ADU Launches Professional Development Certificates to Boost Innovation in Education Through AI Technologies

Abu Dhabi University (ADU) reaffirms its commitment to educational excellence with the launch of two cutting-edge professional development certificates through its SMART Learning Center, the "Art and Science of Teaching Professional Development Certificate" and the "Al-Enhanced Teaching and Learning Certificate." These certificates mark a significant advancement in ADU's teaching methodologies, promising to elevate the faculty's teaching methodology and thus contributing to the overall student learning experience.

ADU's SMART Learning Center has introduced the AI-Enhanced Teaching and Learning Certificate, for faculty members from ADU and Liwa College. This certified program represents a pioneering leap in educational innovation and is designed to equip educators with the expertise and tools needed to seamlessly integrate Artificial Intelligence (AI) into their teaching practices. By blending theoretical understanding with practical application, faculty members will embark on a transformative journey to enhance teaching effectiveness and foster deeper student engagement.

Through this program, faculty members will gain foundational knowledge of AI applications and their transformative potential in teaching and learning. It will also enable the integration of AI technologies into teaching practices to strengthen curriculum delivery, enhance student's knowledge and analytical skills in response to the required educational needs. Additionally, faculty members will utilize AI-driven analytics to assess teaching efficiency and learning outcomes, while developing a comprehensive implementation plan for AI technologies in classrooms. In addition to showcasing innovative teaching strategies that promote ethical and independent learning.

Upon the completion of the program, faculty members will receive a certificate, recognizing their proficiency in AI-integrated teaching methodologies.

Aligned with ADU's dedication to fostering innovation, the Art and Science of Teaching Professional Development Certificate, accessible to adjunct faculty, existing staff and teaching assistants, offers six thorough modules covering the fundamental pillars of teaching excellence. From introductory theories to technological integration, the program seeks to equip educators with the ability to tailor their teaching strategies to the diverse needs of students in inclusive learning environments. Running weekly, participants will delve into several topics, including effective teaching tactics, assessment techniques, and ethical practices, culminating in a holistic grasp of effective pedagogy.

Dr. Hamad Odhabi, Vice Chancellor for Financial and Administrative Affairs at ADU, said: "The AI-Enhanced Teaching and Learning Certificate reflects our commitment to providing exceptional training programs for our faculty and staff members at ADU, supporting them in delivering excellence in education. This certificate provides educators with the skills to analyze educational needs and design AI-integrated curricula to enhance the learning experience in their classrooms. At ADU, we prioritize fostering innovation among our faculty members to improve their teaching practices and contribute to the development of the educational sector."

Dr. Mohammad Fteiha, Director of Al Ain Campus, and Director of the Centre for Smart Learning at ADU, said: "All thanks to ADU's leadership, faculty and staff continue to

receive unique training and upskilling opportunities that ultimately contribute to the delivery of world-class education. Through the introduction of the two new professional development certificates, we are confident that our faculty will be equipped with the required knowledge and skills to upkeep with the latest teaching and learning methodologies and trends. The integration of AI into the classroom enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of education delivery, nurturing a generation adept at leveraging the latest innovations and breakthrough solutions."

Furthermore, the Art and Science Certificate, will enable faculty members to harness new technologies and enrich educational experiences, optimizing learning outcomes and embracing multicultural teaching approaches, while upholding ethical standards and mastering adaptive teaching strategies designed for diverse learning contexts.

The <u>ADU SMART Learning Center</u> is dedicated to supporting ADU faculty in utilizing inclusive, student-centered, and evidence-based learning and teaching practices to effectively deliver ADU colleges' online courses and programs.

