

Developmental Project & Global Partnership

The first High quality Open and Blended
Learning in the Arab World.



AOU

الجامعة العربية المفتوحة
Arab Open University



Our Promise

We Shape the Shapers of the Future



Since 2002

Expanding through the Arab World





The high-quality education is the only driver to real developmental transformations since it empowers people to be consciously integrated into the current era and, indeed, to lead it. 

HRH the late
Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud
- AOU Founder



The AOU Story

The establishment of the Arab Open University in the Arab World as a non-profit development project was initiated by the late HRH Prince Talal bin Abdul-Aziz Al Saud

In 1996, the late HRH Prince Talal officially announced his initiative to establish the Arab Open University as a non-traditional academic organization contributing to steering development in scientific, cultural, and social spheres.



In 2002, the initiative evolved into an integrated University seeking to provide Arab communities with high quality education to all regardless of gender, age, color, race, economic, social, space and time conditions. This was done in partnership with the **Open University - UK**.

HRH Prince Abdulaziz Bin Talal
Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud
Chairman of AOU Board of Trustees



The Future of the University is Promising & Rich

- Prince Talal Bin Abdulaziz

Enlightened by the vision of the founder of the AOU, the late HRH Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz, God rest his soul in peace, and in continuation with the modern University education model whose foundations he had laid as a unique educational beacon among the higher education establishments in the Arab World, we strive to continue to implement His Royal Highness's desire to take off into wider and more distinguished spheres. This comes as an effort to meet the ambitions of Arab male and female students and in response to the needs and challenges posed by the job market in the Arab region.

We, therefore, reaffirm that AOU shall keep up its march to equip Arab students with futuristic knowledge, sciences and skills through its academic environment, its unified global curricula, and its educational method which has proved its uniqueness. This distinguished academic standing has made it a leading University among Arab higher education institutions, a status that has been bolstered by its significant partnership with international higher education establishments through the high quality of its work style and its environment.



**Prof. Mohammed
bin Ibrahim Al-Zakari**
President of Arab Open University

It is an honour to be part of the Arab Open University (AOU) which was initiated by the late HRH Prince Talal bin Abdul Aziz in 1996 to be a unique educational and developmental project in terms of its goals and teaching methods.

The establishment of the AOU stems from the belief that every human being in the Arab world has the right and capability to contribute to the national development in his/her country. Before the inception of the AOU, many individuals, females and males, unfortunately, did not have an educational opportunity that would help them to contribute to their countries' development due to economic and social reasons, living in remote

areas, time barriers, unavailability of time to study in traditional universities, etc.

All these factors led to the birth of the idea of AOU as a higher educational institution under the umbrella of a non-profit developmental program (AGFUND) with the aim of building capable individuals in the Arab societies, who are equipped with science, knowledge and applied practices.

In order to achieve AOU's unique objectives, the University adopted an educational system, the first of its kind in the Arab world. It is the Open Learning system, which utilizes modern technologies & digital means of communication, that eliminates time and space barriers,

in addition to the face to face and self learning that put students in the center of education.

The AOU has succeeded in strengthening this learning system in the Arab world in partnership with the Open University in the UK which offers a wide range of accredited programmes locally and internationally. AOU's graduates have proved their competence through gaining awards in local and regional competitions. The University is pleased to provide educational services with reasonable tuition to the students of the Arab world in nine Arab countries. AOU will continue to achieve educational excellence and progress in spreading across the Arab countries, promoting its goals and unique mission.

Thanks to the founder, and all of the contributors to shaping AOU's journey, as well as the AOU successive presidents, and all academic and staff members.

We pray to Allah Almighty to assist us in serving the University.



Mission & Values

01

VISION

A pioneering Arab open university in the quality of education for all and the development of the knowledge society.

02

MISSION

Offering high-quality education to all segments of society, and providing them with labor market skills through an attractive advanced technical learning environment and a flexible educational model that transcends time and place obstacles; developing the science and knowledge society by providing a stimulating environment for scientific research and an incubator for innovation; contributing to achieving sustainable development in Arab societies.

03

VALUES

- Collaboration
- Transparency
- Integrity
- Excellence
- Justice

The First Development Project

The AOU is a non-profit educational organization established under the umbrella of AGFUND.

AGFUND is based in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and its activities are financed by the GCC member states.



The AOU's headquarters is based in Kuwait, and has nine branches operating in a number of Arab countries.



Target Categories

The AOU aims to provide higher education with high-quality standards, and contribute to providing practical solutions to the issues of Arab societies such as unemployment; thereby targeting all categories of community students having the ability and desire to complete their education, including:



Arab Youth

Providing academic opportunities and skilled training to Arab youths who wish to pursue their higher education.



Women

Creating educational opportunities for females to enable them in society.



Persons with Special Needs

Providing educational opportunities to empower and integrate them in society

Spreading Across the Arab World

- Following the initiative to establish AOU in 1996, its first phase was launched in October 2002 in three branches: Kuwait, Lebanon and Jordan.
- In February 2003, three other branches opened in Bahrain, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.
- In February 2008, a seventh branch was inaugurated in Oman.
- In September 2013, an eighth branch was opened in Sudan.
- In May 2015, the University signed an agreement with the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education to open its ninth branch in Palestine, which started its activities in 2018.

- The University seeks to serve all Arab countries. Through this spread of AOU branches and centers across the Arab world, the University reflects its national dimension, and translates its general strategy set by its Board of Trustees, which comprises an elite group of Arab experts on higher education and senior officials from various regional & international organizations.

A Variety of Programmes Required by the Labor Market

Under the partnership agreement with the Open University, UK, AOU offers a range of academic programs taught in English:

Undergraduate Programmes

- Bachelor of Business Studies offered in the following tracks:
 - Management
 - Marketing
 - Risk Management and Insurance
 - Accounting
 - Economics
 - Systems Practice
 - Finance/ Microfinance
 - Human Resource Management
 - Management Information System
- Bachelor of Accounting
- Bachelor of Education / Elementary Education
- Bachelor of Career Empowerment for Deaf and Hearing-Impaired Students
- Bachelor of Special Education / Learning Disabilities
- Bachelor of English Language & Literature offered in the following tracks:
 - Translation

- English Language & Literature
- Bachelor of English language Literature and Translation
- BSc Graphic and Multimedia Design Technology
- BSc Information Technology & Computing offered in the following tracks:
 - Information Technology & Computing
 - Computing with Business
 - Computer Science
 - Networking and Security
 - Web Development
 - Data Science
 - Cyber Security
 - Artificial intelligence
- Bachelor of Law
- Bachelor of Media offered in following specializations:
 - Electronic Media
 - Radio and Television
 - Public Relations

Postgraduate Programmes

- Master of Business Administration (MBA):
 - MBA - Business Administration
 - MBA - Human Resources Management
 - MBA - Finance
 - MBA - Micro Finance
- Master of Science in Accounting
- Master of Education in Educational Technology
- Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)
- Master of Education in Educational Leadership
- Master of Arts in English Literature
- Master of Science in Computing
 - Cyber Security and Forensics
- High/ General Diploma of Education
- Professional Diploma of Kindergarten
- Diploma of Business Studies
- Diploma of English Language Studies and Literature
- Diploma of Information Technology & Computing



Excellence - The exchange of experiences in the Arab world

An open environment for the exchange of experiences and skills in the Arab world

Geographical spread in the Arab world, operating in nine countries, which achieves:



A competent academic manpower, offering high quality academic services.



The exchange of distinguished experiences and expertise in academic, administrative, and technical areas.



Standardization of curriculum and performance and fairness in assessment.



Communication between AOU students and its academic staff in the Arab world.

Excellence of the blended learning system

The first Arab university adopting the blended learning system.

The AOU relies on a unified system consistent with its vision built on time and space flexibility. The AOU adopts a blended learning system comprising face-to-face tutorials and E-learning.



75%

of tutorials are delivered through electronic systems.

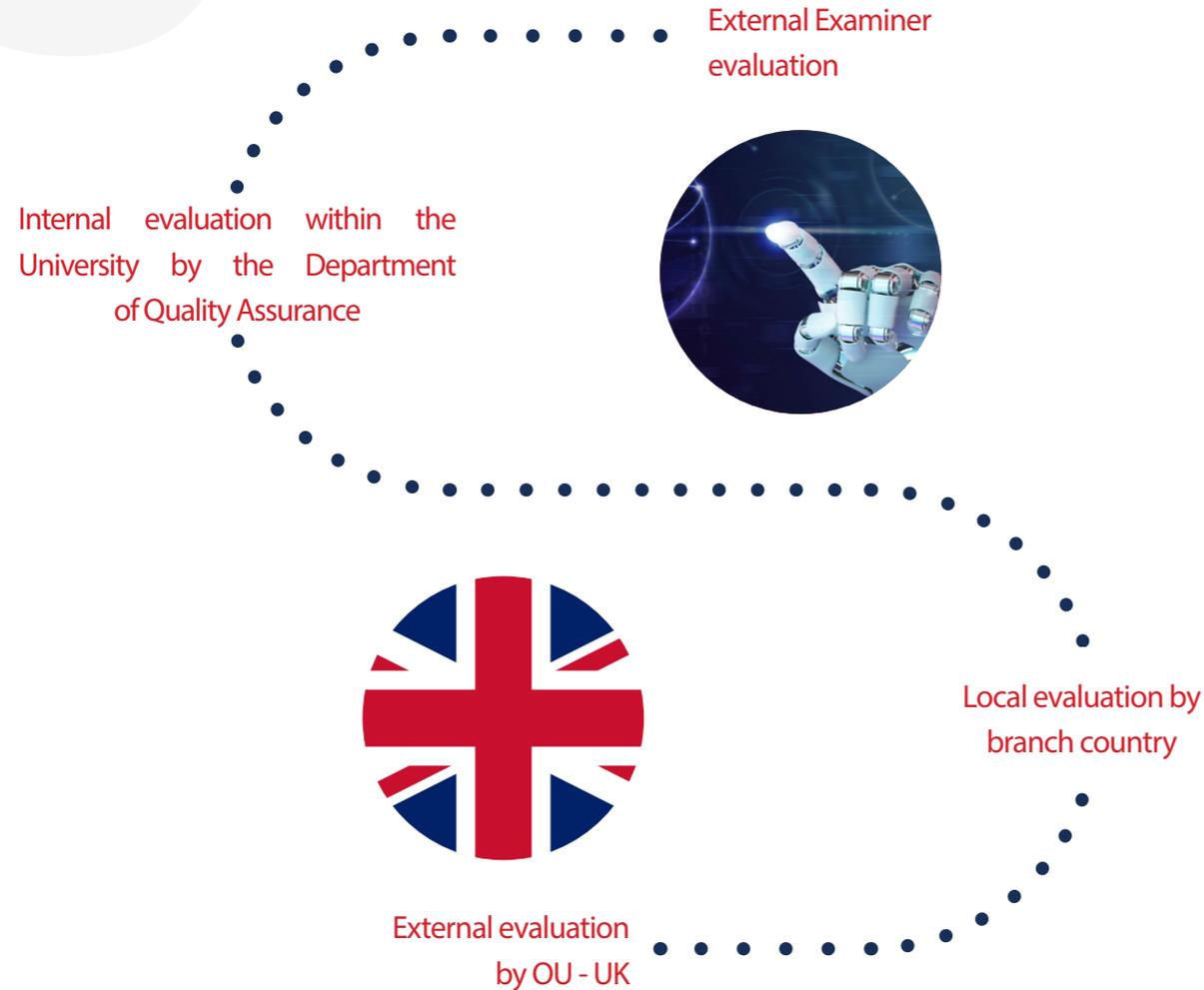


25%

of tutorials are delivered in classrooms equipped with the latest technology.

Excellence - Diversity and comprehensiveness of performance evaluation

The AOU is subject to performance evaluation



Excellence - International Accreditation

International Accreditation of the AOU Programmes

The AOU signed a strategic partnership with the OU-UK, one of the internationally leading universities in the Open learning system; thus, giving the AOU the right to:

use and print OU's educational resources and learning materials. This leads to AOU's commitment to quality standards and reporting annually to demonstrate such a commitment.



Programme & Institutional Accreditation.



Consultation.



Training & skills development.



Excellence - The first Arab University to offer programmes in Deaf Education

AOU was the first university in the Arab world that offers a programme to deaf and hearing-impaired students.

Since its inception, the AOU has taken care of deaf students; therefore, it was the first university among private and public Arab universities that offers Bachelor of Education in Elementary Education to the Deaf and Hearing-Impaired People.



2005
First Launch

The first version of the programme was launched, and all the program students graduated.



2016
New Programme

A new programme, which is called Bachelor of Career Empowerment of Deaf and Hearing-Impaired Students was launched, and it is attracting deaf students of all nationalities.

Excellence - Cultural Diversity

Cultural Diversity

Students from 147 nationalities study at the AOU, which creates a hub for cultural and knowledge exchange.



In addition, this creates a diverse cultural environment built on human rights, mutual respect, open dialogue and human brotherhood.



Excellence | Students awarded in international and local prizes.

The AOU graduates have been awarded international & local prizes.

when they participated in competitions and local exams organized by AOU host countries, AOU students won top ranks, such as:

In Jordan, they won the first place in the University Competency Exams for many years in different majors.

In Saudi Arabia, the AOU student team ranked first in the Competition of IT Graduation Projects at the level of private and public KSA Universities, which was organized by King Saud University in 2017 and 2018.

The AOU Graduates from Lebanon Branch received the award of Excellence as they won the second prize in the Huawei National ICT Skill Competition in 2017. Prominent Lebanon Universities participated in this competition.

The Programming team of the AOU branch in Kuwait won the first place in Kuwait collegiate Programming Contest 2018 (KCPC 2018) which comprised 38 teams.

Excellence | The AOU Graduates.

The AOU graduates enjoy the confidence of labor market.

The University meets the needs of labor market due to its educational nature which allows its graduates:



To speak English



To search and independently study



To be skilled with technology use

Therefore, the AOU's programmes have earned the confidence of large private corporations in the Arab world particularly in Business Studies, Information Technology and English Language and Literature.



Achievements & Numbers

400K

Since its inception, the University has served more than 400,000 thousand students, through offering degrees in various programmes (Diplomas, Bachelor's and Master's).

75K

Students have graduated from the AOU. The majority have joined the labor market in the Arab world.

62%

The university aims at empowering women and providing educational opportunities that suit to their circumstances across the Arab world. The percentage of female graduates is 62% of the total number of students.

147

Students from 147 nationalities from around the world have enrolled in the University since its inception.



20

Study Centers

9

Countries

1 University

We Shape the Shapers of the Future...

The AOU is the most geographically spread University across the Arab world. It has 20 branches and centers in nine Arab countries. Its broader aim is to reach all Arab countries.

The AOU has been reaccredited by the Open University Validation Service of the Open University in the United Kingdom for a period of five years for the fifth time.

Opening a number of research, consulting and training centers in its current branches.

The AOU has signed a series of understanding memoranda with a number of international universities to offer academic programmes required in the labor market, such as in Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, International Law, Health and Media.

Commitment

AOU is committed to securing the official institutional approval and programme validation for its programmes in all the countries hosting its branches. It fully complies with the rules and conditions stipulated by the Center for Inclusion and Collaborative Partnership (CICP), the official body responsible for validating programmes and certificates issued by AOU. This comes as part of the agreement between AOU and OU-UK through CICP.



Future Aspirations

AOU takes pride in its achievements and academic services offered to the Arab world, and looks forward to accomplishing the objectives of its fifth strategic plan (2022/2027). Among these objectives are:

- Opening new branches in Morocco, Yemen, and Mauritania, as well as new regional centers in the current branches.
- Offering new undergraduate and graduate programmes.
- Completing the construction of all the AOU branches' permanent campuses.
- Enhancing our students' skills through innovative learning approaches, ensuring they are equipped to excel in a rapidly evolving world.
- Fostering deep community engagement by creating a lasting impact by collaborating with local organizations and initiatives.

AOU Campuses

The AOU continues to complete its permanent buildings for all its branches in the Arab world based on internationally modern designs and equipped with state-of-the-art learning technology to meet the highest standards of learning quality benchmarks. The AOU is proud to have built its own buildings for its headquarters and for its branches in Kuwait, Jordan, Egypt, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia (Riyadh & Al-Madina Al Munawarah). AOU extends its gratitude and appreciation to all those who contributed to its establishment, and to all those official and charitable bodies and businessmen whose contributions reflect their commitment to the principle of social responsibility for the service of society and as a national and humanitarian honor and duty.





20
Centers



9
Countries





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