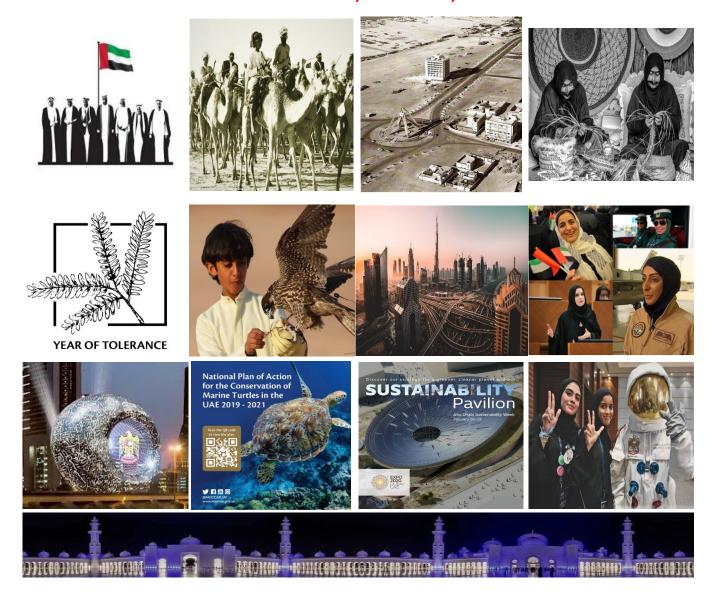


جامعة الإمارات العربيـة المتحدة United Arab Emirates University



# ASIA DEEP DIVE: 18<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE



Not long ago, the Arabian Peninsula was inhabited by proud and resourceful desert-dwelling nomadic tribes, and settled with fishing villages and date farms. Today, the UAE is a major international transport, communications, trade, and industrial center as well as one of the most modern, stable and safe countries in the world. It has a major influence in leading and shaping directions of global development.

Participants in this immersion program will trace key themes involved throughout the evolution of a small Arab-Islamic country and its rapid transformation into an influential builder of the future: diversity, equality and cohesion; preservation and innovation; security and sustainability; health, justice and education; infrastructure, technology and economy; vision, opportunity and leadership.







## THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

Historical study incorporates a variety of objects, diverse sets of evidence, and examination from multiple, often conflicting viewpoints. Analysis of contemporary developments is not straightforward, and future predictions are both uncertain and reliant on risk and creativity.

By the end of the two-week program, each participant will have had opportunity to explore the lifespan of the UAE via visits across the country to significant places, institutions, and communities. As they explore, each participant will focus on one of the themes that have been continuous in the development of the UAE. They will do this as part of a group.

Groups formed of students from different countries and cultures are a useful unit to embark on historical, contemporary, and future thinking. This is because the different backgrounds of students are a source of questioning and challenge, and the team spirit provides security and motivation. Therefore, participants from AUA universities will join with UAEU students to form groups, and each group will take one of the themes relevant to the development of the UAE. At the end of the program, students will present their interpretation of how their theme has been important in the past, is relevant right now, and will be significant in the future.

So, for example, during trips to the Sheikh Zayed Mosque or the Louvre Museum in Abu Dhabi groups can ask questions from their unique perspectives of:

- diversity, equality and cohesion;
- preservation and innovation;
- security and sustainability;
- health, justice and education;
- infrastructure, technology and economy;
- vision, opportunity and leadership.





Alternatively, during a trip to Dubai, each group can apply their unique perspective to the challenges and opportunities involved in creating this world-city and its success. Similarly, the themes provide direction for questions and evidence seeking about the development of the UAE when we go out to explore the geography, climate and environment of the seven Emirates. Finally, at UAEU we have experts who can provide expert input specific to the theme of each group – as lectures to all, or as tutors to groups.

We also want participants to have a great social time, learning about each other's cultures and languages, and those of UAEU students. There will be quizzes and competitions along the way, allowing students to showcase what they have gained from interaction with each other. We will also host a cultural night where students can demonstrate something that they think is significant about their culture – a costume, a dance or music, some food, an artefact, story, or piece of media. These multi-cultural experiences are the hallmark of the UAE (past, present and future) and are the challenge – and opportunity – that UAE residents have in living together in this society. We would like AUA participants to share in this richness.







#### **Indicative Program**

Day / Date	Event	Location
#1 Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Arrival of participants	Dubai (DXB) or Abu
		Dhabi (AUH)
	Travel to accommodation	Al Ain
#2 Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Morning: Opening of Program	Al Ain
	Welcome address	
	Introduction to program	
	<ul> <li>Illustration and explanation of themes</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Group formation activities with faculty input</li> </ul>	
	Afternoon:	
	<ul> <li>45 mins Arabic lesson: How are you?</li> </ul>	
	• 2 hours lectures: UAE timeline; preservation and innovation	
	Campus tour	
	Evening:	
	<ul> <li>Student social (organized)</li> </ul>	
#3 Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Morning:	Al Ain
	• 45 mins Arabic lesson: Who am I?	
	• 2 hours lectures: <i>diversity, equality and cohesion; geography</i>	
	and environment; energies	
	Afternoon:	
	<ul> <li>Group work tutorials with faculty input</li> </ul>	
	Al Ain tour [1]	
	Evening:	
	Dinner at an Emirati Restaurant	
#4 Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Field Trip to Abu Dhabi: e.g. Sheikh Zayed Mosque, Qasr Al Hosn,	Bus, Abu Dhabi,
	Louvre, Mangroves, MASDAR, Falcon Hospital with lectures	return to Al Ain
#5 Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Morning:	Al Ain
	<ul> <li>45 mins Arabic lesson: How many and when?</li> </ul>	
	• 2 hours lectures: <i>security and sustainability; infrastructure,</i>	
	technology and economy	
	Afternoon	
	<ul> <li>Group work tutorials with faculty input</li> </ul>	
	Al Ain tour [2]	
	Evening:	
	Camels and Desert experience	
#6 Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Field Trip to Dubai: Museum of the Future; the MBR Space Center	Bus, Night in Dubai
#7 Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Field Trip to Dubai: Burj Khalifa, Dubai Opera, Downtown tour	Bus, Night in RAK
#8 Saturday 25th	Field Trip: "Mountains, deserts and coast" to include fishing and	Bus, Northern
	pearling, flora and fauna.	Emirates, return to
		Al Ain





#9 Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Morning:	Al Ain
	• 45 mins Arabic lesson: Where and who?	
	• 2 hours lectures: vision, opportunity & leadership; national	
	identity; government in the UAE and GCC	
	Afternoon:	
	• 1 hour lecture: <i>health, justice and education</i>	
	Group work with faculty input	
	Evening:	
	Student social (informal)	
#10 Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Morning:	Al Ain
,	Arabic lesson: Writing my name	
	• Lectures: Engineering the future; tolerance and happiness	
	Afternoon:	
	• Lecture: Science in the Arab world into the future	
	Group work tutorials	
	Evening:	
	Cultural Night	
#11 Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Morning:	Al Ain
	Languages: Student Competition	
	• 2 hours lectures: Arts, media; sport past & present	
	Afternoon:	
	• 2 hours lectures: <i>Trade and transport: hubs, routes, animals</i>	
	and vehicles	
	Group work: preparations	
	Evening:	
	Mountain top sunset: Jebel Hafeet	
#12 Wed 29 <sup>th</sup>	Morning:	Al Ain
	Group work: final preparations	
	Afternoon:	
	Presentation of student projects	
	Evening:	
	<ul> <li>Student celebration with prize giving</li> </ul>	
#13 Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Morning:	Al Ain
	Closing reception	
	Afternoon:	
	<ul> <li>No trip to the UAE is complete without a Mall and Soug</li> </ul>	
	experience! Or, Al Ain Safari Park.	
	Evening:	
	Film night: Emirati Cinema	
#14 Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Breakfast (boxed) and Departure of participants	Dubai (DXB) or Abu
		Dhabi (AUH)



#### Invitation to Participate

Each AUA member institution is invited to nominate up to 2 students to participate on this program. In addition, each AUA member institution may nominate up to 2 students to be held on a waiting list.

The total number of students to be hosted by UAEU will not exceed 30 students. To ensure that UAEU is able to host the maximum number of students, the UAEU will allocate (randomly) from the waiting list to fill spare places resulting from AUA member institutions not nominating their quota of 2 students by the stated deadline.

#### Student Eligibility to Participate

Students from any undergraduate program may apply to their institution for nomination, if they have completed one year of study (full time or equivalent) at the time of their application.

Students should have a reasonable command of English in order to participate and benefit fully from the program. Confirmation of the student's ability must be provided within the application as stated. UAEU will not provide translators to students' native languages and all sessions will be in English (the language of education at UAEU) unless otherwise stated (e.g. Arabic lessons). By nature of the program, some of the input from non-UAEU contributors may be in Arabic in which case the UAEU will ensure interpretation into English only.

#### Nominations

Nominations from each AUA member institution must be provided by their institutional program coordinator to the UAEU at <u>DDAUAE@UAEU.AC.AE</u> by **Friday 29**<sup>th</sup> **November**.

The UAEU will not accept applications sent by individual students.

#### Provided by the UAEU

- 1. Invitation letters for visa purposes (if notified on the application form)
- 2. 300 USD to each AUA participant, via the fund given to UAEU by the AUA
- 3. Accommodation and meals from 18<sup>th</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 (inclusive)
- 4. Airport transfers (students must arrange to arrive/depart at DXB or AUH within 4 arrival timeslots and 4 departure timeslots).
- 5. Free internet access and study materials
- 6. Entrance fees

#### Bourne by the Participant

- 1. Flights (arrangements and cost)
- 2. Visa fees
- 3. Insurance (medical and personal)
- 4. Additional expenses outside the terms of the program.

#### Expectations and Responsibilities of the Participants

The UAE is a tolerant multi-cultural Islamic country. Students will learn about its norms, rules, and traditions and they must ensure their conduct respects these. Dress should be modest. Behavior must be courteous and language polite. Students must not consume alcohol or prohibited substances, and the UAEU campus is tobacco (smoke) free. All individuals present in the UAE must act within the law of the UAE; the legal authorities maintain the right to take action against anyone infringing the law.