

ASC HIGHLIGHTS

| FALL 23-24



جامعة أبوظبي
Abu Dhabi University



Welcoming Our New Students

This fall, our campus has been graced by a wave of fresh faces, each representing the promise of a brighter future. We're thrilled that you've chosen Abu Dhabi University as your academic home, and we want you to know that you've made the right choice. Here at ADU, we stand as a beacon of educational excellence in the UAE, and you are now part of this legacy.

Allow me to introduce you to a vital resource on our campus—the Academic Success Center (ASC). It's not just a place; it's a supportive community of individuals dedicated to your academic journey. At the heart of the ASC are our stars: the Course Assistants, Peer Tutors, and Peer Mentors. They are not just your fellow college mates; they are your academic allies, ready to lend a helping hand whenever you need it.

Whether you're facing a challenging Calculus problem or seeking guidance on finding the perfect student club, they are here for you. Our peer mentors can even assist you with important tasks like submitting a make-up exam request. They've been in your shoes, and they know what it takes to succeed.

In both campuses Abu Dhabi and Al Ain, our stars have already made a significant impact on the lives of countless students, helping them achieve the grades they aspire to.

As you begin your academic journey, it's essential to know your support system. I encourage you to pay us a visit in the Academic Success Center in both Abu Dhabi and Al Ain campuses. We're here to help you excel academically and make the most of your university experience.

Remember, education is not just about classes and exams; it's a transformative journey. Embrace curiosity, seek help when needed, and view every challenge as an opportunity to grow. We're excited to be a part of your educational adventure and look forward to seeing you thrive.

With warm regards,
Coordinators, Academic Success Center

Meet Our Team!

Abu Dhabi Team



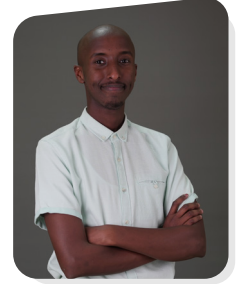
Ms. Duha Lababidi



Ms. Mahdeya Abuoudah



Ms. Sara Herzallah



Mr. Abdulkarim Rageh



Ms. Huda Haggag



Ms. Aqsa Gul

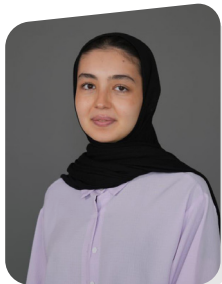


Mr. Qasem Al-Yafeai

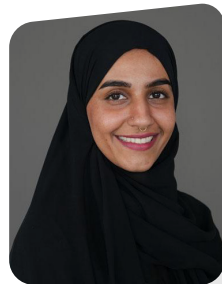
Al Ain Team



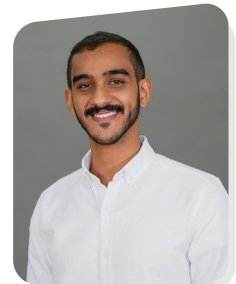
Dr. Nitin Serwa



Ms. Juman Kaddoura



Ms. Mahnaz Baloch



Mr. Ahmed Salah

Reflections from the ASC Family Members



Abd Al Rhman Al Rifae - *Peer Mentor & Course Assistant*

1089444

I had an exceptional experience being a course assistant and peer mentor. While the students faced certain challenges, I played a key role in enhancing their understanding of the material. This resulted in a substantial positive impact and marked development in their learning. In addition to that, guiding the students throughout their first semester at university and ensuring they had a friend was a profoundly heartwarming experience, adding an extra layer of fulfillment to my role.



Alyssa Brianna Palmer - *Peer Mentor*

1089444

Being a peer mentor for 5 semesters has been an invaluable experience for both myself and my mentees. I have had the opportunity to practice my interpersonal and communicative skills, while also imparting my advice and experiences to help new students settle in the university. My mentees get the benefit of having someone who already "knows the ropes" to guide them through their first semester. It is truly a wonderful experience and a great way to help new students who may not know all ADU and the ASC have to offer!



Tuayyeb Hussain - *Peer Tutor*

1091398

Being a peer tutor at Abu Dhabi University has really benefited me in many aspects of my life. This role has not just strengthened the grasp of the course I tutor but it also has boosted my cognitive abilities and morale. Moreover, it really makes me confident enough to take up challenges that are meant to hinder my career goals.



Sheryl Jubi - *Course Assistant*

1078783

Being a Course Assistant at the ASC has greatly aided me in stepping outside of my comfort zone and developing my soft skills. The ASC has undoubtedly assisted me in becoming more vocal and confident, from meeting and conversing to communicating and clearly expressing my opinions. This role has instilled in me a sense of trustworthiness and dependability, and has also given me a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction in knowing that I have assisted someone.

Reflections from the ASC Family Members



Ali Yaser Alharmi - *Tutee & Mentee*

1094050

Being a tutee and a mentee has been an amazing experience because I have been getting the help I always wanted at the beginning of the University. This kind of help has provided me with the experience I was expecting when I first joined University. I wasn't lost and I wasn't confused because I always had someone next to me and assisted me with everything that I needed. I look forward to helping out people next semester just as I've been helped.



Mingizem Addis Abere - *Mentee*

1093902

The ASC of Abu Dhabi University has been a source of immense joy for me as I have had the pleasure of receiving mentorship services from some of the most experienced and knowledgeable mentors. Their fresh perspectives have helped me gain a deeper understanding of various concepts, and their guidance has enabled me to develop new skills that I never thought possible. If you are interested in finding a mentor who can help you navigate the complexities of life at the university, I urge you to explore the peer mentor services offered by ASC.

What I Learned in My Freshman Year of College

At Abu Dhabi University, I had various life-changing events during my first year. A noteworthy change was the change from teachers to instructors and from traditional high school classrooms to lecture-based instruction. My personal excitement for studying was much influenced by the professors, who radiated knowledge and enthusiasm for their subjects. My freshman year was fundamentally defined by this transformation.

My freshman year was a period of self-reflection and discovery as I thought about my future professional path. I set out on an adventure to make sure that the major I chose matched both my interests and my talents. This procedure involves reflection, rigorous investigation, and asking academic experts for advice. It became more and more obvious that combining my academic interests with my hobbies was crucial for the advancement of my career.

I'd like to share some insightful tips with prospective freshmen at Abu Dhabi University. Importantly, it's indispensable to be flexible with the adjustments that occur with moving from high school to college, to start. As far as I am concerned, you need to accept the change from professors to instructors who are specialists in their professions, and from classroom learning to lectures. Furthermore, it's important to combine your personal life with your studies because college life may be very stressful. Create a study regimen, set attainable goals, and develop efficient time management skills early on. You will be able to have a well-rounded college experience and achieve academic success by learning how to manage your time effectively.

Essentially, it's vital to take an active role in developing your future job strategy. To choose your major wisely, get advice from your professors and academic advisers. Lastly, make the most of your first year as a period for discovery. To identify your genuine interests and talents, don't be scared to experiment with different academic paths.

Always remember your first year at Abu Dhabi University may pave the way for a successful and rewarding academic career if you are persistent and take the proper approach.



Mostafa Ashraf Mostafa - 1078732
Course Assistant

The Unleashing Power of AI: Transformation of Education

My Journey of Personal and Professional Growth as a Peer Mentor

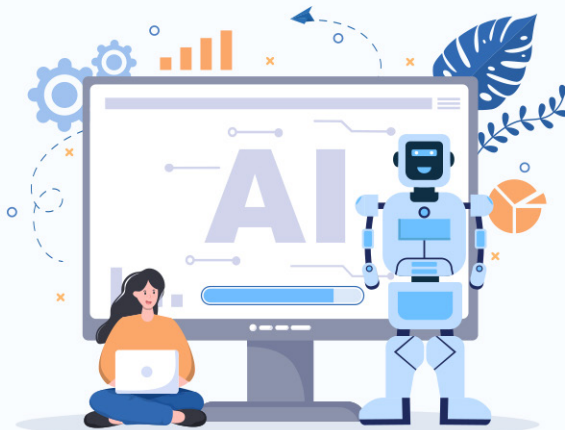
In the epic journey of millions of years of education, where knowledge and wisdom once resided in the hands of teachers and books, a new “man-made thinking machine” the hero of today’s students has emerged – Artificial Intelligence. AI has been developed into various aspects of education, revolutionizing the way of teaching, understanding, and learning.

One of the biggest advantages of Artificial intelligence in the educational industry is the Personalized learning opportunity. AI has the ability to examine vast amounts of information about a student’s learning pattern, their performances, their study schedules, learning pace and tailor them to create a unique educational experience that will give a positive outcome attracting a student’s motivation and attention. AI program also offers a rapid response and rectifies errors accurately, promoting efficient learning techniques. Moreover, it can also help polish a student’s unspoken skill or talent making them prepared for their life.

Have an exam tomorrow but it’s too late to ask your doubt? Well, at least AI’s got your back. AI’s 24/7 availability ensures that your questions don’t have to wait until the 11th hour to be answered. With AI by your side, knowledge, assistance, and a digital study companion will always be just a click away, even when the clock is ticking toward your exam. Alongside, the AI algorithms have the capability to break down educational barriers faced by people living in underdeveloped countries where their reach to a diverse set of knowledge is inaccessible and enable everyone to have access to high quality education remotely.

Although the number of benefits may outweigh the drawbacks, it is crucial to understand that the drawbacks can often inflict more significant harm than the advantages that it can yield. Dependence on AI can mitigate a human’s skill to think creatively and reduces chances of social and emotional development. The next biggest concern regarding an online Program always remains as privacy concern. AI systems can tend to collect a huge amount of data which can include a student’s personal information and background to even their biometric data, raising ethical and moral issues.

In a nutshell, being in an era, where technology ceaselessly progresses, it’s of high importance to consider all measures before surrendering the realm of education in the hands of a programmed tool.



Hafsa Ashar - 1089452
Peer Mentor

ASC Events

The ASC Appreciation Ceremony

The ASC's third appreciation ceremony was a festive celebration, as we gathered to honor students whose exceptional contributions have enriched our ASC community. Dr. Sreethi Nair, our esteemed Dean, handed out well-deserved certificates, recognizing the outstanding efforts of these remarkable individuals. Our gratitude extends to the adept coordination of Dr. Nitin Serwa (AA Campus) and Ms. Duha Lababidi (AD Campus). Certificates and gifts were presented with an aura of distinction, complemented by engaging games and delightful snacks. It was a formal recognition of excellence infused with a touch of levity, making it an event that will be fondly remembered. Thank you to our exceptional students who truly stole the spotlight at this distinguished gathering!



ASC Events

Ciao Party

As the semester came to an end, the Ciao Party provided a much-needed break before the finals. The event was all about fun, games, and relieving stress. Students gathered for an enjoyable evening, engaging in various entertaining activities, from classic board games to lively team challenges. Laughter filled the air as everyone embraced the festivities, and, of course, there were plenty of prizes to add excitement.



ASC Booth at ADU Orientation

The ASC played a pivotal role in the orientation event by actively engaging with freshmen through an informative booth. Participants received valuable information as the ASC handed out brochures explaining its purpose and diverse role in the academic community. The Academic Tutors took the opportunity to emphasize the support services available to students. Moreover, the ASC facilitated meaningful connections by orchestrating face-to-face interactions between freshmen students and their assigned Peer Mentors. Adding an element of fun and engagement, the ASC organized a set of general knowledge questions, enticing participants with prizes. This not only served as an entertaining icebreaker but also encouraged students to actively participate in the orientation, ensuring a comprehensive introduction to both academic resources and the vibrant community provided by the ASC.



ASC Events

ADU Talks

Each week, the ASC orchestrated ADU Talks gatherings, characterized by seminar-type presentations where students had the opportunity to showcase a topic of their preference in front of an audience. The central objective of ADU Talks was to enhance students' presentation skills and broaden their understanding through exposure to a range of subjects. This has emerged as an indispensable asset in nurturing confidence and honing communication skills among the student body.



Fears of Young People from AI / Sarah Saker



Effect of Sport on Individual Characteristics / Sven Ivak



Life Challenges and Spiritual Ascension "My Journey from Despair to Hope" / Ahmad Madhi

ASC Events

ADU Talks



How to be an A student / Sara Hesham



Mind Games / Toka Yousef Al Ghabit



The Art of Public Speaking / Hawraa Ahmed Adan

ASC Events

Academic Circles

After the circle's success in the Spring semester, the ASC continued with the three academic circles, English Conversation, Arabic Speaking, and the Math Lover's Circle, in Abu Dhabi campus. These circles provided students with the opportunity to enhance their language and conversational skills while sharing diverse perspectives, cultural insights, and viewpoints on a range of subjects. The Math Lover's Circle played a role in fostering a passion for mathematics among students, offering a chance to practice math in an engaging and enjoyable environment beyond traditional classrooms.



ASC Events

Movie Night

The ASC movie night was a blockbuster opportunity for ASC members to kick back, relax, and mix and mingle with their peers beyond the textbooks and lectures. The scene was set, and attendees were welcomed with popcorn, candies, and refreshing drinks. Laughter echoed, cheers were heard, and attendees couldn't help but gush with gratitude for the chance to unite and unleash some movie magic. This unforgettable event wasn't just about watching films; it was a golden ticket to community-building and a morale-boosting cinematic adventure. The ASC's movie night truly stole the show!



ASC Events

Arabic Calligraphy Workshop

In a creative spectacle, the Academic Success Center hosted an Arabic calligraphy workshop on October 30, 2023. Students, guided by skilled hands, unleashed their creativity, blending tradition with innovation to create unique calligraphy masterpieces. It was an adventure of boundless imagination, filled with laughter and inspiration as participants crafted their own designs, each stroke telling a story. Exceptional works of art were rewarded with symbolic prizes, celebrating the fusion of tradition and innovation in this artistic journey.



ASC Workshops

The ASC is dedicated to enriching student knowledge and imparting essential skills. In line with this mission, the center has curated a series of dynamic and enlightening workshops. These sessions offer students valuable chances to acquire fresh skills while fostering interactive and collaborative relationships with their peers.

Mentoring and Tutoring Workshop

The ASC recently orchestrated an enriching workshop tailored for its members, that was presented by Professor Ghanem AlBustami – Professor of Development & Education Psychology, focusing on refining mentoring and tutoring skills. This engaging session aimed to equip ASC members with practical insights and strategies to elevate their capabilities in guiding and supporting their peers effectively. Participants delved into diverse scenarios, honing their abilities to adapt and excel in various mentoring situations.



The workshop emphasized the symbiotic relationship between mentorship skills and personal growth, underlining how enhanced mentoring abilities contribute not only to the academic success of peers but also to the professional and personal development of the mentors themselves. The ASC believes that investing in these skills will undoubtedly prove beneficial for its members in their current roles and will serve as a valuable asset in shaping their future endeavors.

ASC Workshops

Internet of Things Workshop

The conducted workshop centered around the theme of the Internet of Things (IoT), aiming to delve into its multifaceted aspects and implications. Participants engaged in comprehensive discussions, exploring the vast landscape of IoT applications, challenges, and potential advancements. The workshop served as a platform for attendees to deepen their understanding of how interconnected devices and systems can revolutionize various industries.



ASC Competitions

Typing Competition

The ASC hosted its first typing competition in both campuses, putting students' typing skills to the test to determine the fastest typists among them. Participants engaged in friendly yet intense competition, showcasing their keyboard prowess. As the keys clicked and screens filled with words, the atmosphere buzzed with enthusiasm. Prizes awaited the top winners, recognizing their outstanding speed and accuracy. The event not only added a fun twist to campus activities but also highlighted the diverse talents and skills within our student community.



Chess Competition

The ASC organized an exciting chess competition for ADU students with two rounds. In Round 1, students battled it out online, and the best ones advanced to Round 2, the final. Here, the top three male and female chess players faced off in a thrilling showdown. It was a celebration of chess skills and the talents of ADU students, making it a memorable and intellectually engaging event.



ASC Competitions

Math Competition

The ASC and the Math department teamed up for a blast of a Math Competition! Students dove into various math challenges, showing off their mental math skills. It was all about friendly competition, fun, and securing vouchers for the top brains on both sides!



General Knowledge Competition

The ASC organized a captivating general knowledge competition that spanned various topics. The event was an intriguing blend of facts and fun, leaving students brimming with excitement. In the end, we celebrated the triumph of seven brilliant minds who emerged as the victorious champions.



ASC Competitions

MathArtivity

MathArtivity Competition is where the magic happens—mathematics and art collide, turning math whizzes into artistic maestros! Imagine students transforming equations into mesmerizing drawings, sprinkling a dash of trigonometry wizardry. And guess what? The masterminds behind the most captivating creations snagged some well-deserved prizes. It's not just about winning; it's about turning numbers into a canvas of pure brilliance!



Faculty mini-interview Series



Collette Anne Foster

*Department of Languages
College of Arts and Science, Abu Dhabi University
Email: collette.f@adu.ac.ae*

I am an experienced adult educator working in the ADU Language Department. My primary focus is on teaching English, workplace communications, and research proposal writing. My background is in educational leadership & management, as well as administration, and teacher training and mentoring. I am deeply passionate about sharing my knowledge and helping students learn and understand. I also have a wide range of interests, including reading, walking, cooking & entertaining, and I am an intrepid world traveller, who has been to all seven continents! One of my current goals is to publish an interesting and successful research article on Improving Teaching Skills for Faculty in Universities.

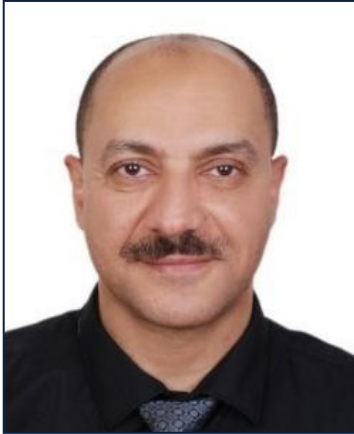
My experience as a student was both enriching and challenging. I always had a strong thirst for knowledge, which drove me to pursue higher education. It was during my own academic journey that I developed a profound appreciation for the power of education to transform lives. I faced my fair share of academic hurdles, but they taught me resilience and the importance of seeking help and guidance when needed. Overall, my time as a student laid the foundation for my career in education, as it allowed me to understand the student experience from the inside. As a result, I call education the “Magic Golden Key” – it opens many doors in life for you, it gives you the chance to have a better career, it gives you choices in life, and it gives you respect from others.

My advice to students today is multifaceted. Firstly, embrace curiosity and a love of learning. Education is a lifelong journey, and the more you engage with it, the more you’ll grow. Secondly, don’t be afraid to seek help and support. Whether it’s from professors, advisors, or peers, there is a wealth of resources available to assist you in your academic journey. Additionally, time management and organisation are key components. Balancing coursework, personal life, and extracurricular activities can be challenging, so developing effective time-management skills is crucial. Lastly, remember that failure is a part of the learning process. Don’t be discouraged by setbacks; instead, view them as opportunities to learn and improve. Finally, learn something new every day! Learning new academic vocabulary and reading are the tools that will help make you successful, not only in your studies, but in life also.

The role of the Academic Student Centre

I love the ASC! It is a great service for faculty and students. It plays a pivotal role in every student’s academic journey. It is a hub of resources and support, providing students with the tools they need to excel in their studies. This includes academic advising to help students choose the right courses, tutoring services to assist with challenging subjects, and workshops on needed skills, such as; reading, study skills and time management. Additionally, the ASC fosters a sense of community, where students can connect with their peers and find mentorship from more experienced students. It is also a place where students can seek guidance on their career goals and receive assistance with internship and job placement. In essence, the Academic Success Centre is a comprehensive resource that empowers students to achieve their academic and career aspirations. I encourage all students to utilise this important resource – it will assist you in reaching your goals!

Spotlight on Faculty Series



Mohamed Nabil Ahmed

*Department of Maths and Statistics
College of Arts and Science, Abu Dhabi University
Email: mohamed.a@adu.ac.ae*

I have been in the field of Education for more than 25 years and have a deep passion for analyzing educational research data. I am pursuing my Ph.D. in Educational Technology at UTM, Malaysia. I successfully obtained my MSc in Applied Statistics from Sheffield Hallam University. Prior to that, I completed my MEd in Educational Leadership at ADU. Additionally, I acquired a certificate in Applied Statistics from Colorado State University, US. My educational journey commenced at Ain Shams University, Egypt, where I earned a BSc in Mathematics.

I've had the privilege of teaching Applied Statistics and have contributed to some publications in this field.

As a student, my experience was both challenging and rewarding. I encountered various academic and personal challenges, but I also learned valuable skills such as time management and critical thinking. One memorable experience was in 2010 when I was working as an educator while pursuing my Master's and Certificate in Statistics and Education simultaneously. I faced difficulties in managing my time at the beginning, but my determination to achieve my goals helped me overcome this obstacle.

My advice to students today is to embrace a growth mindset, always be curious, and don't be afraid to ask questions. Don't be afraid of failure as it is an opportunity to learn. Time management is crucial, so create a study schedule and stick to it. Seek out academic support when needed, whether from professors, peers, or resources like the Academic Success Center.

The Academic Success Center plays a vital role in supporting students' academic journeys. It provides resources, tutoring, and guidance to help students excel in their studies. The ASC fosters a collaborative learning environment and empowers students to take control of their education. It's a valuable resource for those seeking academic assistance and striving for success.

Always remember that you should always pursue your passion both inside and outside the classroom!

Let's Have Some Fun!

Spot the difference

Find 5 Differences



Riddle

What is yours but is mostly used by others?



Benefits of reading self-improvement books

During my time in college, I've learned a lot of things that have been helpful for my studies and personal growth. As a student, I've faced challenges and successes. I'm proud of my dedication to getting better and better with each semester. Learning has always been important to me. I've found that reading self-improvement books has been useful. These books taught me how to be a better leader, communicate effectively, and manage my time well. They've also helped me perform better in my studies. Reading these books has given me the knowledge and skills to be a better leader, both in my studies and as a future peer mentor. I've learned how to lead by setting a good example, inspiring others, and dealing with tough situations. These books have also improved my academic skills. I'm better at doing research, managing projects, and communicating effectively. These skills not only help me get better grades but also prepare me for my future career.

In summary, my commitment to personal growth, guided by self-improvement books, has been a foundation for my success in college. As I continue into my third year and beyond, I'm excited to keep getting better and keep learning.

Some of the books I read were:

- Thinking, Fast and Slow - Daniel Kahneman
- The Power of Habit - Charles Duhigg
- The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People - Sean Covey
- نظريه الفستق - فريق اخضر
- التغيير للافضل - فهد الاحمدي



Tala Al Massad - 1084559
Peer Mentor

Why Should You Join ASC?

As a student on your university journey, you spend a significant amount of time at the university. So why not make the most of those hours by engaging in something beneficial that can pay off in the future? Joining one of the programs offered by the Academic Success Center (ASC) can greatly contribute to your personal and professional development. Whether you become a peer mentor, peer tutor, or a course assistant, the experience will not only enhance your academic abilities but also provide you with valuable soft and hard skills that are highly sought after in any workplace. While you're in the program, you'll learn things like managing your time well, talking to people, leading a group, organizing things, thinking critically, being creative, and more. These skills will contribute to your growth both personally and professionally. Being in ASC programs is more than just helping other students – you can also explore different subjects and improve your writing, speaking, and creative abilities through events organized by ASC. This will open up new opportunities for you and give you experiences that can shape your future.

Click on the links for more information about our [Peer Mentoring](#) and [Peer Tutoring](#) programs.

Do not miss the chance to be part of the ASC team and grow personally and professionally!

Hurry up and scan the QR codes or click on the links!



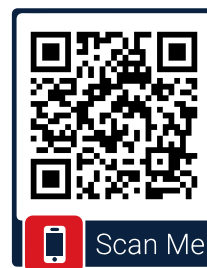
Winter 23-24 Semester

Apply for Peer Mentor Program



[Click Here](#) for the Peer Mentor application link

Apply for Peer Tutor Program



[Click Here](#) for the Peer Tutor application link

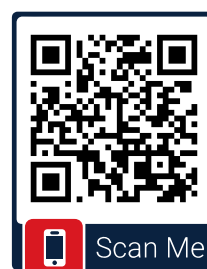
Spring 23-24 Semester

Apply for Peer Mentor Program



[Click Here](#) for the Peer Mentor application link

Apply for Peer Tutor Program



[Click Here](#) for the Peer Tutor application link