

Gazette

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REWIND

INTEGRATION WEEK 10TH – 16TH SEPTEMBER

The integration week is an annual event organised for new students to meet the professors, the current students and discover the campus as well as the different facilities available. This year's event had a number of activities for students and parents to provide a comprehensive introduction about the university including Ask Ali, campus tour and welcome meetings.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS DAY 4TH OCTOBER

Breast Cancer Awareness Day is an annual international health campaign organised every October to increase awareness of this disease and to raise funds for research into its causes and prevention.

In collaboration with Danat Al Emarat Hospital for Women and Children, Sorbonne Abu Dhabi organised an awareness workshop to highlight the different aspects of this disease and promote healthy lifestyles. The event took place at the university's campus in the presence of academic and administrative employees along with students and their parents. Specialised physicians from the field of women's health and nutrition from Danat Al Emarat Hospital presented the workshop. In addition, basic health screenings including Body Mass Index, blood sugar levels and blood pressure were provided for participants.

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 8TH – 12TH OCTOBER

On the occasion of the World Mental Health Day and under the theme "Wherever you

go, there you are", Sorbonne Abu Dhabi organised an awareness week for students at its campus in the presence of certified counsellors from the university.

This event was designed to highlight different aspects of mental health issues as well as helping students, faculty and staff to understand the importance of psychological health. In addition, this event aimed to destigmatise mental health issues, while exploring the various resources available on campus and in the community. Organised workshops provided students with valuable information to help them focus on maintaining their own mental wellbeing, practice mindfulness and understand the benefits of positive peer influence.



Abu Dhabi Ports Sustainability Week

ROOFTOP RHYTHM 13TH OCTOBER

Sorbonne Abu Dhabi organised an Arabic poetry night with Rooftop Rhythm on 13th October 2017 on the university's campus on Al Reem Island. During this event, the audience discovered some of the best Emirati talents.

CINEMANA 16TH OCTOBER

Sorbonne Abu Dhabi organised the screening of "Blessed Benefit", a contemporary Arab film produced by Jordanian filmmaker Mahmoud Al Massad, which took place on 16th October on the university's campus.



Breast Cancer Awareness Day

This was the first of eight films as part of the CinemaNa cultural programme.

The second screening of "Mahbas (Solitaire)" a 2016 dramedy directed by Sophie Boutros, was organised on 6th November on the university's campus.

This programme is organised in collaboration with the NYUAD Film and New Media Programme in partnership with the Arts Center.

AD PORTS SUSTAINABILITY WEEK 16TH – 18TH OCTOBER

In line with its strategy to support the UAE Vision 2021, Sorbonne Abu Dhabi

participated in the Abu Dhabi Ports HSE Sustainability Week that took place between 16th and 18th October 2017. Two Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi alumni from the Environment: Dynamics of Territories and Societies master programme represented the university by showcasing their thesis projects.

The participation of Sorbonne Abu Dhabi aimed to increase environmental awareness and highlight the benefits of research and technology in promoting sustainable development. Some of the research topics present were sustainability, health, safety and environment, green belt, power and water conservation, waste disposal and the protection of marine environments.

CONFERENCE "FROM THE FIRST PHARAOHS TO ISLAM: FRENCH ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN EGYPT" 17TH OCTOBER

Sorbonne Abu Dhabi organised a conference entitled "From the First Pharaohs to Islam: French Archaeological Research in Egypt" with Dr. Laurent BAVAY, Director of the French Institute of Oriental Archaeology in Cairo.

**This conference was in collaboration with the Institut Français in the UAE and the French Institute for Oriental Archaeology in Cairo.

SORBONNE TALKING SERIES OCTOBER - DECEMBER

In collaboration with the Institut français in the UAE and CEFAS, the French Center for Archaeology and Social Sciences in Kuwait, Sorbonne Ab Dhabi launched seven talks as part of the new annual cycle "Sorbonne Talking Series" over the course of the academic year 2017/2018. Three talks took place during the first semester and four will be organised in the second semester. Experts from local and French institutions will tackle a variety of contemporary topics in the fields of sciences, geography, history, sociology, philosophy, law, archeology and history of art and performing arts.

The first of three talks planned for the first semester was organised under the theme "Keeping a Remote but Close Eye on Earth" and took place on 18th October 2017 on the university's campus. Prof. Nazmi Saleous, Associate Professor of Remote Sensing and GIS, and Coordinator of the M.Sc. programme



National Day



Graduation Ceremony

in Remote Sensing and GIS at UAE University and Dr. Haifa Ben-Romdhane, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Earth Observation and Hydro-Climatology Laboratory – Research Center for Renewable Energy Mapping and Assessment (ReCREMA) in Masdar Institute of Science and Technology – a part of Khalifa University of Science and Technology, participated in this talk.

The second talk entitled “Making a Museum in the 21st Century: From Idea to Conception” took place on 15th November 2017 after the official opening of the Louvre Abu Dhabi. The last talk of the first semester was devoted to “Women in Gulf Societies: Representations, Modernity and Changes”, which took place on 6th December 2017.

Each event is the result of a collaboration between the Sciences and Human Sciences departments at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi, in connection with other universities, local and outside partners.

FRENCH DELEGATION 19TH OCTOBER

Prof. Fouache welcomed the French delegation of the WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017 competition on our campus.

DEBWANIA – MARCEL KHALIFE CONCERT 27TH OCTOBER

To celebrate the olive tree in Palestine, Sorbonne Abu Dhabi hosted the composer and musician Marcel Khalife along with a fascinating photography exhibition by Debwania.

FOOD NOT TRASH PANEL 30TH OCTOBER

Under the theme “Do Not Bin It, Donate It”, Sorbonne Abu Dhabi organised a Food Not Trash initiative in collaboration with G association and the Red Crescent. The event took place on 30th October 2017 at the university’s campus in the presence of the university’s management, employees and students, Mr. Nader Nakib, Ambassador at UN Global Compact and President of G, an NGO specialised in CSR, Ecopreneurship and Green Buildings and Mr. Sultan Al Shahi from the Red Crescent.

This initiative aimed to raise awareness and encourage food waste reduction among the university’s students and employees as well engaging the university’s community in the “Food Not Trash” initiative.

The event started with an opening speech given by Sorbonne Abu Dhabi’s

representative, followed by a short introduction given by Nader Nakib from G. The panel discussed Food Not Trash initiative. At the end, students purchased food from the cafeteria to donate half of their meal or buy extra ones and pack them into boxes with the help of the Red Crescent who took care of distributing the food to the families in need.

FLAG DAY 3RD NOVEMBER

This annual National occasion coincides with His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan’s assumption of office as the leader of the UAE.

Every year, Sorbonne Abu Dhabi’s students and employees gathered and raised the Emirati Flag to celebrate this important day.

VAN CLEEF & ARPELS 7TH – 25TH NOVEMBER

Sorbonne Abu Dhabi is an official partner for l’École Van Cleef & Arpel event, which took place between 7th and 25th November 2017 in Dubai.

Students participated in different workshops and were exposed to the worlds of jewelry and watchmaking.

FRENCH PRESIDENT VISIT 9TH NOVEMBER

The President of France, Emmanuel Macron visited our Sorbonne Abu Dhabi campus and engaged with our students and employees.

ADSF 9TH – 18TH NOVEMBER

The physics department participated at Abu Dhabi Science Festival. Students participated in different workshops and met with professionals in the field of science.

GRADUATION CEREMONY 19TH NOVEMBER

Under the patronage and the presence of HE Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, the Minister of Culture and Knowledge Development in the UAE, Sorbonne Abu Dhabi organised the 8th graduation ceremony on 19th November at the university’s campus in Al Reem Island. 296 students graduated from bachelors and masters programmes.

NATIONAL DAY 26TH AND 29TH NOVEMBER

This annual occasion celebrates the union of the seven Emirates.

On this occasion, Sorbonne Abu Dhabi launched a number of initiatives reflecting the spirit of the Union to celebrate this special national occasion. The university’s management, the students, faculty and employees participated in these celebrations.



French President Visit

NEW JOINERS

It was a pleasure to welcome the following new members of staff to Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi:



Zainab AlAli
Officer - Student Recruitment
Registrar
Extension: 9196



Concetta La Rocca
Lecturer - Italian
Applied Foreign Languages
Extension: 9135



Mona Wehbe
Lecturer - French
French as a Foreign Language
Extension: 9154



Robert Kilroy
Lecturer - English
Applied Foreign Languages
Extension: 9133



Sarah Thiebault
Lecturer - French
French as a Foreign Language
Extension: 9158



Ludivine Prenez
Lecturer - French
French as a Foreign Language
Extension: 9156



Remi Pelletier
Climbing Instructor
Sports
Extension: 9364



Atanas Tarkalanov
Physical Education Teacher
Sports
Extension: 9364



Ahmed AlBlooshi
Officer - Student Recruitment
Registrar
Extension: 9312



Khalid Almarashda
HR Generalist
HR
Extension: 9455



Dr. Elif Bascavusoglu Moreau
Assistant Professor
Applied Foreign Languages
Extension: 9399

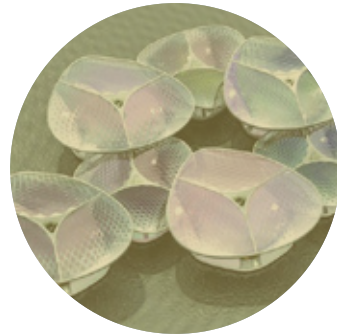


Hamdan Al Kalbani
Head - IT
IT
Extension: 9500



**CINÉ-CLUB - JULES ET JIM
(FRANÇOIS TRUFFAUT)**
22ND JANUARY

Don't miss the first screening of the year and the chance to watch a French cinema classic.



**SORBONNE TALKING
SERIES**
24TH JANUARY

Four talks will take place during the second semester.

The first talk will be held under the theme Independent floating islands projects: a legal and political utopia in the 21st century?" with Alain Laquière, Law professor at Sorbonne University, Jean-Cassien Billier, Associate Professor in political philosophy at Sorbonne University and Jean-Michel Morinière, Maritim Lawyer.

The talk will be delivered in French.



MAJLIS
28TH JANUARY

The Majlis littéraires will be back with a focus on the precursor of Modern Art Marcel Duchamp.



OPEN DAY
22ND FEBRUARY

Open Day is an annual event that invites prospective students, teachers, counselors, etc. to experience Sorbonne Abu Dhabi for one day including participating in short courses, meeting with HODs and faculty, taking campus tours, attending various workshops and more. Individuals can apply to one of the programmes offered.



INTERNATIONAL DAY
8TH MARCH

Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi organises this annual event to enhance student relationships on all levels and the cultural unity among them, whilst highlighting the cultures' diversity through embracing heritage, folklore, and various civilisations.



MASTERS OPEN HOUSE
18TH APRIL

Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is organising The "Masters Open House" on 18th April 2018. This event aims to showcase its academic programmes and various disciplines, providing participants with the opportunity to meet with different Programme Directors, as well as alumni and fresh graduates.

COMING UP NEXT



Less is more

FACE TO FACE WITH...

Dr. Yann Rodier
Head of the History Department

Tell us about your journey with Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.

My journey with Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi began when I was a young student studying for a Masters. I did some extensive research about the Marie de Medicis' regency in the Seventeenth century France. I was lucky to be supervised by an excellent Professor who encouraged me to pursue my research. After passing the Aggregation, I got a scholarship to continue my doctorate degree and to teach at Paris-Sorbonne University for five years. I was still a student when I first heard about Sorbonne Abu Dhabi but I could not imagine at the time that one day I would be given the chance to work here.

From a historian's point of view, what are your thoughts on the UAE's culture and history?

The UAE has a rich historical heritage from the ancient time, and today's modernity is a door to better understand the ancient one and to live tomorrow's history. Therefore, we can feel history in progress. Taking part of Sorbonne Abu Dhabi's development journey is a unique opportunity.

What are some of the challenges you faced and the opportunities you got in your field, as a historian?

As a PhD student, I studied the political and religious hatred against foreign and confessional minorities in early seventeenth century France. The main challenge was to redirect my research to a new framework by including the Middle East. For a few

years now, the historiographical trend is to study the World or Transnational History and Connected History. This kind of history is perceived as a means to break down the compartmentalisation of the historical gaze by embracing a contextual approach that can be enlarged to a planetary scale, a result of an ever more pronounced globalisation in today's world.

The UAE is the perfect place to study the roots of the "first globalisation" between East and West. The history of European expansion and global interaction in the Arabic peninsula and the Gulf is a very stimulating topic. Europeans, especially Portuguese, Dutch, French and British, came into the Gulf at the beginning of the 16th century. A wide range of primary sources is available about these exchanges between East and West. For this purpose, the National Archives in Abu Dhabi are very useful for historians.

The last academic year, we organised an international conference about "The Middle East and Europe: Cross-Cultural, Diplomatic and Economic Exchanges in the Early Modern Period" as well as an exhibition thanks to the valuable contribution of Ahmed Obaid Al Mansoori, the founder of the Crossroads Civilizations Museum and the library of NYUAD. The purpose of this academic event was to study different patterns of contacts, circulations and exchanges between Europe and the Middle East between 1500 and 1820.

What careers can students in a history major pursue?

The Bachelor in History allows students to develop a wide range of soft skills that are highly required by employers such as critical thinking, creativity, innovation, teamwork, reasoning and clear expression, both verbal and written; understanding today's economic, political, diplomatic, cultural and social challenges; analysing issues and events to understand today's world.

These transferable soft skills acquired during this course open doors to careers in various sectors and enable students to work in a wide variety of fields including international relations, human resources, political sciences, heritage institutions, international tourism, communication and media, public service and administration, and trade.

They also have the opportunity to pursue academic studies at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi and other institutions abroad. From this new academic year, students in the Masters in International Law, Diplomacy and International Relations (Law Department) will be able to choose a new concentration devoted to Defence and International Security, in collaboration with the History Department.

What is your advice to students who are either interested or currently enrolled in the Bachelor in History programme?

My advice is to be curious about everything because History promotes a multidisciplinary approach. When you want to analyse and explain an event, you need to take into consideration the political, diplomatic,

economic, social, cultural and intellectual dimensions. This is why you need to stay up to date with politics, economy and international relations as well as cultural and social matters. Students have to seize every opportunity to gain general knowledge and to benefit from the multi-cultural environment at the campus. It will help them to broaden their language skills, which are a valuable tool for them.

What are your best book recommendations to enhance one's knowledge in the field of history?

It is difficult to recommend specific books because the field of history is very large. In the current historiographical trend, the Sanjay Subrahmanyam's books are a good introduction to the global history in the Early Modern World from South-East and West Asia to Western Europe and Latin America. I also recommend one of the Timothy Brook's latest publications: Vermeer's hat: The Seventeenth Century and the Dawn of the Global World. Timothy Brooks utilises six of Vermeer's greatest paintings, as starting point to explore the cultural and economic

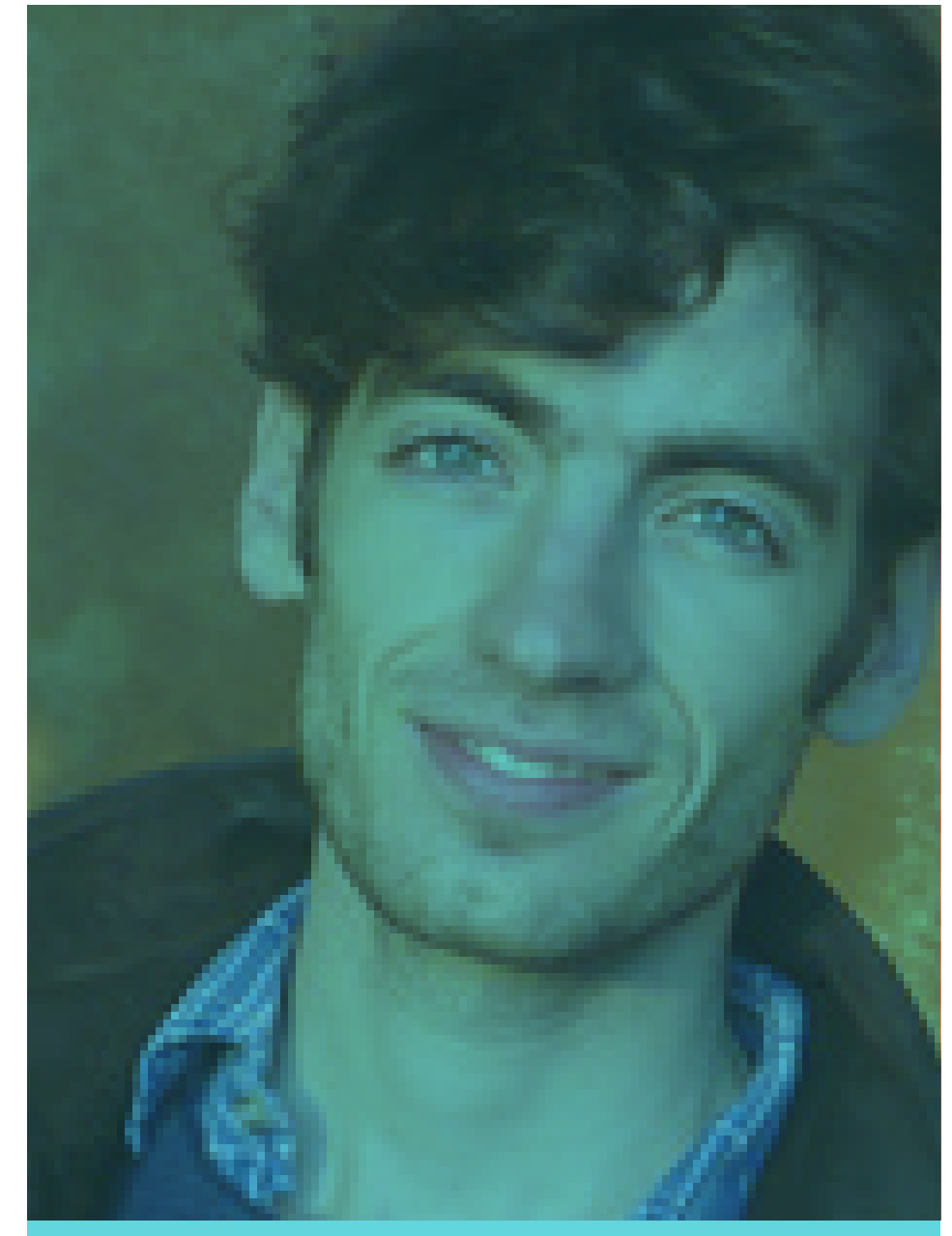
worlds of the modern time. For instance, in one of the paintings, a teacup highlights the history of the porcelain trade with China, while a felt hat is traced to beaver trappings in North America. He explores the roots of the world trade from Delft to Beijing. More recently, he published Mr Selden's Map of China: The Spice Trade, a Lost Chart and the South China Sea. It shows China, not cut off from the world, but a participant in the embryonic networks of global trade that fuelled the rise of Europe.

What are your personal hobbies and how do you spend your spare time?

During my spare time, I enjoy visiting different place in the UAE and the Middle East. Hiking in the valleys (wadis), sailing in the mangroves and attending cultural events such as cinema festivals, operas in Dubai and soon the Louvre Abu Dhabi.

What is your all-time favorite quote?

"Less is more" (Robert Browning, 1855). It means that simplicity and clarity are better than their opposite.



Rahaf Alnaamani

United Arab Emirates
Bachelor in
History of Art and Archaeology

A MINUTE WITH...

Tell us more about your academic journey at Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.

In 2015, I got the opportunity to participate in the Open Day event that the university organises every year for schools to learn more about the programmes offered and meet the professors. I have always known that I wanted to study Archaeology and History of Art, and this was the main reason I chose Sorbonne Abu Dhabi. Before starting my Bachelor's degree, I joined the Diploma in Intensive French programme, which provided an opportunity to learn and study in French. I found learning French a truly unique experience.

As an English-educated student, how did you find learning French?

It was challenging to learn a new language, and I encountered some difficulties at the beginning. However, I really enjoyed the programme and things such as listening to French news really helped me develop my French language skills. I also participated in the summer trip that the university organises for FLE students to practice the language.

Are you planning to continue your postgraduate studies in arts?

I will definitely continue my postgraduate studies in the field of art, as I am interested in Archaeology and History of Art.

In your opinion, what role does the Louvre Abu Dhabi play in the UAE and particularly in Abu Dhabi?

The Louvre Abu Dhabi is a big opportunity for the UAE and France to cooperate in spreading knowledge about art, educating people and exposing them to different types of art

and creation. It will also give everyone a chance to pursue their careers in museums.

How do you spend your free time?

In my free time, I usually watch films or create dishes inspired from countries I have visited or movies I have seen. I also like visiting new places and discovering new things.

What role does art play in your life?

Art is what decorates our life because without art or colours, life would be boring. It is through art that we can see and understand the world around us in different ways. Once we understand a piece of art and the emotions behind it, we will appreciate art more because it is a way of expressing our thoughts. At the same time, some artworks require an imagination to understand, as people can see things differently based on their educational and cultural backgrounds.

How do you find the culture diversity in the university?

Cultural diversity is extremely important because it develops our tolerance and adaptation with other nationalities, which results in a rich experience of cultural exchange.

Thank you for sharing your experience with us.

Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is proud of you!

Zahabia Bassire

Madagascar
Master in
Applied Foreign Languages: Speciality
Management and International Business

A MINUTE WITH...

Tell us more about your academic journey at Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.

It has been quite a unique experience. I come from the French education system and it was my first time having English courses, which helped a lot in developing my English language skills. Also, my stay at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi was definitely an opportunity to discover the UAE and know more about its history and people.

Based on your personal experience, how would you describe the cultural diversity in the UAE and in Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, having moved from Madagascar to continue your studies here?

The cultural diversity in the UAE and Sorbonne Abu Dhabi is one of the things I love and admire the most. Before moving to the UAE, I had never met so many nationalities all at once. While doing my Masters, I interacted with people from different countries and learnt a lot about their cultures, traditions and languages – becoming good friends with some. Being a student at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi was quite an opening to the world. I believe that this will help me a lot in my future and professional life.

Which industry do you see yourself working in after graduation? And why?

I would like to work in industries I am interested in, such as the food and beverage industry or the luxury goods industry.

What is your advice to international students in order to maintain a successful and balanced academic and personal life in the UAE?

Students' biggest problem is time management. Most of

them enjoy the university's experience and give it more time than their actual studies. Therefore, I would advise them to organise themselves, prepare their own schedule and divide their time equally between their academic life and personal life. Good time management helps a lot in succeeding academically while enjoying the student experience.

What are the three things you miss most about Madagascar?

I miss my family and friends. I also miss the Malagasy food, which is one-off in the world. Finally, I miss the landscapes, the paradisiacal beaches, the big mountains and the dense forests as well.

What was the last book you read?

The last book I read was "Big Brother 1984" written by George Orwell. It is the story of a fictional character, Big Brother, who is the leader of Oceania, a state where there is no freedom and where citizens are permanently under surveillance.

What do you do in your spare time?

During my spare time, I like to watch movies and documentaries about nature and animals. I also like to draw, visit the city and take pictures, as well as reading articles about concepts or ideas I do not understand.

Thank you for sharing your experience with us.

Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is proud of you!

ALUMNI RESEARCH

AYESHA ALHASHMI

MASTER'S THESIS

CLIMATE CHANGE AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT:
MONITORING CORAL REEF OF SAADIYAT
MARINE NATIONAL PARK IN ABU DHABI,
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Coral reefs are diverse underwater ecosystems held together by calcium carbonate structures secreted by corals.

RESEARCH LOCATION

Saadiyat Marine National Park, Abu Dhabi

RESEARCH AIMS

- **Raise** awareness of human and natural impacts to coral reefs
- **Document** qualitative and quantitative data to inform future decision making
- **Introduce** long-term solutions and recommendations for their conservation

WHAT DID I DO?

- Performed a series of underwater dives to observe the reef environment
- Documented animal and plant species
- Identified human and natural impacts to the reef
- Completed a reef health check using the Reef Check Monitoring Program
- Undertook comprehensive quantitative data comparison between reefs in Abu Dhabi and Bahrain

DID YOU KNOW?

Coral reefs account for only 0.2% of the ocean floor globally, but provide habitats for one third of all marine species worldwide.

WHAT DID I FIND?

- Identified 38 fish species, hard coral species and coral-invertebrates and algae common to Abu Dhabi
- Discovered 4 common coral diseases impacting the reef in Abu Dhabi

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Timely monitoring and data collection for effective decision making and policy implementation
- Engaging local citizens to spread knowledge about the importance of the reef
- Further research in the areas of acidification and other diseases
- Further study on the relationships and inter-dependencies of other ecosystems including coral reefs, mangrove forests and sea grass beds



AMNA AL MANSOORI

MASTER'S THESIS

BIODIVERSITY MONITORING AND CONSERVATION:
FOREST ASSESSMENT OF GREY MANGROVES
(AVICENNIA MARINA) ALONG A MAN-MADE
DREDGED CHANNEL IN THE EASTERN MANGROVE
PARK IN ABU DHABI EMIRATE

Mangroves are trees and shrubs that occupy the intertidal zone between land and sea. The term 'mangrove' describes both the plant species and their environment.

RESEARCH LOCATION

Mangrove National Park, Abu Dhabi

RESEARCH AIMS

- **Investigate** how human activity is impacting Abu Dhabi's native mangrove forests and adjacent ecosystems
- **Learn** how to monitor their health and distribution changes
- **Recommend** solutions to prevent their destruction and loss

WHAT DID I DO?

- Conducted a thorough assessment within a designated observational area
- Measured spatial changes
- Recorded ground surface elevations in and behind the mangroves
- Reviewed sea level trends
- Measured sedimentation rates under the mangroves
- Mapped the health distribution of the mangroves within the observed area

DID YOU KNOW?

The total area cover of mangroves in the UAE is about 155.2 km²

WHAT DID I FIND?

- Mangrove degradation at several sites within the observed area, particularly at the manmade dredged channel and seaward sites
- Healthy growth and greater abundance of foliage towards the mangrove interior

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Greater community engagement and involvement
- Environmental awareness and outreach campaigns
- Regular assessment and monitoring using remote sensing techniques
- Introduce policies to reduce human impact in mangrove areas



AROUND THE WORLD SWITZERLAND

Basel is a Swiss city connected to France and Germany, and is located at the centre of Europe amongst some of the best Christmas locations. Basel is famous for its Christmas celebrations including the Christmas market, illuminations, museum exhibitions and galleries, concerts and events.

5 REASONS TO SPEND CHRISTMAS IN BASEL

Largest Christmas market in Switzerland
Illuminated Christmas streets
Excellent Christmas shopping
Christmas concerts
Christmas tours

GASTRONOMY

During Christmas, visitors get to enjoy Swiss culinary delights like waffles, genuine Basel L  ckerli or delicious Swiss raclette.



Bricelets de B  nichon Waffles

Briceleta are classic biscuits from Fribourg, which originated from the ‘B  nichon’ Festival. Bricelets de B  nichon waffles are served as dessert.



Basel L  ckerli

The Basel L  ckerli, which means ‘delicious’, was created by local spice merchants 700 years ago and is made of honey, hazelnuts, almonds, candied peel, and Kirsch.



Raclette

Raclette is the name of a Swiss cheese made from cow’s milk. The name comes from the French racler, meaning ‘to scrape’. Slices of raclette are melted in table top raclette pans or grills, and can be eaten with small potatoes cooked in their skins, vegetables, charcuterie, pickled gherkins, onions and bread.

TOP 5 TOURIST ATTRACTIONS



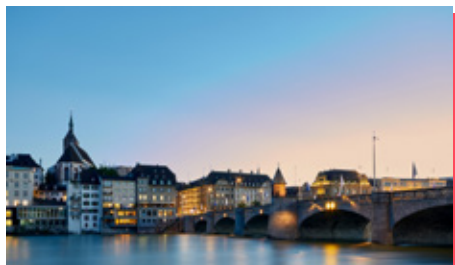
Rathaus and Markplatz

The arcaded main building is in Late Burgundian Gothic style dating from 1504 to 1521. There are colorful markets that sell local produce, flowers, and food specialties.



Kunstmuseum Basel

The Kunstmuseum is considered as the largest and most significant public art collection in Switzerland, representing both old masters and modern art.



Mittlere Bridge in Basel

The bridge opened in 1226 and it is one of the oldest Rhine crossings between Lake Constance and the North Sea.



Basler M  nster

The Basel Minster is one of the main landmarks and a tourist attraction, built of red sandstone from the Vosges Mountains of France between the 9th and 13th century.



Spalentor

Built in 1370, the Spalentor is the most magnificent of the three remaining gates at the end of the old town where the goods coming from Alsace would enter.

CHRISTMAS IN BASEL

Christmas Market

The Basel Christmas market at Barf  usserplatz and M  nsterplatz is known as one of the prettiest and largest in Switzerland. A wonderful Christmas tree stands adorned with beautiful ornaments, and over 180 artisans sell goods in small stalls.

This year, the market opened its doors on 23rd November and will close on 23rd December.

Activities

In the ‘Christmas fairy-tale forest’ in the M  nsterplatz plaza, children can make and decorate candles and torches, create metal objects, decorate gingerbread, eat campfire bread and drink hot chocolate, ride on the kiddies’ train, bake cookies, pour tin, visit the star workshop, make Christmas floral decorations and much more.

Events

You can visit the ‘Theater Basel’, which is home to the city’s opera and ballet companies. In addition, the Toy Worlds Museum Basel and the Basel Salvation Army both offer Christmas exhibitions, and the Basel Puppet Theatre’s programme present special Christmas performances for adults and children.

Shopping and Dining

For a wonderful shopping experience, visit Freie Strasse, or Spalenberg with its small boutiques and fine stores, or Manor, the city’s oldest department store.

ADVISING AND RESOURCES SECTION AT PARIS-SORBONNE UNIVERSITY ABU DHABI

The Advising and Resources section is committed to the development of programmes and initiatives that ensure student success with an emphasis on assisting them during their transition within the university.

The start of the new academic year has been an exciting period as we welcomed new students and identified best practices to support them during their academic journey.

The Advising and Resources section oversees three key areas including the Peer Mentor Programme, the counseling office and international scholarship programmes.

At present, we have 12 peer mentors supporting 25 students in both the Diploma in French as a Foreign Language programme and undergraduate programmes. Mentors meet on a regular basis with their mentees to discuss any issues that have an impact on their studies. Some mentors work to assist their mentees to better organise their schedule, provide valuable tips on how to efficiently organise their academic life and give encouragement to their mentees when they confront academic challenges. The mentors have a monthly meeting with the Advising and Resources team to discuss issues related to students and seek pro-active solutions.

Starting from November, peer mentors began to schedule short methodology workshops for students and small gatherings to enhance the social relations among students.

The counseling office at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi now includes four professional counselors from the American Center for Psychiatry and Neurology (ACPN). All of the counselors are licensed by the Health Authority Abu Dhabi (HAAD) and provide support in French, English and Arabic. To better serve the students, counselors are available during day and evening hours. While we recognise the cultural taboos often connected to mental health discussions, the objective is to encourage students to understand that their mental and physical wellbeing are interrelated and equally important. In addition, the counselors provide support to students on a variety of personal and academic related matters.

Last year, the Advising and Resources section implemented an International Scholarship programme, which began again in November 2017. This programme was designed to provide

students with information about various scholarships including the Rhodes Scholarship, Fulbright Scholarship and Schwarzman Scholarship.

Our goal is to support students who are preparing graduate degree applications for Anglophone universities in the UK, Canada and the US. Students we worked with last year have been admitted to Duke University, George Washington University, Cambridge University and Coventry University London.

We look forward to another year of supporting students when needed and encouraging them to have a rich academic, social and cultural experience while enrolled at Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.



Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi places sport on the centre stage, as sport is important and well recognised for its physical, mental, and social benefits. Nearly 20 sporting activities are offered through dedicated structures. The university offers students several opportunities for discovery and development while participating in events and championships with local and regional universities.

Students have the option to choose whether or not to integrate sports as part of their curriculum to earn a qualification (depending on their major and on the activity).

GO
FOXES

Sport Updates

This year, Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi were delighted to welcome Frédéric Covili, the former bronze medal world ski champion in 2001 and Crystal Globe champion in the giant slalom event in 2002, during the ski competition at Ski Dubai that took place on 21st October 2017. This event took place during the “Semaine de la Savoie” (Savoie week) for the third consecutive year.

This competition was followed by a conference held by the champion at Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, where he explained the evolution of skiing equipment and gave his vision as a champion.

Also this year, the Sorbonne Abu Dhabi sports department was pleased to announce the official opening of its climbing walls to all UAE residents, along with an array of sport programmes including ‘Pilates’, ‘Reboot your body’, ‘Coaching form’ and ‘Body circuit training’. These activities will open the university’s doors to a larger audience and strengthen the university’s image and prestigious reputation amongst the local community.

Sports Activities

- Chess
- Bellydancing
- Paddleboarding
- Golf
- Bowling
- Squash
- Crossfit
- Capoeira
- Natation Zoomers
- Badminton
- Table tennis
- Breakdancing
- Hip Hop
- Zumba
- Escalade bouldering
- Beach volleyball
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Fitness
- Muay thai
- Football
- Touch rugby
- And much more

Important Information

SPORT ACTIVITIES AND TRAINING

- The practice: we require regular attendance.
- Information and communication: the list of available sports activities, timings and coach details are available at the sports building with the student jobs section from Sunday to Wednesday, 6:00pm to 10:30pm and the sports department (room no. 2.023). Alternatively, email sports@psuad.ac.ae

STUDENTS REGISTERED IN OPTIONAL SPORTS

Mandatory: 12 sessions/classes per semester. 1 justified absence allowed.

Signature of this card by the coach is mandatory (only one signature per week)

For more details, please contact the student jobs at the sports building or the sports department.

Assessment procedures and number of ECTS:

2 to 5 ECTS: View the rules of the University with the Sports Department and with the coordinator of your department.

HOW TO OBTAIN A LOCKER?

A locker provided by Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is available at the sports building reception. You must return it at the end of the academic year. In case of loss or replacement of the key, the deposit of 100 AED will be kept by the Finance Department.

The locker key must not be copied.



The Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi Library has a collection of more than 100,000 printed books and more than 80,000 e-books. The Library furthermore subscribes to a large number of electronic databases, which enable access to thousands of full text journal articles and reports. The library also has study facilities for about 400 students at a time, and more than 40 computers for accessing the library resources, email and the Internet.

During the academic semesters the library is open from 8:30am to 10:00pm on Sunday to Wednesday, 8:30am to 5:30pm on Thursdays and 9:00am to 5:00pm on Saturdays.

OUR BOOK SHELF

For more information, please contact
library@psuad.ac.ae
Happy reading!



Selections from our recent acquisitions:



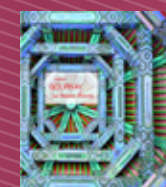
01

L'ANNÉE STRATÉGIQUE 2017: ANALYSE DES ENJEUX INTERNATIONAUX

Author: Armand Colin

Call number: 327.1 ANN

This reference book provides a valuable insight into the social, political, demographic, economic energy, military and environmental situation of one hundred and ninety-seven countries. It also includes a chronological review of last's year major events and highlights prospective elements that helps to anticipate their future developments.



02

LA MAISON CHINOISE: CONSTRUIRE ET HABITER EN CHINE À LA FIN DE L'ÉPOQUE IMPÉRIALE

Author: Antoine Gournay

Call number: 728.095 1 GOU

A fascinating story of the traditional Chinese house, which, thanks to its numerous illustrations will help the novices to discover and understand the rules and codes that govern the habitat of this great civilisation.



03

STEVE JOBS: THE MAN WHO THOUGHT DIFFERENT

Authors: Karen Blumenthal

Call Number: 621.39 JOB

It has been ten years since iPhone was invented, a good opportunity to suggest reading this biography of Steve Jobs, one of the leading figures of the last forty years and an absolute visionary in the industry of personal computers, telephones and software.

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The Master of Science in International Air Transport Operations Management offers a comprehensive learning programme focusing on building strong scientific skills in aeronautical and aviation engineering, operations, law and social environment, economics and project management.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates will have the chance to access top management positions in the following domains:

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- Airports
- Aerospace organisations and industry
- Maintenance, repair and operations (MRO)
- Civil Aviation Authorities
- Air Traffic Management

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- Learn from the leading aeronautical and aviation university
- Have the opportunity to gain international experience
- Benefit from our high teaching standards with strong ties to the civil aviation industry and research. Be exposed to strong global corporate and aviation industry connections
- Choose to live on campuses in Abu Dhabi and Toulouse
- Join the 22,000 alumni worldwide network

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- 2 semesters in Toulouse
- 1 semester Internship worldwide

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FUN FACTS



01

A solar eclipse happens more often than we think

Did you know that a solar eclipse happens more often than we think? It actually happens twice a year but is not visible from our planet. The last visible eclipse was on 21st August 2017 and the next one will occur on 15th February 2018, but will only be visible from South America and Antarctica. The next total eclipse will happen on 14th December 2020 and will only be visible from the southern hemisphere.

If nowadays, solar eclipses are considered as an exciting event, it was less fun 4000 years ago when the first solar eclipse was recorded in China. People thought that it was a dragon eating the sun and got terrified before everything went back to normal.



02

You are paralysed when you dream

Sleep has different stages; one of which is called REM (Rapid Eye Movement) sleep and this is when you dream. REM sleep constitutes about 20% to 25% of typical sleep, or about 90-120 minutes in a given night. During REM sleep, your brain releases certain neurochemicals that inhibit large muscle movement, causing you to be essentially paralysed. This is to keep your sleeping body from acting out the movements in your dreams.



03

Chewing gum while you cut an onion will prevent you from crying

Crying while chopping onions is a common cooking problem. There are chemicals in the onions that travel through the air and when they hit the back of your nasal cavity and eyes, you start to cry. Gum is an easy tip to prevent crying. When chewing gum, you diffuse the odors that make you cry and you breathe through your mouth, so the chemicals do not make it to your nasal cavity. By chewing gum, you are actually stopping any irritants from going up your nose, so the glands do not get frustrated.



04

Louis XIX was the King of France for just 20 minutes, the shortest ever reign

In July 1830, Louis XIX ascended to the French throne after his father Charles X abdicated. 20 minutes after taking the crown, Louis XIX decided to abdicate himself in favour of his nephew, the Duke of Bordeaux. He shares this record of the shortest reign ever with Crown Prince Luís Filipe, who technically became King of Portugal after his father was assassinated, but died from a wound 20 minutes later.



05

Wearing headphones for just an hour will increase the bacteria in your ear by 700 times

Wearing headphones is not bad; but wearing them for more than 30 minutes is bad for your ears. When you put on headphones, you cover your ears from natural air, which increases the production of bacteria by 700% in 1 hour. Your eardrum naturally cannot bear an influx of bacteria in that quantity so it starts to react by pain or through long-term hearing loss.

THE FRIENDS OF PARIS-SORBONNE UNIVERSITY ABU DHABI ASSOCIATION

The Friends of Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi Association was established under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE armed forces. It is supported by the French Ambassador to the UAE.

The Association was founded in Spring 2007 as a result of a group collaboration between Emirati and French residents in the UAE who are keen to support the development of a prestigious and ambitious project; while bringing together renowned Emirati and French companies as strategic partners in the outreach and development of Sorbonne Abu Dhabi. Members of the Association believe that education and culture are a crucial part in the economic development and the wellbeing of the community.

The Association's primary role is to seek funds to support the university's scholarships and to facilitate the transition of graduates into the professional world.

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THE ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF:

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ABU DHABI INVESTMENT AUTHORITY (ADIA)

VICE-PRESIDENT
MR. SULTAN AL HAJJI
TOTAL E&P UAE

GENERAL SECRETARY
MRS. ASMA AL GHANEM
DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

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NATIXIS GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT (NGAM) MIDDLE EAST

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MEMBER OF HONOR
HE LUDOVIC POUILLE
FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO THE UAE

THE COMPANIONS OF SORBONNE ABU DHABI ENLIGHTENMENT

The Companions of Sorbonne Abu Dhabi Enlightenment is a sponsorship programme, which brings together individuals and companies that have privileged relations with the university.

These philanthropic donations support the local and international research development at the university, the Master's scholarships programme, and the university's events.

Our existing companions of enlightenment are:

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