



SORBONNE
UNIVERSITY
ABU DHABI

La Gazette

Issue 08 April 2019

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Rewind



**Les Majlis Littéraires 5 ans déjà !
Historical Paris By Charles
Nodier, Presented By Roselyne
de Villeneuve**
27th January 2019

During the first majlis of the year, Dr. Roselyne de Villeneuve, discussed the writer Charles Nodier and his trilogy “Historical Paris.

Martial Arts Open Day
29th January 2019

During this event, participants joined talks, live demonstrations and practices, and discovered Aikibudo, Muay Thai, Judo and Self-defense.

Abu Dhabi Science Festival
31st January 2019

During Abu Dhabi Science Festival this year, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi displayed its scientific project “Moons of the Solar system”. Students enrolled in the Bachelor in Physics participated in this festival to shed light on a number of their projects, which contribute to the diffusion of a scientific culture among youth.

International Education Show
31st January 2019

The university participated in this show in Sharjah to highlight its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in humanities and sciences, law and economics.

**Four Hands Piano Concert with
Emmanuelle Stéphan & Gabriel
Tacchino**
4th February 2019

Maestro Gabriel Tacchino and acclaimed pianist Emmanuelle Stephan performed masterpieces from Brahms, Poulenc, Ravel, Grieg and Satie.

**Conference – Recognizing
Abstraction: Across, Between,
Within Spaces**
6th February 2019

This panel discussion explored abstraction as a universal visual language that crosses geographical, cultural and chronological spaces.

Korean New Year Festival
7th February 2019

During this event, participants discovered Korean culture through a wide range of products and delicacies. Korean companies and restaurants exhibited and sold traditional products including food, Korean beauty products, groceries, snacks and deserts.

**Cinemana - Musk by Humaid
Alsuwaidi**
11th February 2019

One of Humaid Alsuwaidi’s most personal films, this Emirati drama highlighted the touching fate of a father and his son.

Fitness Challenge
12th February 2019

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi organised the second edition of the “Sorbonne Fitness Challenge” event. This challenge attracted the university’s students and staff as well as the local community. They all worked in groups of two on different exercises including cardio, strength and speed exercises. All groups competed hard and received prizes. This event aimed to raise awareness on the importance of perseverance, self-motivation, and involvement in physical activities and working in teams to achieve the best results.

**Colloquium – Argumentation
& Society: for a constructive
dialogue, a communication
without violence**
12th and 13th February 2019

With the distinguished participation of H.H. Sheikha Dr. Shamma bint Mohammed bin Khalid Al Nahyan, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi organised the first of its kind conference in the region entitled “Argumentation & Society: for a constructive dialogue, a communication without violence”. This event was held in cooperation with Sea of Culture, founded and chaired by H.H Sheikha Rawda bint Mohammed bin Khalid Al Nahyan.

During the two-day conference, professors from different countries and professional backgrounds participated in this conference and discussed the theme of argumentation in the fields of philosophy, communication, history and didactics as well as languages and literature.

Law Workshop
18th February 2019

The Ministry of Justice organised a law workshop entitled “The Future of Law Career: Innovation and New Skills”. During the workshop, Dr. Laurence Renault, Deputy Executive Director for Academic Affairs at SUAD and Mr. Mohamed Al Shehhi, Chief Innovation Officer at the Ministry of Justice exchanging trophies as a token of appreciation and to honour the first collaboration between both parties, which is the joint workshop on the topic of innovation in the legal field!

**Business Networking with
Marcel Muenster**
19th February 2019

Dr. Marcel Muenster, a Johns Hopkins-trained medical doctor turned serial entrepreneur discussed the keys to entrepreneurial success. Dr. Muenster is an acclaimed Techstars mentor and the founder and CEO of “Doctor in Your Pocket”, as well as The Gritti Fund.



Open Day
21st February 2019

Every year, the Open Day event welcomes schools across the UAE and gives them a unique opportunity to visit Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, explore diverse undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, meet faculty and students, and discover our state-of-the art campus.

Masters Open Day
23rd February 2019

This event targets students and professionals from different backgrounds to inform them about the different postgraduate programmes that Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi offers.

**The Sorbonne University
Atmospheric Forecasting
System (SUAFS): Current Status
and Future Perspectives**
24th February 2019

Dr. Petros Katsafados, Associate Professor at the Department of Geography at Harokopio University in Athens since 2007, and Head of the Atmosphere and Climate Dynamics Group, presented the results of this common research project and explained this freely accessible short-term weather forecast at 72h for the entire Arabian Peninsula and the UAE. For more information, [click here](#).

**Europe: The Main Challenges
and Priorities**
27th February 2019

Thierry Garcin, French Political Scientist, Professor, Author and Radio Presenter, discussed the topic “Europe: the main challenges and priorities”.

Spanish Concert
3rd March 2019

The guitar and violin Spanish duo El Dúo Belcorde performed classics from L.G Lorca to La La Land and John Legend.

Career Astrolabe Forum
4th and 5th March 2019

Under the theme “Explore, connect and shape your professional future”, and to foster creative and innovative thinking among its students, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi organised the sixth edition of its Astrolabe Career Astrolabe Forum. The two-day event featured interactive presentations, networking events, employers’ panels and workshops designed to help students and graduates make useful connections and engage with industry leaders.

The event brought together 48 companies from public and private sectors across the UAE and hosted a series of 15 presentations during which students and graduates discovered effective strategies to gradually plan their careers, develop their job search skills and make choices.

Conference - Innovation in the automotive industry from the 1950s to today: a global perspective
6th March 2019

Professor Joël Broustail delivered a talk regarding the role of innovation in the automotive industry since the 1950's.

What role for women in the film industry?
10th March 2019

On the occasion of International Women's Day, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi hosted a conference to highlight women's role and achievements in the film industry.

French Delegation - Special Olympics
10th March 2019

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi was pleased to host the 65 French athletes participating in the Special Olympics, in the presence of HE Ludovic Pouille, the French Ambassador to the UAE. It was a unique opportunity for our students and the French schools to take part in an active morning with the athletes. Athletes and students engaged in several sport activities such as ping-pong, football and cardio.

International Day
13th March 2019

During this annual event that reflects the tolerant environment on campus, students from different cultures gathered to highlight the best of their mother countries such as traditional food, music, fashion. People from the local community participated in this day, enjoyed the shows, the happy vibes, and learnt more about our students.



Les Majlis Littéraires 5 ans déjà
17th March 2019

As part of the UAE's Month of Reading, Dr. Vital Rambaud, Head of the French Studies Department gave a presentation about the books written by Proust to understand the role of women in his writings.

Conference – Wealth Management
18th March 2019

This conference discussed the tools and practices related to wealth management, sovereign funds and private banking.

Francophonie Day
20th March 2019

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi celebrated Francophonie Day by launching a number of workshops and activities, which aimed to raise awareness on the French culture and language. It was also an opportunity to learn more about French people in the world and the UAE.

Conference: Energy and climate: A global perspective
7th April 2019

During this conference, Dr. Antoine Bret, Professor at Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha (Spain) discussed global warming, energy transition and their interconnections.

Roundtable: Transport & Urban Form in the Gulf Cities
9th April 2019

During this roundtable, experts and professionals from the field of transport and urban planning discussed the role of transport and urban policies in building a sustainable form.

Conference: Innovation in Football
11th April 2019

Mr. Nicolas Evans from FIFA, Group Leader – Quality Program, discussed innovation in football.

The event was held in partnership with the CIES International University Network, in collaboration with FIFA.

SUAD Model United Nations (MUN)
11th, 12th and 13th April 2019

This was a real life simulation of the United Nations where delegates became ambassadors of both countries and non-governmental organisations, and gathered to discuss and resolve current humanitarian, economic, social and political crises affecting the international community.



New joiners



Afra Al Zaabi
Officer - Student Recruitment Registrar
Extension: 9315



Saleh Almuhammadi
Officer - Student Recruitment Registrar
Extension: 9397



Malek Abu Ghosh
Head of Internal Audit
Internal Audit Extention: 9451

Up next

16 APR

Sorbonne's got talent

22 APR

Earth Day Celebrations

23 APR

Sorbonne Talking Series – Florence Aubenas : Inform, form, deform

23 APR

Sheikh Zayed Book Award

24 APR

Oriental Rhythms: Music & Poetry Night

28 APR

Talk – Birth of a Nation With Mr. Mohamed Al Fahim

29 APR

CinemaNa - Yomeddine by Abu Bakr Shawky

30 APR

Students Painting Exhibition

The Friends of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi Association

The Friends of 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.

The Association Executive Committee consists of:

President

Mrs. Fairouz Villain

Vice-Presidents

H.E. Saeed Al Hajiri, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA)

Mr. Sultan Al Hajji, Total E&P UAE

General Secretary

Mrs. Asma Al Ghanem, Doctors without Borders

Committee Members

Dr. Usra Soffan, National Center for Documentation and Research

Mrs. Eudeline de Tinguy, Thinkers & Doers

Mrs. Raphaelle Francois-Poncet, Baker & McKenzie/Habib Al Mulla

Mr. Hussain Al Jaziri, Ja'Alwan, Al Jaziri & Associates

Prof. Eric Fouache, Executive Director of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi

Members of Honour

Prof. Jean Chambaz, President of Sorbonne University

H.E. Ludovic Pouille, French Ambassador to the UAE

Current Sponsors

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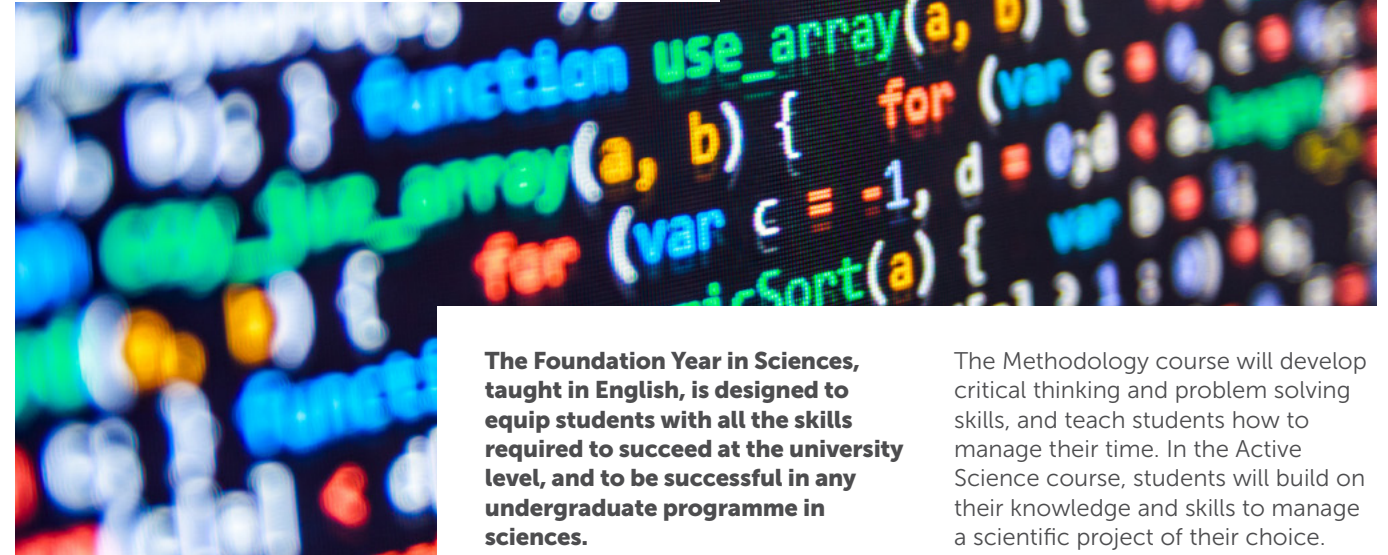


Bronze



New programmes Starting September 2019

Foundation Year in Sciences



The Foundation Year in Sciences, taught in English, is designed to equip students with all the skills required to succeed at the university level, and to be successful in any undergraduate programme in sciences.

During the Foundation Year, students will review mathematics studied in high school in detail, learn to run experiments, and how to report on them. Students will acquire basic knowledge of programming in the Computer Science course.

The Methodology course will develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, and teach students how to manage their time. In the Active Science course, students will build on their knowledge and skills to manage a scientific project of their choice.

Click here for more information.

Bachelor in Records Management and Archival Science



The Bachelor in Records Management and Archival Science, is a three-year professional programme taught in English and has been designed in collaboration with the National Archives in the UAE.

Students enrolled in this degree programme will acquire thorough knowledge of records management

and digital archiving. The extensive scope of this programme will ensure students build a comprehensive understanding of the theories and methods for controlling the creation, capture and classification of documents and records through their lifecycle.

Click here for more information.

Student internships

In order to support their academic studies and gain valuable work experience, students at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi take part in internships with a wide range of employers in Abu Dhabi and the surrounding region.

Moncef Belguechi

Employer:

Masdar Institute of Science and Technology

Internship title:

Characterisation of semiconductor thin film by Ellipsometry

What did you learn?

Ellipsometry, metrology and research.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

It was a challenging and intellectual stimulating experience.

Shaimaa Ahmed Al Blooki

Employer:

Yahsat Space Lab at Khalifa University

Internship title:

Yahsat space laboratory

What did you learn?

I learned a lot about antennas, specifically Yagi-Uda antennas. I learned how to use new software such as NEC and GQRX. I learned how to design and build a Yagi-Uda antenna and how to track a satellite to collect data.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

I liked having the chance to work in a space related project and to have the opportunity to work at the Yahsat Space Lab. I also liked how I finally had the chance to apply my theoretical studies of physics. I enjoyed the opportunity to design and build my own Yagi-Uda antenna and to use it to collect data.

Aisha Ahmed Al Yazeedi

Employer:

New York University Abu Dhabi

Internship title:

Exposure to the CAMEL research project

What did you learn?

I had the opportunity to learn about a whole branch of science that is completely new to me, link its ambiguous and vague theory to an actual research project and be able to see how this project will answer and clarify many poorly understood concepts and phenomena that are critical to understand how galaxies, like the Milky Way, are affected by their supermassive black holes. This answers astrophysical questions not only astrophysicists ask, but any curious reader.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

The whole topic on which I am working on is very interesting for me as a scientist and I find it profoundly linked to what I would like to be doing in the future.

Lolowa Rashid Alkindi

Employer:

New York University Abu Dhabi

Internship title:

CubeSat Mission for the Study of Terrestrial Gamma Ray Flashes

What did you learn?

I've learned that there are many things to account for when planning a space qualified mission. Everything must be simulated and tested to qualify the payload to withstand the harsh environment of space. It is very important to calculate every little detail when it comes to the design of the CubeSat because the slightest mistake could cause major losses.

Most importantly, I have learned that thunderclouds and lightning activity releases Terrestrial Gamma-Ray Flashes (TGFs) into the atmosphere. It is something that is considered very odd due to the fact that TGFs can only be created in very harsh environments, environments that are much harsher than thunderclouds. TGFs must be studied for us to understand how can they be created in our atmosphere.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

I enjoyed learning about something I'd never heard of before. It fascinates me how there are still a lot of things out there that are not yet discovered or fully understood.

Dima El Ghalayini

Employer:

Masdar Institute of Science and Technology

Internship title:

Solar Cells

What did you learn?

I studied the characteristic of a solar cell more thoroughly. Applied the theories and my knowledge to applications.

What did you enjoy about your internship?

The experience expanded my knowledge on semiconductor physics. It developed many of my skills and taught me how to approach a problem in my different ways to find the ideal solution.

In this issue, we take a closer look at the internship experiences of five of our 3rd year students studying the **Bachelor in Physics**.

Be passionate about what you do.

Dr. Valerie Le Guyon
Head of Department,
Sciences and Engineering

//

I am interested in experimental science and in new materials: their preparation and characterization, the study of their structure or organization and the relation between their elaboration conditions, features and properties.

Tell us more about your professional journey in the field of Physics.

My interest for materials in general and for optical phenomena lead me to a Master degree and a PhD in Material Science. After my PhD, I started to work as an Associate Professor in France at the Université du Littoral Cote d'Opale. When I relocated to the UAE, I worked for three years at the American University in Dubai, before joining Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi (SUAD). I have a long experience in teaching and academia.

In research, I am interested in experimental science and in new materials: their preparation and characterization, the study of their structure or organization and the relation between their elaboration conditions, features and properties. During my PhD and as an Associate Professor in France, I studied newly synthesized liquid crystalline phases, commercial liquid crystals, and polymer-liquid crystal blends. At SUAD, in the Sciences and Engineering Department, we are currently working on a project on MEMS: the Micro Electro Mechanical Systems, dealing with the fabrication of microscopic devices.

How do you describe your career path at SUAD?

I joined SUAD in September 2013, at the very beginning of the Bachelor in Physics. This was definitely an interesting and challenging time: we were 3 people to start the programme, set up the physics lab and develop the Sciences and Engineering Department. Working on such a project with the Pierre et Marie Curie University was very exciting.

In September 2015, I became the Head of the Sciences and Engineering Department.

Share an experience when you applied innovative teaching methods. How did it help your students?

In Optics, some sessions are taught as flipped classrooms, and we use "Take home experiments": in both

cases the students work first on their own on the concepts and content, using specific course material, and performing the experiments at their pace. The next step for them is to present it to their classmates, explain their part and understand it very well. This allows them to be proactive, and to get a better grasp on the concepts.

Why are internships important for physics students?

The purpose of the internship is to expose the students to the work environment. Very often, it is their first experience in such an environment. It is also the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills they acquire during their studies and to build on it to work on a real-life project. It is usually a very positive experience, reinforcing self-confidence and opening new perspectives.

Provide three advices that can help students succeed in their careers.

Be passionate about what you do. Work hard. Keep an open mind and consider new opportunities.

How do you spend your free time?

Reading, sport, family time.

What quote do you live by?

Marie Curie: "A scientist in his laboratory is not a mere technician: he is also a child confronting natural phenomena that impress him as though they were fairy tales."

A minute with

What brought you to the field of humanities?

My passion for humanities and related fields of study gained ground, since I was a child. In fact, I was born and raised in a family where languages and culture were paramount. In high school, I excelled in Languages (French, English, German and Latin). At the university, I studied French and English Modern Letters, then Translation and International Law. Enrolling in the Master in Teaching French as a Foreign Language programme at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi gives me the opportunity to develop my skills as a teacher and have a better understanding of myself and others and the world around us.

How do you find the Master in Teaching French as a Foreign Language?

The Master in Teaching French as Foreign Language provides students with courses and necessary resources to cope with the challenges of the modern education. The programme is interesting, engaging with both theoretical and practical methodology. The university's atmosphere is very welcoming to students coming from various countries. The courses are tailored according to the students' needs and the job market's requirements. Senior lecturers provide us with good advices drawn from their professional experience, which increases our desire to succeed.

What is the outcome of learning new languages? How does it help you connect with other cultures?

There are many advantages for learning new languages: it develops your skills to communicate effectively by enhancing your intellectual capacities. In addition, learning other languages allows numerous career opportunities to develop diversity, multiculturalism and multilingualism, which are highly valued by the United Nations and Francophonie in the view of strengthening dialogue, culture and development among countries.

As a translator, my mission aims at breaking the language barriers, promoting effective communication, building strong partnerships, developing business relationships and promoting products of people from different cultures. In doing so, I have developed a widespread network of sustainable relationship with friends, colleagues and clients around the world. Moreover, my legal and language skills help me specialise in Legal Translation and Legal French.

How can you empower students through teaching?

According to Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". As a teacher, I aim to utilize education as a tool to empower students and engage them in creating a long lasting positive impact on their societies. My strategy is to develop a trusting relationship with my students, inspire and motivate them to become future leaders.

My childhood dream is to work for institutions like the UN

Alain Chembe
Cameroonian
Master in Teaching
French as Foreign Language

What are the three important skills teachers should have to succeed in their careers?

Successful teachers should be able to build strong relationships with their students in order to create a safe learning environment. Exemplary classroom management skills, depth knowledge of the subject matter and communication are the keys of success.

How do you define teachers' role in society?

In my opinion, the role of the teacher is to educate and inspire students to become tomorrow's successful leaders and decision makers.

From another perspective, teachers have to positively influence their students, mentor their young colleagues and participate in the process of solving problems that impact students learning's journey.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

My childhood dream is to work for a renowned international organization

like the United Nations where I will fully practice all my potentials. After graduating, I envision working with a prestigious institution like Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi or Alliance Française.

Do you practice any hobby during your free time?

I am the busiest student on campus. However, I enjoy my free time doing tutoring, translation, and basketball with the Foxes. We enjoy the university games under the leadership of our coaches.

Who is the most inspiring person in your life?

In Cameroon, there is a saying "Impossible is not Cameroonian". As a young leader, my inspiration encompasses my spiritual belief, culture and successful leaders that dedicate their careers to serve their country. As living example, we have Maurice Kamto.

Thank you for sharing your experience with us. Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is proud of you!

Seize the opportunity, whatever it may be.

Maryam Al Hashmi
Emirati
Bachelor in Economics
and Management

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

My choice to study at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi was born out of the thrill of wanting a challenge. That challenge being, studying a major in a language that I have never spoken in my life. Personally, I don't get satisfaction out of the completion of tasks unless they involve a certain degree of challenge. My journey at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi was, to say the least, thought-provoking. It involved a combination of barriers and obstacles that I had to overcome. At first, I didn't know where to start. From the difficulties of grasping a foreign language, to the efforts made to understand the basic principles of economics, I knew I had to be diligent and assiduous. Throughout the years, I have learned that I am not only on the way to becoming an economist, but also a practical thinker and doer.

Social networking has become such a massive part of all our lives. It has the power to open the world to you, making it a smaller place than it actually is.

What are the benefits of learning different languages?

In the age of the fast-growing tech disruption, many industries are being threatened – linguistics being one of them. With all the progress that is yet to come through in terms of advancing language technology, we often ask ourselves: "is it necessary to learn a language when soon enough we could simply buy earphones and understand any language in the world?". Yes, it is necessary. Learning languages goes beyond being a medium for thought, a means of communication, and bestowing cognitive benefits. The beauty that lies within learning foreign languages is being able to connect, and not just to communicate. Humanity is dependent on the capacity of a person to communicate new and complex ideas. To tackle and discuss global challenges, we need to be able to address them in solidarity. To work hand in hand, people need languages.

How do you describe the community within the campus?

Whether you are sitting in the atrium, having a sandwich at the cafeteria, or even studying at the library, you will always find yourself amongst students coming from different parts of the world. It is a 'melting pot' of cultural diversity, and that is exactly what I love about the atmosphere.

How does your involvement in prominent local events and initiatives help you get closer to youth and inspire them?

I personally believe that youth engagement is key for youth development. If youth are not involved in the dialogue of tackling challenges, then who else should be? My involvement in multiple events and competitions has helped me bridge the gap between youth and decision makers through the conveyance of their ideas. What keeps me going is seeing young people believing in themselves and taking a step forward to participate in highly acclaimed programmes. I firmly believe that the right to participate is the right of every young person.

If you were a teacher, a leader or someone who influences society, what would you do differently?

It is clear that there are multiple implementations of youth-related initiatives in different countries around the world. Governments have indeed expressed gratitude towards youngsters in light of their deliberation to strive to remodel social and economical aspects. However, I believe that the opportunities that are present for youth to engage in political and decision making processes are somewhat sidelined. I would mainly emphasise on increasing the focus on youth issues by translating existing ideas into effective policies, which are created by the youth.

To what extent social media plays a role in positively influencing people?

Digitization and globalization have made social media a key game-changer. It primarily supports pre-existing social relations as well as the birth of new ones. Social networking has become such a massive part of all our lives. It has the power to open the world to you, making it a smaller place than it actually is. Having said that, posting different initiatives and depicting engagement amongst

society can positively influence young people to find common ground. It helps them understand what kind of opportunities are available, and allows them to stem out efforts to contribute to national development.

What accomplishments are you most proud of?

I don't think there is one specific accomplishment that I am proud of. I believe every experience I went through, whether it was a simple science fair at school or a policy proposal competition, shaped who I am today. Everyone has a major turning point that has shaped their life one way or another, but for me they are multiple. I have had times where I've had to face challenges, times where I've had to solve problems, and times where I couldn't solve them. The more experiences I go through, the more I notice how little I know of the world out there, and the more I want to gain knowledge. One thing I've learned is that it is important to experience and learn something new everyday. Seize the opportunity, whatever it may be.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

I personally like to focus on more short-term goals while still having the bigger picture in mind. A few years from now, I hope to complete my masters in Global Affairs with a concentration in Public Policy. I aspire to be involved in strategic policy making. I also hope to continue mastering the Chinese language, and to start learning Russian in the near future.

Who is your role model in life?

Without a doubt, my mother and father. Growing up, I always thought they were like walking encyclopedias, constantly teaching my siblings and me how to become responsible individuals, how to tackle problems, and most importantly how to accept failure and take risks. They taught me to seize every opportunity instead of wondering "what if?". They taught me that life is a series of calculated risks in the pursuit of achieving your goals. And for all of that, I am forever grateful.

Thank you for sharing your experience with us. Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is proud of you!

Paris

Paris is the capital and most populous city of France and has been one of Europe's major centres for finance, commerce, fashion, science, and arts. It is a perfect winter and spring destination as you can enjoy a lovely walk by the Champs-Élysées, visit museums, plan a picnic under the Eiffel Tower and experience French cuisine.



Top 6 Tourist Attractions

Louvre Museum

Located in the heart of Paris, the Louvre is a historic landmark and the world's most visited museum. Established in 1793, the Louvre holds some of the world's most famous paintings and art pieces including the masterpiece, "Mona Lisa".

Gastronomy



Herb Buttered Snails

These are known as "escargots à la bourguignonne". They are cooked in a butter parsley cream, presented in their shells and eaten with a little skewer.



French Onion Soup

This is a traditional French soup made of onions and beef stock, usually served with croutons and melted cheese on top.



Macarons

Macarons are a famous French dessert. They are a sweet meringue-based confection made with egg white, icing sugar, granulated sugar, almond powder or ground almonds and food coloring. They are perfect when served with a cup of coffee or tea.



Viennoiseries

They are baked goods made from yeast-leavened dough similar to bread, but with added ingredients (particularly eggs, butter, milk, cream and sugar) giving them a richer and sweeter character. Viennoiseries like croissants, pain au chocolate and brioche are part of a traditional French breakfast.

Eiffel Tower

Paris' most iconic attraction all year round. Your trip to Paris is not complete until you've been up to the third floor of the Eiffel Tower and seen it light up the city at night. It opened on March 31st 1889 and has attracted millions of visitors since.

Notre-Dame de Paris

Located on the Ile de la Cité and also known as Notre-Dame Cathedral, the Notre-Dame-de-Paris Cathedral was for a long time the main symbol of Paris. It is widely considered to be one of the finest examples of French Gothic architecture.

Arc de Triomphe

Another symbol of French power! Today it commemorates the First World War and holds the flame of the Unknown Soldier. The Arc de Triomphe also overlooks Paris, the Avenue des Champs-Élysées in particular, known to be one of the most beautiful avenue in the world. The Champs-Élysées is also great for shopping, because it is home to the largest French and international brands!

River Seine

The Seine is the second longest river in France. Discover Paris from different perspectives as you scale the Eiffel Tower and cruise down the Seine. Hop aboard for your 1-hour sightseeing cruise along the Seine while spotting landmarks like the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Louvre.

Jardin des Tuileries

One of the most visited locations during spring and summer, the Jardin des Tuileries is not only very beautiful with its large alleys and fountains, but it also has statues made by great French sculptors! It is close to the Musée de l'Orangerie, where you will find the famous Water Lilies by Monet.



Go Foxes!

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).

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@sorbonne.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 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.

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...



BBQ



The Student Housing Department organised a barbecue dinner in the residence gardens where more than hundred students enjoyed good food, music, dancing and karaoke.

The team always organises an annual event after the stressful exams period and at the beginning of the second semester.

Prof. Eric Fouache, Executive Director at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi attended the barbecue as well as the Deputy Executive Director for Academic Affairs, Dr. Laurence Renault, who enjoyed their time with the students.

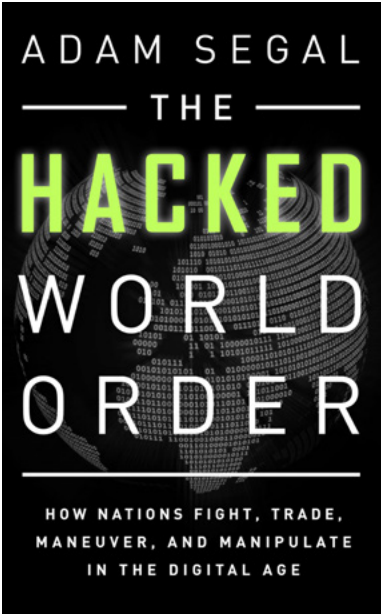




The Sorbonne Abu Dhabi Library has a collection of more than 100,000 printed books and more than 150,000 e-books. The Library furthermore subscribes to a large number of electronic databases, which enable access to thousands of full text journal articles and reports.

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.

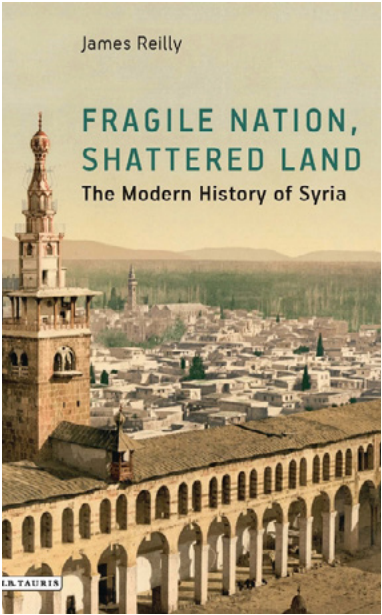
Our bookshelf



The Hacked World Order: how nations fight, trade, maneuver and manipulate in the digital age

Author: [Adam Segal](#)
Call Number: [327.102 85 SEG](#)

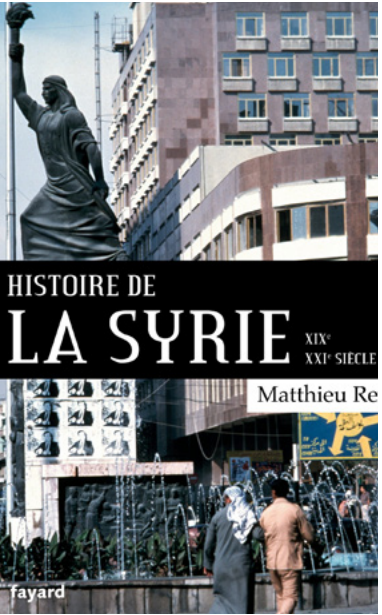
Cybersecurity expert and director of the Digital and Cyberspace Policy Program at the Council of Foreign Relations, Adam Segal offers unmatched insight into the new, opaque global conflict that is transforming geopolitics. In the past centuries, conflicts between nations resulted in military prowess, financial pressure and diplomatic persuasion to create “world order”. However, geopolitical tactics are evolving. This book, based on facts, relates how cyberattacks are creating this “new order”.



Fragile nation, shattered land: the modern history of Syria

Author: [Reilly, James A.](#)
Call Number: [956.91 REI](#)

Syria has been the main focus of news for the last eight years. The library is offering two new books, one in French and one in English to provide a better understanding of the country with stories written by specialists of the region, giving a historical background to the Syrian tragedy.



Histoire de la Syrie: XIX-XXIe siècle

Author: [Rey, Matthieu](#)
Call Number: [956.91 REY](#)

The Hyperlinked Society: Questioning Connections in the Digital Age

Joseph Turow and Lokman Tsui, Editors

The Hyperlinked Society: Questioning Connections in the Digital Age

Author: [Tsui L.](#)
Call Number: [303.483 3 HYP](#)

“In a human brain, when the regions that compose it begin to communicate more than reason, this communication is getting poorer and poorer. They lose their specificity, [like] language or memory, and become altogether one extremely impoverished region. [...] when a human patient has an epileptic seizure, he often loses consciousness. But what is called losing consciousness doesn’t mean fainting [...] The patient remains standing, he has his eyes open, he continues to do automatic actions, but he will lose the subjective eye on his own actions. A society that would lose consciousness, for me, is not a society that falls asleep. A society on the contrary, acts devilishly but no longer has a look at its own actions.” (Lionel Nacache, neurologist).

Facts about traveling



The benefits of travel are almost immediate. After only a day or two, 89% of people experience a significant drop in stress.

Science has proven that traveling can boost your health and happiness.

Statistically, planes are the safest mode of transport in the world.

Travel helps those suffering from depression.

Money spent on traveling makes people happier than money spent on tangible goods.

Travel can boost your creativity.

Let us celebrate reading!

Even if you have read a single good book in your life, you will know that reading is a priceless activity as it gives incomparable pleasure. However, the habit of reading has declined due to the growth of technology. On occasion of the Month of Reading 2019 that took place last month, we identified 10 benefits of reading that can definitely help you in many different ways!

Benefits of Reading

Gives knowledge

One of the biggest reasons why we read books is to gain knowledge. Books are a rich source of information. Reading books on varied subjects imparts information and increases the depth about the subject as well. Whenever you read a book, you learn a new information that otherwise would not have been known.

Improves your brain

Studies have shown that reading has strong positive effects on the brain. By staying mentally stimulated, you can prevent dementia and Alzheimer's disease because keeping your brain active prevents it from losing power. The brain is a muscle and like other muscles in the body, exercise keeps it strong and healthy. Similar to solving puzzles, reading books is a great way to train your brain and keep it healthy.

Reduces stress

Reading has a positive effect on the body as well. Reading a book can relieve stress better than taking a walk or listening to music. According to studies, those who read more tend to have lower stress levels.

Improves memory

Every time you read a book, you have to remember the setting of the book, the characters, their backgrounds, their history, their personalities, the sub-plots etc. As your brain learns to remember all of these details, your memory becomes better. With every new memory you create, you create new pathways, which strengthens the existing ones.

Builds vocabulary

Reading improves your vocabulary and command on the language. As you read, you come across new words, idioms, phrases and writing styles.

Improves writing skills

Reading a well-written book affects your ability to become a better writer. Just like artists influence others, so do writers. Many successful authors gained their expertise by reading the works of others. So, if you want to become a better writer, start by learning from previous masters.

Improves focus and concentration

In our busy lifestyles, our attention is drawn in different directions each day as we try to multi-task through each day. For example, you may find yourself dividing your time between working on a task, chatting with people via Skype, checking email, keeping an eye on Facebook and interacting with your colleagues. All this multi-tasking can lead to high stress level and low productivity. When you read a book, all your attention is focused on what you are reading. Your eyes and thoughts are immersed in the details of the story, which improves your concentration and focus. Read a book at least 20 minutes a day, and you will be amazed at how much more focused you will be.

Makes you more empathetic

According to studies, losing yourself in books, especially fiction might increase your empathy. In a study conducted in the Netherlands, researchers showed that people who were "emotionally transported" by a work of fiction experienced a boost in empathy. By reading a book, you become part of the story and feel the pain and other emotions of the characters. This in turn allows your mind to become more aware of how different things affect other people. Eventually, this improves your ability to empathize with other people. Read that story; a world with more empathetic people would definitely be a better place!

Improves creativity

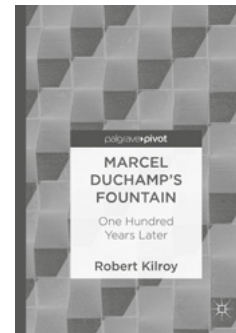
The biggest difference between reading and watching television is that reading gives you the scope to unleash your creativity. The more you read, the more you learn new things. New thoughts always stretch our minds to rediscover life in new and better ways. We start to see the world in a different way and this way we find new creative solutions.

Develops critical thinking skills

One of the primary benefits of reading books is its ability to develop critical thinking skills. For example, reading a mystery novel sharpens your mind. Critical thinking skills are crucial when it comes to making important day-to-day decisions. Reading requires an individual to think and process information in a way that watching television cannot. The more you read, the deeper you understand what you are reading!



Book launch by Robert Kilroy



Robert Kilroy, Marcel Duchamp's Fountain: One Hundred Years Later, London: Palgrave MacMillan, 2018.

This book critically re-examines the established interpretation of the most influential work of art of the twentieth century. One hundred years ago, the French artist Marcel Duchamp caused a major scandal in the art world when he turned a urinal on its head and entitled it Fountain. The controversial gesture created an intense debate: some said it was not art but an act of pure provocation; others insisted

that it was art because it had unique conceptual value. To mark Fountain's 100th anniversary, Robert Kilroy offers an alternative response to the question 'is this art?' He argues that Duchamp strategically stage-managed the reception of Fountain in order to expose the inner workings of the art world. This new interpretation fundamentally challenges received assumptions and calls for a new direction in scholarship, a new way of studying art that combines the approach of the art historian with that of the psychoanalyst and detective.



Dr. Silvia Beatriz Castillo
Head of Department,
Applied Foreign Languages

Research interests:

- Migrations and exiles
- Political and economic history of Cuba in the twentieth century
- Discourse analysis

Dr. Vital Rambaud
Head of Department,
French Studies

Research interests:

- French Literature XIX°-XX° Centuries
- Maurice Barrès
- Literature and journalism
- The writers and the First World War

Dr. Hadrien Dubucs
Head of Department,
Geography and Planning

Research interests:

- Geography of mobilities and international migrations (Europe, UAE)
- Urban studies (France, UAE)
- Social and cultural approaches in geography

Meet our academics

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi makes research an integral aspect of our curriculum. Our mission is to support the priorities of the Abu Dhabi Government, which will serve the UAE community as a whole. Our faculty are renowned scholars, dedicated to research in France or in the Gulf Region.

Meet our Heads of Departments below, who lead the research efforts of their departments.



Dr. Ingrid Périssé Valéro
Head of Department,
Archaeology and History of Art

Research interests:

- Archaeology and history of the Levant in the Hellenistic and Roman eras
- Building archeology, Roman architecture
- Temples, shrines and religious life during Antiquity



Dr. Valerie Le Guyon
Head of Department,
Sciences and Engineering

Research interests:

- Condensed matter
- Liquid crystals and polymer blends
- Optical studies
- MEMS (Micro Electro Mechanical Systems)



Dr. Yann Rodier
Head of Department,
History

Research interests:

- History of conflicts and civil wars in the 17th Century
- History of xenophobia, stereotypes and prejudices
- Anthropological History of passions and emotions
- Connected History between France, Sultanate of Oman and the Gulf in the early modern period



Prof. Eric Canal Forgues
Head of Department,
Law, Economics and Management

Research interests:

- International law
- International relations
- Media law
- Entertainment law



Dr. Claude Vishnu Spaak
Head of Department,
Philosophy and Sociology

Research interests:

- Contemporary philosophy (Phenomenology)
- Metaphysics
- Philosophical anthropology

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Your annual contribution will be used to support the local and international research development at the university, the master's scholarships programme and the university's events.

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Diego Luis Micheletti

Head of Integrated Marketing at Microsoft Middle East and Africa

**Master in Marketing, Management, Communication, Media
Graduated in 2014**

"It was amazing to be able to exchange and share knowledge and experiences with such a diverse team of brilliant people from all over the world and especially from the amazing UAE."

Ghada Saleh Fayek

Legal Consultant and Legal Researcher at MA & Co Advocates and Legal Consultants

**Master in Sustainable Development Law
Graduated in 2017**

"When I graduated in 1999, I dreamt of studying a master's degree at Sorbonne University in France, one of the leading law universities in the world. After 18 years, my dream became a reality at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi where I had a chance to gain further experience and enrich my legal knowledge under the supervision of world-class professors."

Shamsa Mohammed Basaeed
Business Continuity Analyst at ADNOC Gas Processing

**Bachelor in Applied Foreign Languages
Graduated in 2013**

"Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is the place where I learnt new languages and was exposed to new and different cultures, while being in the UAE."

Khulood Al Abduli
Senior Urban Planning Specialist, Department of Education and Knowledge

**Master in Urban Planning and Development
Graduated in 2013**

"Gaining a master's degree in Urban Planning and Development from an elite university like Sorbonne Abu Dhabi encouraged me to seek excellence in my career path as an Emirati Urban Planner, where I can effectively utilise my knowledge and skills to contribute to urbanization in my country."

Mohammad Zia Gopee
Cultural Mediator at Louvre Abu Dhabi

**Bachelor in History of Art and Archaeology
Graduated in 2016**

**Master in History of Art and Museum Studies
Graduated in 2018**

"Leaving Mauritius to come to Abu Dhabi for my studies is the best decision I've made in my life. Sorbonne Abu Dhabi not only brings academic excellence with world-renowned lecturers but also cultural values in a cosmopolitan place like the UAE. After successfully completing my Bachelor in History of Art and Archaeology and my Master in History of Art and Museum Studies, I am now working as a cultural mediator at Louvre Abu Dhabi. Hence I have closely witnessed its rapid cultural development through Sorbonne Abu Dhabi and the cultural institutions on Saadiyat Island. I have been mostly impressed by the eagerness of this country to bring to the world its history and rich cultural heritage."

Alumni success stories

Sorbonne Abu Dhabi maintains close relationships with our graduates who now total over 1,700 and live in over 40 countries across the world. We take a closer look at some of our alumni and where they are today.

