



University College Advising Manual 2010 - 2011

1. Introduction

The University College (UC) is the initial home of all new students who are entering Abu Dhabi University (ADU) from secondary school. The College has been designed to provide an academic home to new students who are just beginning their postsecondary studies. Students are prepared in the UC, which was established in 2006, through an integrated liberal arts education, to engage in advanced academic study in the major field of their choice in business, engineering, education, computer science or one of the many other career degree choices available at the University.

The UC also offers a pre-foundation program, namely the Bridge Program which is an innovative one-year (two-regular-semester) remedial study for high school graduates that cannot pursue college degrees due to low high school marks. The objective of the program is to offer high school graduates with marks of less than 60% the opportunity to pursue a college degree.

2. Mission

The mission of the UC is to add breadth and depth to the students' first year educational experience through enriching their general life perspectives, promoting informed and ethical behavior, and providing them with a solid foundation to become independent and creative lifelong learners and productive members of the society regardless of their career paths.

3. Learning Outcomes

Before the beginning of each semester, the learning outcomes of every course at the UC are revised by UC instructors, course coordinators, and Dean. The learning outcomes of UC courses reflect the general learning outcomes of the UC.

The UC goals and learning outcomes are:

Goal 1: Effective oral and written communication

Students will acquire effective academic writing, speaking, reading, research and listening skills

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- a. apply academic and creative writing skills and research techniques to compose a variety of well-organized essays and reports;

- b. demonstrate the abilities of effective oral presentation in a variety of communication settings;
- c. practice library, web browsing and referencing skills in conducting research;
- d. apply active listening in their personal professional lives.

Goal 2: Critical thinking, analytical and quantitative reasoning

Students will demonstrate the ability to think critically, logically and apply analytical and quantitative reasoning in a variety of contexts.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- a. demonstrate logical, mathematical and statistical thinking in dealing with numbers;
- b. use scientific disciplinary approaches for problem solving and for defending/rejecting alternative hypotheses and perspectives;
- c. synthesize and evaluate the information presented in a context;
- d. critically analyze others' thinking and present their own thoughts in a logical manner;
- e. demonstrate problem -solving and informed decision -making skills.

Goal 3: Technology and computer literacy

Students will demonstrate technological and computer competency.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- a. demonstrate the use of various technologies and software applications such as presentations, databases, spreadsheets, and network virtual drive etc , to improve the quality of their work;
- b. apply basic computer skills to identify, retrieve, manage, store, analyze, and communicate ideas and information; and IT applications in their course work;
- c. practice the ethical use of IT in their personal and professional lives.

Goal 4: Local and global awareness

Students will develop an awareness and sensitivity to local and global issues and take informed actions for the betterment of their society and world at large.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- a. demonstrate knowledge of the current complex social factors associated with the development of the United Arab Emirates as a society rooted in its history, culture and religion, yet open to the challenges and contributions of diverse global society;
- b. demonstrate knowledge of the geographic, economic, political, social, religious, and cultural aspects of the Gulf Corporation Council countries in general and the United Arab Emirates in particular;
- c. articulate an understanding of the diverse cultures;
- d. develop appropriate knowledge, skills, attitude and disposition to take actions;
- e. Practice moral, social and ethical values in their dealing with different people.

Goal 5: Leadership and teamwork

Students will demonstrate qualities of leadership and teamwork.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- a. cooperate with others, in a cross-cultural environment, to organize and complete projects, make decisions, and practice team dynamics;
- b. demonstrate effective interpersonal communication skills;
- c. show leadership in their group work in classes;
- d. delegate different responsibilities and keep accountability.

4. Requirements of the University College

The University Requirements, in conjunction with the University's coordinated student activities and student government program, prepare students to achieve the five goals of the UC through a curriculum that provides a uniform educational experience in the liberal arts and sciences to ADU students in preparation for the academic challenges of the range of accredited baccalaureate degrees offered through the University.

This curriculum is comprised of the following courses:*

University Required Courses

| Course Code | Title | Prerequisite | Credit Hours |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| ARL 100 (A) | Communication Skills in Arabic I (A) | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| ARL 100 (E) | Communication Skills in Arabic I (E) | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| ARL 105 (A) | Communication Skills in Arabic II (A) | ARL 100 (A) | 3 |
| ARL 105 (E) | Communication Skills in Arabic II (E) | ARL 100 (E) | 3 |
| ENG 100 | English I | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| ENG 105 | English II | ENG 100 and UNS100 | 3 |
| ENG 201 | Business and Technical Communication | ENG 105 | 3 |
| ISL 100 (A) | Islamic Culture (A) | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| ISL 100 (E) | Islamic Culture (E) | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| ITE 100 | Introduction to Information Technology Applications | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| MTG 100** | College Mathematics | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| MTT 101** | Mathematics for Science & Technology | MTG 100/Math Placement Test | 3 |
| NSC 201 | Natural Sciences | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| PHI 300 | Professional Ethics | ENG 105 | 3 |
| PSY 201 | General Psychology | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| SOC 201 | UAE and GCC Society | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| STT 100 | General Statistics | No Prerequisite | 3 |
| UNS 100 | University Study Skills | No Prerequisite | 3 |

* Some CECS and CAS programs do not require all the above University Requirements.

** ADU students from CAS (with the exception of Environmental Science students) and COBA are required to take MTG100 (College Mathematics) as a University Requirement course. As for CECS students (with the exception of Electrical, Civil, and Computer Engineering students) and Environmental Science students from CAS, they should take MTT101 (Mathematics for Science and Technology) as a University Requirement course.

University Requirements are offered every semester every year.

5. ELI Students and University College Courses

Students enrolled in the English Language Institute (ELI) are allowed to take some UC courses **while** they are taking their ELI levels at ADU.

The following are the University Requirement courses allowed with the English levels:

| Level of study in the ELI | Permitted courses |
|---------------------------|--|
| IELTS 2 | Up to three courses (ARL 100, ARL 105, ISL 100, UNS 100) |
| IELTS 1 | Up to two courses (ARL 100, ARL 105, ISL 100) |
| GE2 | One course (ARL 100 or ISL 100) |
| GE1 | None |

6. ARL100 (E), ARL105 (E) and ISL100 (E) for Non-Arabic Speakers

Non-Arabic speaking students may take ARL100, ARL105 and ISL100 in English. These courses are not offered every semester. Students who are eligible to take ARL100 and ARL105 courses in English may substitute two additional English courses (courses from the English Department) in place of ARL 100 (E) and ARL 105 (E) if sections of these courses are not available.

7. Math Placement Test

ADU students from CAS (with the exception of Environmental Science students) and COBA are required to take MTG100 (College Mathematics) as a University Requirement course. As for CECS students (with the exception of Electrical, Civil, and Computer Engineering students) and Environmental Science students from CAS, they should take MTT101 (Mathematics for Science and Technology) as a University Requirement course.

The following rules apply on CECS (with the exception of Electrical, Civil, and Computer Engineering students) and Environmental Science students:

1. Students with science track and who are fresh high school graduates (not more than two years) with a math score of 80% or more **should take MTT101** (no need to take MPT or MTG100).
2. Students with science track and who are not fresh high school graduates (more than two years) **OR** who have a math score less than 80% **may take MPT or enroll in MTG100.**
3. Students with literary track **should take MTG100.**

Time of the Math Placement Test

The Math Placement Test will be conducted at the following times:

- In the **final exams period** of every fall and spring semester.
- On **Mondays** just before classes start in fall and spring semesters (designed for newly admitted students).

The Math Placement Test will not be given outside the above-mentioned timings/dates.

Important Notes:

- Students who will take MTG100 in Fall 10-11 are required to obtain a minimum grade of C in MTG 100 to register in MTT101 in Spring 10-11.
- The Math Placement Test is a one-hour test.
- The passing score is 70%.
- It is the responsibility of those who pass or fail the Test to approach their advisors to enroll in MTT101 (in case they pass) or MTG100 (in case they fail).
- Students who fail the test can enroll in MTG100 or take the test again later.
- The Math Placement Test is valid indefinitely.

8. Bridge Program

The Bridge Program offers the following courses:

Bridge Program Required Courses

| Course Code | Title | Prerequisite | Credit Hours |
|-------------|--|----------------------------|--------------|
| ENG 098 | English Communication, English I | IELTS, less than 4.0 | None |
| ENG 099 | English Communication, English II | IELTS, between 4.0 and 4.9 | None |
| ARL 099 | Arabic Communication, Arabic I | No Prerequisite | None |
| MTG 098 | Pre-Algebra Mathematics (Part I) | ENG 098 | None |
| MTG 099 | Pre-Algebra Mathematics (Part II) | ENG 098 | None |
| ITE 099 | Computers and IT Fundamentals and Applications | No Prerequisite | None |
| GNS 099 | General Study Skills | ENG 098 | None |
| NSC 099 | Introduction to Science | ENG 098 | None |

The students in the Program need to pass all courses with a minimum of a C grade.

Bridge Program Challenge Exams:

- Students can take challenge exams for almost all the Bridge Program courses.
- Students can take challenge exams in the following courses: Math I (for students with non-science track), Math II (for students with science track), Introduction to Science, Arabic Communication and Computers and IT Fundamentals and Applications.
- The challenge exams will be conducted during the week before the start of each semester.

- Students must achieve a 70% grade in the challenge exam to be exempted from the course.
- Institutional TOEFL cannot be used as a challenge exam for ENG 099.