazis (ADU) and Dr. Mohammed Makki (UTS), students presented forward-thinking designs for environmental resilience and urban development.

This partnership between ADU's College of Engineering and the UTS Faculty of Design, Architecture, and Building (DAB) aims to foster a robust exchange of knowledge and research talent. By combining international expertise, the initiative prepares future leaders to address global sustainability challenges through practical, cutting-edge innovation.



ABU DHABI UNIVERSITY'S INTENSIVE IELTS COURSE CELEBRATES HIGH ACHIEVERS AND SIGNIFICANT STUDENT PROGRESS

Al Ain, UAE – June 23rd to 26th, 2025 – Abu Dhabi University (ADU) is proud to announce the resounding success of its 5th ADU IELTS Preparation Intensive Course, held from June 23rd to 26th at the university's Al Ain Campus.

The four-day intensive course attracted 184 registered participants, with 92 students attending, reflecting a strong 50% engagement rate. Under simulated real-exam conditions, 67% of attendees successfully passed the final achievement test. Most notably, 84 students showed significant, measurable improvement in their core English skills, a direct testament to their dedication and the program's effectiveness.



“These outstanding results underscore ADU commitment to providing high-impact, community-focused education that equips students with essential global competencies,” said Prof. Hamad Odhabi, whose supervision was instrumental to the initiative. “Investing in such programs empowers our learners and opens doors to international academic and professional opportunities.”

The ceremony celebrated the top-performing achievers, whose exceptional dedication set a remarkable standard:

- Rank 1: Raed Mohamed
- Rank 2: Ann Sarah
- Rank 3: Ahmed Qurban Ali
- Rank 4: Ajel Daison
- Rank 5: AlZeba Fathima

This achievement was made possible through the concerted effort of the ADU community. Special recognition was extended to Campus Director Prof. Mohamed Fteiha for his unwavering support, and to the operations and logistics team—Mr. Raneem, Mr. Sabri Abbas, Mr. Mohamed Abuaid, Mr. Sajin Salim, Mr. Ibrahim Bahlool, and Mr. Yusuf Amr—for ensuring seamless execution.

The academic delivery was led by the course's stellar instructors, Dr. Collette Foster and Mr. Rafik Zinoubi, who designed and delivered the comprehensive curriculum.

Mr. Rafik Zinoubi, CAESS Faculty & ADUFG Editor

Abu Dhabi University's College of Arts, Education and Social Sciences Hosts Second National Public Speaking and Debate Competition



On January 20–21, 2026, the College of Arts, Education and Social Sciences (CAESS) at Abu Dhabi University's Al Ain Campus successfully hosted the Second National Public Speaking and Debate Competition. This prestigious two-day event gathered talented students from across the UAE, providing a high-stakes arena to showcase their eloquence, critical thinking, and intellectual rigor. Participants engaged in compelling dialogues on complex topics, demonstrating a level of preparation and confidence that highlighted their potential as future global leaders.

The seamless execution of the competition was the result of meticulous planning by an exceptional organizing team led by Ms. Kathryn, alongside Ms. Mona Hassan, Mr. Omar Shurbaji, Ms. Nagham Hussein, and numerous faculty colleagues. The initiative received significant oversight and encouragement from ADU's senior leadership, including Vice Chancellor Prof. Hamad Odhabi, Provost Prof. Barry O'Mahony, CAESS Dean Prof. Sreethi Nair, and Al Ain Campus Director Prof. Mohamed

A panel of distinguished judges noted the remarkably high standard of discourse, describing the students' analytical abilities as truly inspiring. Supported by a dedicated team of student volunteers, the competition proved to be a significant milestone in the academic calendar. It stands as a testament to Abu Dhabi University's unwavering commitment to fostering a campus environment where professional development, critical thought, and effective communication flourish.

Mr. Rafik Zinoubi, CAESS Faculty & ADUFG Editor

ABU DHABI UNIVERSITY READING & WRITING CLUB CELEBRATED WINNERS OF SPRING 2025 LITERARY CONTESTS



On Thursday, 15 May 2025, Abu Dhabi University's Reading & Writing Club, in collaboration with the Student Affairs Department, successfully organized its annual Reading and Writing Contests. Inspired by Seneca's adage—"We should be readers first, then writers—like bees gathering nectar before making honey"—the events were designed to recognize and promote the indispensable skills of literacy and effective communication among the student body.

The event featured two sequential contests: the ADU Reading Contest 8 and the ADU Writing Contest 2, held simultaneously on both the Al Ain and Abu Dhabi campuses. These in-house competitions are a cornerstone of the Club's mission to foster a deep love for literature and empower students to become articulate thinkers and creators, providing a vital platform for students to showcase their comprehension, analytical, and creative writing talents.

Mr. Rafik Zinoubi, CAESS Faculty & ADUFG Editor

Following a rigorous evaluation of all participants, the ADU Reading & Writing Club was proud to announce the outstanding winners of the Contests:

- 1st Place: Rawan Mhd.Said (Username: 1097482) – Score: 98
- 2nd Place: Lyan Mushref (Username: 1080322) – Score: 94.5
- 3rd Place: Jana Abouezz (Username: 1098523) – Score: 91

The exceptional performance of this year's winners is a testament to their dedication and the vibrant literary culture we nurture at ADU," said a spokesperson for the Reading & Writing Club. "We are immensely proud of all the participants who took on the challenge. Seeing such high achievement in critical reading is inspiring and aligns perfectly with our goal of developing well-rounded communicators and leaders."

The Club extends its heartfelt congratulations to the winners and sincere gratitude to every student who participated. The success of the event is also attributed to the dedicated mentoring of faculty advisors, the support from the College of Education, Media, and Social Sciences, and the essential partnership with Student Affairs.



Tips for Freshmen

Personal Tips	General Tips	Classroom Tips
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check your university email. • Inquire about the thing you are unsure of. • Do not ignore BB notifications. • Check your grades on self-service. • Do not depend on someone's work. • Get to know your professors • Follow your study plan. • Get involved with your advisor. • Focus on yourself. • Learn from other levels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose your major wisely. • Be confident & Be honest. • Follow academic integrity. • Do not use others' work. • Set a smart goal every day. • Use your email calendar to manage your time. • Join events to earn more knowledge. • Always attend your class. • Go to ASC if you face any academic difficulties. • Apply for scholarships and financial aid. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get to class early and prepare the materials needed. • Take notes as this will help you focus more on the lecture. • Do not be afraid to ask questions, or seek help/clarification. • Do not be afraid to answer questions either, even if you think you may be wrong. • Keep your desk clean and organized to avoid confusion. • Remove anything that can distract you e.g., the mobile phone. • Get involved and participate during classes. • Set timers and alarms to remind you of class time. • Write reminders for assignments and tests. • Never miss a lecture intentionally.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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WELCOME TO ADU: A FRESHLY BAKED GUIDE TO CAMPUS MYSTERIES

You've read about CRASIC, academic advising, and global partnerships. Now, let's address the real questions no one prepared you for.

The Great Campus Coffee Quest

You will learn many things at ADU, but perhaps the most vital survival skill is locating a cup of coffee between back-to-back lectures. The journey often feels like a heroic quest: you'll follow tantalizing aromas down corridors, only to find a group debating thermal dynamics. Pro tip: The line is shortest when you should be in class. We don't condone skipping, but we understand priorities.

The Wi-Fi: An Ongoing-Quest Saga

Our digital campus is truly impressive... Just remember to connect to the right Wi-Fi. In certain areas, you'll have full bars, yet your assignment upload will move slower than a turtle on a zen retreat. Our IT heroes are always on standby.

The Symphony of Student Life

Remember the beautiful "symphony of languages" described earlier? At 8:03 AM, right before a class, this symphony reaches its crescendo. It's a magnificent blend of hurried greetings, the rustle of last-minute printouts, and the universal sound of a student realizing their laptop is at 1% battery. It's chaotic. It's beautiful. It's your new normal.

A Final, Crucial Lesson

You've been given a blueprint for transformation. But here's the secret map they don't print: Your best moments will likely happen in the unplanned spaces. In the laughter after a group project meeting goes off the rails, in the shared confusion over a Blackboard notification, and in the triumphant high-five when you finally find an empty study pod.

So, as you embark on this incredible journey, remember to embrace the perfectly imperfect, wonderfully messy, and hilariously human side of university life. You've got the guide, the resources, and the community. Now, go make some funny stories of your own.

Welcome to ADU. May your coffee be strong and your deadlines be forgiving.

The ADU Freshman Guide Team