



SORBONNE  
UNIVERSITY  
ABU DHABI

# Master in Applied Sociological Research

Master Programmes



**The Master in Applied Sociological Research at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is the only degree of its kind in the UAE responding to the changing needs of policy makers in government entities, state-owned enterprises and all those that are active in the consultancy or market research sectors.**

This elite programme is aimed at students and professionals who want to improve their skills in social research methods in order to develop an expertise that is crucial today for the UAE and for the surrounding region. UAE society has changed tremendously in the last decades, and if the economy has blossomed it now faces new social issues and problems pertaining to demography, urbanism, education, media, health, family etc. Those are “social facts” which must be analysed and understood from the perspective of the social sciences. The courses in social theory and the courses about Gulf societies will help students understand and analyse those new social trends.

One of the main challenges for this country is also to produce, gather and analyse accurate social data relating to these different social issues and problems. The courses in social research methods (both qualitative and quantitative) will enable students to become social data analysts. Analysing statistics (with specialised softwares), establishing surveys or conducting interviews are tools that are essential for this area of study. Students will also learn how to present their research and their results through reports and public presentations.

This Master’s degree can be pursued either as a one-year or a two-year programme, depending on the previous degree qualifications of the candidate.

Our faculty is composed of distinguished professors and lecturers from France who have achieved worldwide acclaim and are recognised for their thorough knowledge of social research. The Paris faculty is affiliated with leading research centers in France, in particular with the GEMASS (“Groupe d’étude des méthodes et de l’analyse sociologique de la Sorbonne”: <http://www.gemass.fr>), ensuring that all the courses taught in Abu Dhabi are aligned with cutting-edge contemporary research.





# Overview



# **Programme highlights**

## International recognition

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi provides the combined experience of Sorbonne University and Université Paris Cité. This rich heritage of joint excellence is now available in Abu Dhabi under the Ministry of Education and is recognised worldwide.

## Distinguished tradition

Sorbonne University was one of the world's first universities to teach social sciences and especially sociology at the end of the 19th century, with the arrival of Emile Durkheim (1858-1917), one of the founding fathers of the discipline. Throughout the century, the most famous sociologists taught in the Department of Sociology at Sorbonne University. Today, the Department is one of the fastest-growing and best rated departments of sociology in France, with a strong emphasis on social theory, sociology of inequalities, social research methods (survey, network analysis, visual methods or digital methods) among other sociological specialties.

## Enhancing individual & national development

Within the next decade, the UAE is poised to dedicate its focus towards socio-economic sustainability. The curriculum at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is crucial in creating and encouraging a new generation passionate about social research to support the UAE's rapid and ambitious progress.

This programme has been developed in partnership with local public organisations active in social issues and social planning (such as Statistics Centre-Abu Dhabi and the Family Foundation Development), as well as with private companies specialised in consulting to ensure that this programme matches national aspirations.

## Networking

Each class will have a reduced number of students from different countries. A strict entry selection procedure will guarantee the quality of the degree and will allow you to expand your personal network with high potential peers.

*Graduates will have several enriching career options in the government sector, local and regional planning covering education, population and demographics, public policy, economic and political analysis.*

**The Master in Applied Sociological Research is taught in English and covers a total of four semesters across two years. This master's degree can be pursued either as a one-year or a two-year programme, depending on the previous degree qualifications of the candidate. The exclusively designed course schedule includes evening and weekend classes in consideration of students who intend to combine their studies with work.**

## Structure

The two-year programme is open to candidates holding a bachelor's degree (BA or BSc) and who intend to acquire both a global and sound comprehension of how contemporary societies are organised, and high-level technical skills in data collection, analysis, and presentation.

Only candidates who already have a professional experience in social research (typically 5-10 years in a relevant field) and/or have a good command of specific research methods (statistics, specialised softwares) may be eligible for entering directly into the second year.

Year 1	
Modules	Courses
Special Sociological Fields	Gulf Studies I Networks and Society I Economic Sociology I Social Theory I Human Resources and Management I Sociology of Globalisation
Applied Methodology	Qualitative Methods I IT for Social Science I Visual Sociology I Quantitative Methods I Data Analysis Introduction to Statistical Software
Introduction to Research	Research Project
Languages	French English for social research



## Master's thesis

An essential part of the programme is the individual research project. During those two years, students will have to choose a social problem that will be addressed with the methodological tools and the skills that they will have acquired throughout the programme.

Examples of research topics chosen by students in the last years include Unemployment in Abu Dhabi, Uses of Social media by Emirati young women, Family strategies for Academic achievement of their children, Filipino community in Abu Dhabi, Medical Malpractices in the UAE, Mixed marriages in the Emirati population.

Year 2	
Modules	Courses
Special Sociological Fields	Gulf Studies II Networks and Society II Economic Sociology II Social Theory II Human Resources and Management II Social Stratification
Applied Methodology	Qualitative Methods II IT for Social Sciences II Visual Sociology II Quantitative Methods II Data Analysis II Digital Methods
Introduction to Research	Research Project
Languages	French English for social research



# Assessment & graduation requirements

Throughout the year, there will be frequent assessments and evaluations. Students will be evaluated on individual assignments, presentations, reports and examinations. Attendance to all classes is mandatory and it is important that students are punctual and observe university regulations at all times.







# Career prospects

Employment opportunities within government and private consultancies are lucrative and competitive as graduates with a specialisation in Applied Sociological Research are highly sought after. Graduates will have several enriching career options in the government sector, local and regional planning covering education, public health, population and demographics, crime prevention and law enforcement, urban planning and waste management. Job prospects in research include working for national statistics authorities, polling agencies, academic research and various government-funded researches in significant subjects.

**Admission to our master's programmes is selective and competitive and each applicant will be considered on his/her own merit. Our admissions process ensures that every course has an ideal mix of people with talent, impressive interpersonal skills and a positive attitude.**

# Admission requirements

## General entry requirements:

- Bachelor in a relevant field with a CGPA of 3 out of 4 or equivalent. Candidates with a GPA between 2.5 and 2.99 can be granted a conditional acceptance subject to a probation period of one semester
- IELTS certificate with minimum overall band of 6.0 with a validity of 2 years or TOEFL certificate with minimum score of 79 (or equivalent) with a validity of 2 years or Minimum EmSAT English score of 1400 with a validity of 18 months or, Native English speaker who completed 3 full years in an English-medium institution within a maximum period of 3 years.

Shortlisted candidates will be asked to attend an interview to assess the candidate's motivation, career expectations and relevant professional experience in the degree area. Applicants who earned their undergraduate degrees from universities outside the UAE must present a Certificate of Equivalency for their graduation certificates from the UAE Ministry of Education. Applicants, who are holders of undergraduate degrees issued by a licensed higher education institution in the UAE, are required to submit a copy of their degrees attested by the UAE Ministry of Education. For details on requirements, kindly visit the Ministry's website:

**[www.moe.gov.ae](http://www.moe.gov.ae)**

## Tuition Fees

**AED 143,400** (approximately US\$ 39,077)

## Scholarships are available for this programme\*:

- 20% alumni discount
- 25% academic excellence scholarship
- 25% discount upon enrolment on a second master's degree
- 5%-15% corporate offer

Visit our website for more information.

\*Conditions apply





# Why Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi?

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

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

This degree is awarded by Sorbonne University in Paris and officially accredited by the UAE Commission for Academic Accreditation ([www.caa.ae](http://www.caa.ae)).

## For more information, please contact:

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September 2022