

Why Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi?

In today's fast-paced and globalised economies, knowledge and languages both serve an important role in creating progressive and vibrant societies. The French education system is known for its high level of rigorous critical thinking and debating skills, which play a significant role in developing future pioneers and leaders.

Sorbonne Abu Dhabi is a globally recognised education institution that serves as a bridge between civilisations by offering a multicultural environment, which promotes and develops a strong culture of tolerance, curiosity, harmony and cultural awareness for today's modern economy. Students have access to internationally acclaimed faculty, world-class facilities and internationally certified degrees, which places them firmly on the right path in preparation for a successful career.

This degree is officially accredited by the UAE Commission for Academic Accreditation (www.caa.ae).

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sorbonne.ae



SORBONNE
UNIVERSITY
ABU DHABI

Bachelor in Geography and Planning



Bachelor Programmes

The Bachelor in Geography and Planning is an exclusive three-year degree and combines a solid foundation in physical, human and regional geography with further opportunities in other social and natural sciences.

This programme was created to provide the requisite scientific knowledge, concepts and methodologies for students to fully understand all aspects of the modern world, establish links between academic knowledge and the needs of sustainable development, locally and globally.

The curriculum focuses on professional work experience by offering numerous opportunities for internships locally and abroad in the fields of urbanism, sustainable development, risk management and territorial expertise.

The first two years are devoted to earth environment (relief, hydrography and climate) and society spaces (from culture to economy). During the third year, students strengthen their skills with case studies (Asia, Middle East and Europe) and thematic courses (risks, logistics and transport, humanitarian and urbanism).

Students learn how to use and leverage professional cartography and data management tools: remote sensing, statistical data processing, geographical information system. A computing lab and individual tutoring sessions are available to students.

By the end of the programme, students will be able to understand major territorial stakes such as the environmental impacts of societies, urbanism, sustainable development, social inequalities, economic and tourism development and heritage protection.

The programme faculty are all internationally renowned professors whose teaching methodology goes beyond the traditional forms of teaching to ensure a balanced and well-rounded learning experience.

The curriculum follows the European ECTS system and the degree is delivered by Sorbonne University in Paris.

First Year

- Earth System 1: introduction to environmental geography
- Terrestrial Climates 1: from climatology to geopolitics of global change
- Geography in human and social sciences
- Geography of population in the contemporary world
- Economic geography: actors and territories in globalisation
- Reading and commenting on a topographic map and DAO
- Earth System 2: earth relief and its stakes
- Geography of the biosphere, from earth to urban ecosystems
- Spaces and urban dynamics
- Agriculture and agrarian landscapes: grow and feed the planet
- Principles of cartography and graphic semiology
- Languages
- University research methodology: theoretical and on the field research
- Individual professional project

Second Year

- Geography of water resources: integrated watershed management
- Terrestrial Climates 2: chronological and spatial climate scales
- Regional geography: systemic and comparative approaches
- Powers and territories: political geography of the contemporary world
- Land-use planning: organise, plan and develop
- Statistics 1: initiation to data spatial analysis
- CAD (Computer-aided design)
- Dynamic geomorphology: how is earth relief created?
- Geography of France in Europe and the world
- Space and culture: concept, methodologies and objects of cultural geography
- Geo-environments: ecosystems challenges
- Geomatics: Geographic Information Systems
- Remote sensing: satellite images
- Languages

Third Year

- Geosphere and anthropisation: societies and environment
- Risks and societies: facing "natural" risks
- Transport, mobility and logistics in the contemporary world
- Dynamics of urban systems: introduction to urbanism
- Middle Eastern geography: environment, society and geopolitics
- Asia-Pacific at the heart of "world-economy"
- Statistics 2: professionalisation of space analysis skills
- Techniques of enquiry, sampling: creating geographic information
- Large bioclimatic domains: sustainable management of biodiversity
- Geodynamics of shores and hydrographical basins
- Mutations of rural spaces: from agro-industry to tourism
- European Union: socio-cultural, economical and geopolitical analysis
- Humanitarian and development: actors, stakes and challenges
- Geographic Information System
- Languages
- Study field trip abroad



Admission requirements

To be eligible for this Bachelor's degree, students must have the following:

- French Baccalaureate
OR
- High School Diploma (or equivalent) AND a French Aptitude Certificate with a minimum score of B2 level (accepted certificates: DU issued by Sorbonne University, DELF, TEF, TCF and SELFEE)

To be awarded a Bachelor's degree in Geography and Planning, students must successfully complete three years of study, with the equivalent of 60 credits per year (European ECTS System).

The grading is based on regular assessments and final examinations at the end of every semester.

Career prospects

The Bachelor in Geography and Planning helps students launch successful careers in various fields. A geographer's skills of building, analysing and communicating an expertise on a territory is sought after in various professional sectors.

In the main, employment opportunities exist in planning, management, architectural firms, environment management agencies, geopolitics, tourism and international relations and transport and logistics. Some of our graduates enjoy rewarding careers locally and abroad in public institutions including ADEK, the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment and the Department of Culture and Tourism or Department of Urban Planning and Municipalities.

This degree provides graduates with several options to pursue further academic studies at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi and other overseas institutions.

Tuition Fees

(Including admin. fees - over 3 years)
AED 215,100 (approximately US\$ 58,615)

Scholarship options:

- Emirati citizens receive the H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan scholarship grant covering tuition fees for the programme and a foundation year (if any).
- Other students may apply for the Academic Excellence Scholarship, that can cover up to 75% of the tuition fees.