



GLOBAL
STUDIES
UNIVERSITY
جامعة
الدراسات
العالمية

Postgraduate Prospectus 2026-2027

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

At Global Studies University,
the World is Your Campus





Welcome to Global Studies University

Global Studies University (GSU) is a postgraduate education and specialized research university in the humanities and social sciences, dedicated to training the next generation of critical thinkers. Established in 2023 in Sharjah by His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al-Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of Sharjah, GSU advances interdisciplinary teaching and research that address pressing local and global challenges.

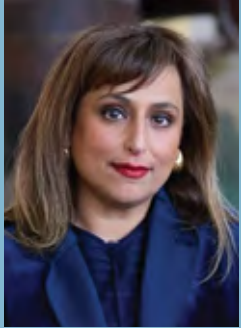
Envisioned as a network of semi-independent yet interconnected regional institutes, GSU builds on the success of The Africa Institute (2018) and will expand to include the Asia Institute and future institutes across the Americas, Europe, and Oceania. Together, they form a global hub for knowledge production and postgraduate training, with a strong emphasis on non-Western languages, interdisciplinary inquiry, and critical engagement with the Global South.

Accreditation and Licensure

In 2025, Global Studies University received institutional licensure and accreditation from the Commission for Academic Accreditation, UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. GSU is expanding its international reach through additional accreditations, reflecting its commitment to global excellence.



Message from The President



This year marks the 50th anniversary of the 1976 Symposium on Afro-Arab Relations, where the idea for The Africa Institute, the first of five institutes envisioned as part of Global Studies University, first emerged. We also prepare to celebrate the first graduating class of the University's MA in Global African Studies in December 2026. We continue to build on this legacy through our academic programs, research, public engagement, and growing network of regional institutes.

Based in Sharjah and connected to the wider world, Global Studies University embodies a long standing vision for a globally oriented network of interdisciplinary institutes. The University brings together students, scholars, and partners from different regions, disciplines, and backgrounds to advance knowledge and deepen understanding across cultures.

Our campus reflects Sharjah's growing role as a center for culture, education, and intellectual exchange, providing a dynamic environment for research, collaboration, and postgraduate learning.

I invite students, scholars, and partners to join us as we shape the University's next chapter and contribute to a more connected intellectual future.

H.H. Sheikha Hoor Al Qasimi
President, Global Studies University

Message from The Chancellor



The establishment of Global Studies University (GSU) reflects a commitment to preparing a new generation of critical thinkers who can address local and regional questions within their wider global contexts. Organized as a network of interconnected regional institutes, GSU broadens knowledge and strengthens scholarly connections across regions. Building on the academic foundations and achievements of The Africa Institute, as well as Sharjah's reputation as a center for education, culture, and the arts, we remain committed to nurturing critical scholarship and contributing to a more interconnected intellectual future.

Historically, the UAE and the Gulf region have served as points of convergence for diverse peoples and cultures. This pattern continues today through migration, labor, pilgrimage, and other forms of exchange and mobility. GSU builds on this rich cultural diversity and supports the ambitions of Sharjah and the UAE as they continue to develop knowledge-based economies.

Our graduate academic programs encourage students to question established frameworks and explore complex global issues through critical and interdisciplinary study. Our international faculty brings expertise from across regions, disciplines, and intellectual traditions, supporting rigorous research and opening new ways of understanding the world.

At GSU, the world is your campus. Here, the world is not simply an object of study; it is the context in which learning, research, and intellectual exchange take place.

Professor Salah M. Hassan
Chancellor, Global Studies University and Dean, The Africa Institute

Our History



Global Studies University builds on a history of intellectual exchange in Sharjah that dates back to December 1976, when the emirate hosted the first Symposium on African and Arab Relations.

Organized under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al-Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of Sharjah, the symposium brought together 45 African and Arab intellectuals to discuss strengthening ties between Africa and the Arab world. Among its key recommendations was the creation of an institute in Sharjah dedicated to studying, documenting, and advancing Afro-Arab relations.

The original Africa Hall, inaugurated that same year, became an important venue for symposia, lectures, performances, and cultural exchange. Rebuilt on its original site, Africa Hall remains an integral part of GSU's campus and a symbol of Sharjah's long-standing commitment to scholarship and dialogue.

Building on this legacy, The Africa Institute was formally established on June 6, 2018, as a center for research, documentation, and postgraduate education in African and African diaspora studies. In 2023, following the Emiri decree establishing Global Studies University, it became the University's first constituent institute.

In 2025, GSU welcomed the inaugural cohorts of its MA in Global African Studies and Ph.D. in Global Studies, marking the beginning of postgraduate education at the University and the realization of a vision first articulated in Sharjah nearly five decades earlier.

Vision

GSU aims to be a leading global studies institution, recognized for excellence in teaching, research, and knowledge production. We transcend traditional area studies and continental thinking frameworks by pioneering critical, interconnected, and interdisciplinary paradigms that redefine global studies.

Mission

Our mission is to serve as a globally recognized interdisciplinary hub for critical engagement in global studies within the arts, humanities, and social sciences, producing new knowledge and nurturing the next generation of critical thinkers to address global complexities and interconnectedness.

Afro-Arab Symposium @ 50

Global Studies University carries forward the spirit of intellectual exchange that shaped the 1976 Afro-Arab symposium through interdisciplinary research, postgraduate education, and scholarship connecting regions, languages, cultures, and systems of knowledge. December 2026 marks the 50th anniversary of such an historic gathering with a symposium on African and Arab relations, which will address the relationship between Africa and the Arab world in a more complex and nuanced manner that takes into consideration the complexities of such relations and their past, present, and prospects for the future. It will critically cover the current state and prospects of solidarities, collaborations, and mutually beneficial economic integration and exchange.



The original Africa Hall, inaugurated in 1976 as the venue for the first Symposium on African and Arab Relations.



Africa Hall, renovated in 2018 for the opening of The Africa Institute, now hosts Global Studies University's lectures, conferences, and cultural programs.

Milestones in Our Journey

- 1976** **December 1976**
Africa Hall is inaugurated following the Symposium on African and Arab Relations.
- 2018** **June 2018**
The Africa Institute is established by Emiri Decree.
- 2023** **September 2023**
Global Studies University is established by Emiri Decree.
- 2025** **January 2025**
GSU is a Degree-Awarding Academic Institution (CAA Licensure).
February 2025
The inaugural MA cohort begins.
September 2025
The inaugural Ph.D. cohort begins.
- 2026** **January 2026**
Second Cohort of MA Students.
August 2026
Second Cohort of Ph.D. students.
December 2026
GSU celebrates its first graduating class.

At GSU, the World

is Your Campus



Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Programs

GSU's postgraduate programs bring together the humanities, social sciences, and non-Western language study through research-led teaching. Rigorous interdisciplinary training prepares students to engage critically with complex global questions and develop skills for academic, professional, and public-facing work.



Leadership in Global Research and Dialogue

GSU shapes new paradigms in global studies by fostering critical South-North conversations. Our academic networks and partnerships influence research agendas, policy, and cultural discourse worldwide.



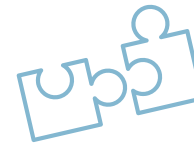
Sharjah as a Site of Inquiry

Located in the United Arab Emirates, Sharjah offers a rich setting for postgraduate study and research. Its museums, archives, libraries, cultural institutions, heritage sites, and public programs extend learning beyond the classroom, while its location between Africa, the Arab world, Asia, and the wider Indian Ocean world provides a distinctive setting for studying global connections.



International Faculty and Mentorship

Students learn with scholars whose research spans regions, disciplines, languages, and intellectual traditions. Through teaching, advising, and research mentorship, faculty support students as they develop their own questions, research interests, and areas of inquiry.



Language as Part of the Research Journey

Language learning is central to the GSU experience. Students study non-Western languages to support grounded research, regional knowledge, and deeper engagement with texts, communities, histories, and intellectual traditions.



Scholarships and Student-Centered Support

GSU offers scholarship opportunities alongside dedicated academic and professional support throughout the student journey. Through academic advising, career guidance, internship support, and personalized assistance, students are supported within a close postgraduate community as they develop their research, skills, and future pathways.

A Growing Global Postgraduate Community

GSU brings together MA and Ph.D. students from diverse regional, disciplinary, linguistic, and professional backgrounds, creating a postgraduate community shaped by exchange, collaboration, and shared inquiry.

33

Nationalities
represented

74

Postgraduate
students

50:50

Gender
balance

Academic Programs

Doctor of Philosophy in Global Studies

Overview

The five-year Ph.D. in Global Studies at Global Studies University prepares scholars to tackle the most pressing questions in the humanities and social sciences through interdisciplinary research and global perspectives. Students complete two years of coursework, followed by three years of dissertation research and writing, supported by expert faculty and extensive academic resources.

Program Highlights

Students pursue one of two interdisciplinary tracks:

Track 1: Cultural, Visual, and Literary Studies

- African Languages and Translation Studies
- History of Art, Visual Studies, and Performance Studies
- Literary and Cultural Studies

Track 2: Historical, Political, and Social Studies

- Historical Studies
- Social and Political Studies

Seven cross-cutting thematic fields enrich research across tracks: African-Arab Relations, Intellectual Thought in Global Studies, Diaspora Studies, Gender Studies, Political Economy, the Indian Ocean World, and the Muslim World.

Curriculum Structure

The program comprises 81 credit hours, combining advanced coursework, non-Western language study, comprehensive exam preparation, and original research. Students take foundational core courses, select interdisciplinary electives, and complete a dissertation, which is defended in a viva format.

Program Component	Credit Hours
Core courses	24
Language Courses (Amharic, Arabic, Hausa, or Kiswahili)	9
Elective courses	24
Readings for The A Exam	6
Doctoral Project	18
Total	81

Career Pathways

Ph.D. graduates are equipped to lead in academia, research institutes, cultural and heritage institutions, publishing, think tanks, consultancy, and international NGOs.

Career opportunities include faculty and postdoctoral positions, project leadership at research institutes, advisory roles in policy and governance, editorial and scholarly publishing work, heritage management in museums and archives, and global consultancy and advocacy.

Entry Requirements

Applicants must hold a bachelor's or master's degree in a relevant field within the humanities, social sciences, or arts from an accredited institution, with a minimum CGPA of 3.0 out of 4.0, or equivalent.

All programs are taught in English and offered full-time, on campus in Sharjah.

How to Apply

Learn more about admissions requirements, application steps, and how to apply for Fall 2027.



For questions or personalized guidance, contact admissions@gsu.ac.ae

Curriculum Overview

Core Courses (4 credits each)

- Globalization: History and the Rise of Capitalism
- Colonization and Decolonization
- Bi-weekly Seminar I & II: From Area Studies to Global Studies
- Theory and Method I & II
- Methods in the Social Sciences and Humanities: Summer Research Lab
- African and African Diaspora Intellectual Tradition/Critical Imagination

Elective Courses (4 credits each)

Students complete six electives and may design an individualized path within one track or across both, with approval from their advisor and the Director of Graduate Studies. Up to two electives may be taken outside the primary track.

Track 1: Cultural, Visual, and Literary Studies

- The Global 60s
- Global Africa, World Literature, and the Oceanic Imagination
- Translation Studies in/of Africa
- Basics in Performance Studies, Theory, and Method
- Performance Historiography
- Africa: A Crucible for Global Conceptual Innovation
- The Politics of Language and Education in Africa
- Special Topics in Global Studies

Track 2: Historical, Political, and Social Studies

- The Global 60s
- The State in Africa: An In-Depth Exploration
- The Body in African History
- Africa's International Relations
- State, International Society, and Empire
- Archaeology of Atlantic Africa and the African Diaspora
- Who Owns the Past? An Introduction to Heritage in Africa
- Special Topics in Global Studies

Academic Programs

Master of Arts in Global African Studies

Overview

The MA in Global African Studies is a two-year interdisciplinary graduate program designed to train critical thinkers and researchers in African and African diaspora studies. Offered by The Africa Institute, it is set within a region shaped by historical Afro-Arab exchange and global connections, combining academic rigor with cultural immersion and practical experience. Students join a dynamic intellectual community and benefit from mentorship by international scholars engaged in cutting-edge research.

Program Highlights

Students pursue one of three specialization tracks:

- Track 1:
Afro-Arab Relations
- Track 2:
Museum and Critical Heritage Studies
- Track 3:
Diplomacy and Africa's International Relations

Alongside their chosen specialization, students explore cross-cutting themes including diaspora studies, gender and feminist futures, the Indian Ocean world, and African thought in Muslim contexts.

Program Structure

Coursework is generally completed within the first three semesters. The fourth and final semester is dedicated to the internship and thesis.

Program Component	Credit Hours
Common Core courses	6
Specialization Core courses	18
Elective courses	6
Language courses	Pass/Fail
Internship	Pass/Fail
Thesis	6
Total	36

Career Pathways

Graduates may pursue careers in research, policy, diplomacy, museums and heritage, cultural institutions, publishing, international development, government, and the nonprofit sector. The program also provides a strong foundation for doctoral study and further academic research.

Entry Requirements

Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, with a minimum CGPA of 3.0 out of 4.0, or equivalent.

All programs are taught in English and offered full-time, on campus in Sharjah.

How to Apply

Learn more about admissions requirements, application steps, and how to apply for Fall 2027.



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Curriculum Overview

Core Courses

- Theory and Method I (3 credits)
- Theory and Method II (3 credits)
- Language Courses
- Internship
- Thesis (6 credits)

Track 1: Afro-Arab Relations

- Introduction to Afro-Arab Relations: From Ancient to Ottoman Era
- Comparative Slavery: Transatlantic and Indian Ocean Trades
- Comparative Apartheid/Settler Colonialism: The Case of Palestine and South Africa
- Casablanca Group and the Monrovia Group: The Formation of the OAU
- Africa in the World, Past, and Present
- State, International Society, and Empire

Track 2: Museum and Critical Heritage Studies

- Who Owns the Past? Politics and Heritage in Africa
- History and Theory of Museums
- Decolonizing Heritage
- Museum Collections Management and the Politics of Exhibitions
- Ethics, Archaeology and Heritage
- Museum Management and Heritage as a Career

Track 3: Diplomacy and Africa's International Relations

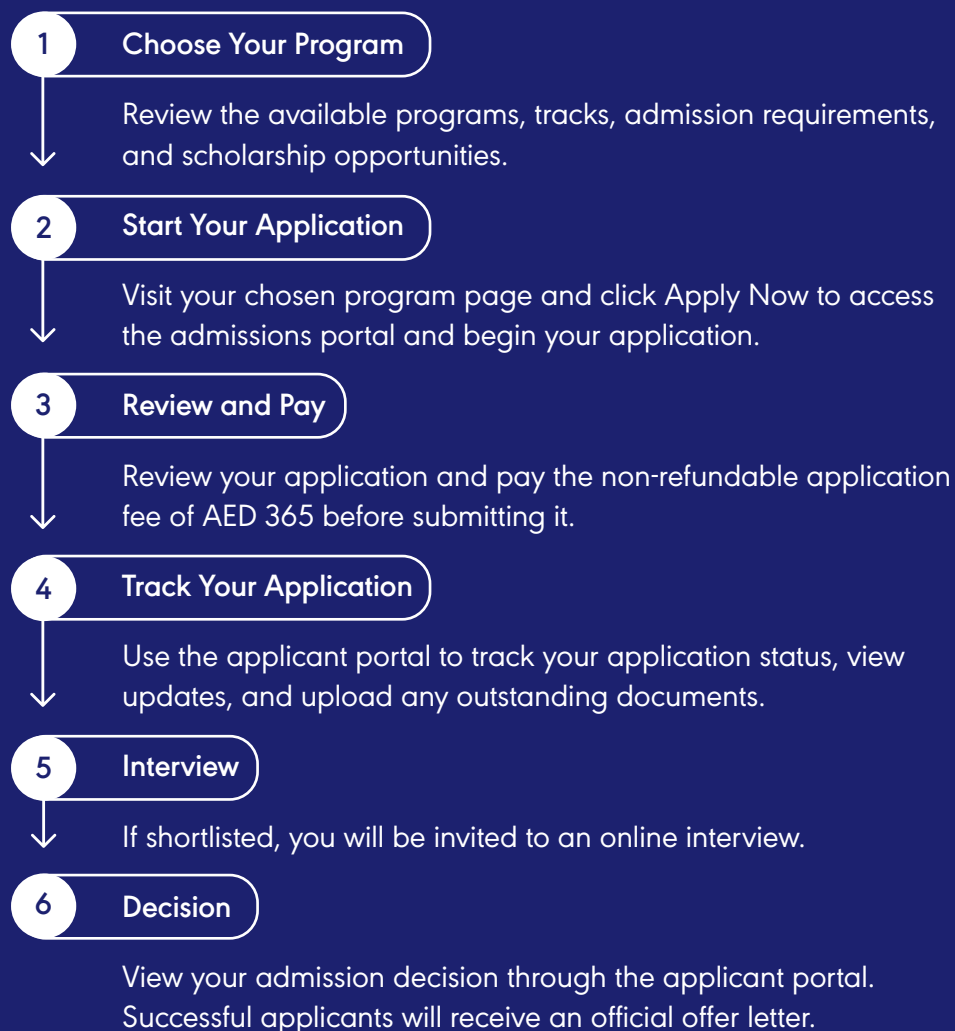
- Diplomacy Studies
- Advanced International Relations Theory
- Africa in the World, Past, and Present
- The Political Economy of Africa
- International Finance and Global Economic Governance
- State, International Society, and Empire

Elective Courses (3 credits each)

- Foreign Policy Analysis
- Social and Political Thought in Africa
- Government and Politics of Africa
- The State in Africa: An In-Depth Exploration

Take the next step at GSU

How to Apply



GSU is committed to a transparent and inclusive admissions process. All applications are assessed consistently against published program requirements.

General Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's or Master's degree with official transcripts (minimum CGPA 3.0 out of 4.0)
- Certificate of equivalency issued by the UAE Ministry of Education
- Recent CV/resume
- English proficiency test: Academic IELTS (minimum 6.5) or TOEFL iBT (minimum 91)
- Valid passport copy and passport-sized photo
- Statement of Interest and Research Statement
- Two Writing Samples
- Two recommendation letters required (academic or professional)

Scholarships and Financial Support*

GSU offers scholarships for outstanding graduate students (minimum CGPA 3.5 out of 4.0) who demonstrate academic excellence and potential. Benefits include:

- Full tuition coverage
- UAE visa and health insurance
- Airfare for international students
- Accommodation support
- Monthly stipend
- Research funds

* Terms and conditions apply.



Start Your Application Process

Visit our website for program details and application requirements.
gsu.ac.ae



Speak with an Admissions Advisor

Book a one-on-one online consultation for personalized guidance.
admissions@gsu.ac.ae | +971 6 511 2445

Experiential Learning Beyond the Classroom

At Global Studies University, learning extends beyond formal coursework. Students connect academic study with cultural institutions, collections, communities, and applied contexts through course-related activities and experiences.



Guest Lectures and Seminars

Courses and seminars are enriched by visiting scholars and practitioners who bring different disciplinary, regional, and professional perspectives into conversation with students and faculty.



Field-Based Learning

Students connect coursework and research with real-world contexts through visits to museums, archives, research centers, cultural organizations, public and diplomatic institutions, and community sites.



Research and Skills Workshops

Practical workshops strengthen skills in research, academic writing, languages, and creative practice, helping students apply relevant methods to their academic work and research development.

From Global Studies to Global Careers

The Office of Career Placement and Alumni Affairs supports postgraduate students as they connect academic study with professional development, practical experience, and career exploration.

Through advising, internship support, skills development, employer engagement, and institutional partnerships, students prepare for opportunities across cultural, educational, research, government, nonprofit, and related sectors.

Career Advising

Students receive guidance to identify their interests, explore career pathways, prepare applications, and plan their next steps.

Internships and Professional Experience

The Office supports students in identifying and preparing for internships that connect their academic interests with relevant organizations and professional settings.

Career Readiness Workshops

Workshops and activities strengthen skills in CV and application development, interview preparation, professional communication, networking, and workplace readiness.

Employer and Institutional Engagement

Engagement with employers and institutional partners creates opportunities for networking, career exploration, internships, and professional exchange.



Learn more about Career Placement, Internship, and Alumni Affairs.

A Campus Shaped by History

Global Studies University occupies the thoughtfully renovated former Khalid bin Mohammed School, a mid-1970s architectural landmark in Sharjah's Al Manakh neighborhood and part of the UAE's National Register of Modern Architectural Heritage.

The campus connects Sharjah's educational heritage with contemporary spaces for postgraduate study, research, collaboration, and public engagement.

Extending across more than 23,000 square meters, the campus brings together academic, cultural, recreational, and student spaces that support teaching, research, public programming, and campus life.



Campus Facilities:

- Classrooms and seminar rooms
- Library and archive rooms
- Student lounges and collaborative spaces
- Auditorium and exhibition spaces
- Café and University bookshop
- Outdoor sports and recreation facilities
- Separate prayer rooms
- Africa Hall, a historic venue for academic and public programmings



Explore campus facilities, student spaces, and learning environments at GSU.



Campus Life and Student Support

The Africa Institute offers a range of scholarly and creative fellowships in African and African diaspora studies, supporting research, writing, translation, and cultural engagement. Our program fosters a new generation of critical thinkers and shapes innovative models for research, teaching, and documentation.

Student Clubs and Initiatives

Students can participate in or propose clubs and activities based on shared academic, cultural, professional, and recreational interests.

Student Voice and Community

Student representatives provide a channel for students to contribute their perspectives to campus life. Peer support and mentoring help new students adjust to postgraduate study, connect with fellow students, and become part of the wider GSU community.

Sports and Recreation

Outdoor facilities provide opportunities for football, basketball, and informal recreation, with activities developing in response to student interests.

Student Support Services

Students have access to academic advising, registrar and administrative services, visa and equivalency guidance, career support, and health and wellbeing resources. Transportation guidance is also available, including scheduled shuttle services for students residing in designated student accommodation, subject to University arrangements.

Student Housing and Accommodation



At Global Studies University, we know that your surroundings influence your learning experience. Sharjah provides varied housing options, giving students the flexibility to find a home that matches their lifestyle and budget.

We also partner with trusted student residences, such as **Nest Campus**, a gender-segregated, purpose-built student accommodation just 12 km from campus and close to University City, offering a comfortable, secure, and community-oriented environment.



Accommodation Options: Private and shared occupancy



Benefits for Male and Female Residences

- Utilities and Wi-Fi included
- Student app for easy management
- Transportation services
- Housekeeping and laundry facilities
- Maintenance support
- 24/7 security with face recognition check-in/out
- 24/7 student support
- Furnished rooms with kitchen appliances

Campus and Recreation Facilities

- Basement parking
- Female/male swimming pools
- Study rooms and library
- Gaming room, art studio, music studio
- Basketball court, running track, biking track, Yalla bike rentals
- Female/male gyms
- Accessible facilities for People of Determination

Hear from Our Students



"The program supports both creative and professional work, offering practical and inspiring insights. It has transformed my approach to projects, problem-solving, and personal growth."

Sultan Alhussain Alhammadi, Ph.D. in Global Studies, Historical, Political, and Social Studies Track

"Being part of a student body with aligned drives and divergent interests has kindled collaborations I did not anticipate, and a sense of belonging that extends beyond the classroom."

Sarah Abdu Bushra, MA in Global African Studies, Museum and Critical Heritage Studies Track



"Faculty expertise and support provide clear guidance, while the Arabic language program builds confidence and proficiency. The campus, with its blend of heritage and modernity, creates an inspiring environment for learning."

Lubacha Deus, MA in Global African Studies, Afro-Arab Relations Track

"The faculty combine strong academic expertise with genuine mentorship, creating an environment that encourages critical thinking and meaningful dialogue."

Mark Wanyonyi, MA in Global African Studies, Diplomacy and Africa's International Relations Track



"GSU's atmosphere is built on genuine connection and support. From the moment I arrived, it felt like stepping into a community where collaboration comes naturally."

Sheila Chaila, MA in Global African Studies, Museum and Critical Heritage Studies Track



"In a short time, I've grown as a reader more than ever before. The diverse readings, especially from African and Asian scholars, gave me a new appreciation for global perspectives and their contributions."

Nasra Dahir Mohamed, Ph.D. in Global Studies, Cultural, Visual, and Literary Studies Track



"What's unique about the program is the opportunity to learn a new language in a friendly and collaborative environment. The professors and staff provide guidance while balancing practical and theoretical knowledge."

Nouf AlJahdhami, MA in Global African Studies, Museum and Critical Heritage Studies Track

Scholarly and Cultural Programming

GSU hosts a year-round public program of lectures, symposia, exhibitions, performances, film screenings, talks, and country-focused seasons. Open to the University community and the wider public, the program brings audiences into conversation with researchers, artists, writers, filmmakers, curators, and practitioners from around the world.



Country-Focused Seasons:

Programs exploring the histories, cultures, intellectual traditions, and contemporary questions of selected countries and regions.



Exhibitions:

Curated exhibitions bringing together research, visual culture, archives, and histories.



Scholarly Conferences and Symposia:

Gatherings of scholars, researchers, and practitioners addressing significant themes and debates.



Film Screening + Talks:

Screenings accompanied by discussions with filmmakers, scholars, artists, and practitioners.



Performances:

Music and performance presented in dialogue with scholarship and cultural exchange.



Talks and Conversations:

Public talks and conversations with scholars, writers, artists, and invited guests exploring questions across the humanities and social sciences.

Fellowships

Through The Africa Institute, GSU offers fellowships for scholars, writers, artists, translators, and practitioners from around the world. The programs support research, writing, translation, and creative practice in African and African diaspora studies. Fellows contribute to the University's intellectual and public life through lectures, seminars, workshops, and cultural programs.

Senior and Postdoctoral Fellowships

Senior Fellowships

One Year Residencies

- **Toni Morrison Senior Fellowship in African Diaspora Literature and Cultural Studies**
Honoring the late Toni Morrison, this fellowship supports senior scholars whose work advances literature, cultural studies, and critical theory.
- **Ali A. Mazrui Senior Fellowship in Global African Studies**
Named for Professor Ali A. Mazrui, this fellowship supports senior researchers exploring African and African diaspora studies across social sciences and humanities.

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Two Year Residencies

- **Okwui Enwezor Postdoctoral Fellowship in Visual Culture, Performance Studies, and Critical Humanities**
Supports emerging scholars in visual and performance studies, art history, and critical humanities.
- **Fatema Mernissi Postdoctoral Fellowship in Social and Cultural Studies**
Supports research in gender, feminism, sociopolitical change, and cultural studies, honoring the legacy of Professor Fatema Mernissi.



Tejumola Olaniyan Creative Writers-in-Residence Fellowship

A three-month residency in Sharjah, UAE, honoring the late Nigerian scholar Tejumola Olaniyan. Open to novelists, playwrights, poets, and scriptwriters exploring Africa and its diaspora, with projects in Arabic, English, or other languages.

Global Africa Translation Fellowship

A non-residential fellowship supporting translations of African and African Diaspora texts into English, Arabic, or other languages, making these works accessible to a global readership.



How to Apply

View current open calls, eligibility requirements, and application deadlines. For questions or assistance, contact:

applications@theafricainstitute.org

Language Program

Overview

Global Studies University offers community courses in Arabic, Amharic, Hausa, and Kiswahili for non-native learners. Designed for professionals, researchers, and members of the wider community, the program develops practical communication skills and cultural understanding for professional, academic, travel, and personal contexts.

Program at a Glance*

Languages	Arabic Amharic Hausa Kiswahili
Levels	Elementary Intermediate Advanced
Course length	72 hours per full level, delivered in two 36-hour parts
Schedule	Two 90-minute sessions per week
Format	Online and hybrid options
Placement tests	Available for Intermediate and Advanced levels
Certificate	Awarded upon successful completion of the full level

*Course availability, delivery formats, and schedules may vary by term.

Who Is the Program For?

- Researchers and members of the wider academic community
- Diplomats, embassy personnel, and professionals working in international organizations
- Professionals working in translation, education, heritage, tourism, business, and public service
- Learners developing language skills for travel and cultural engagement
- Anyone interested in learning a new language for personal enrichment

How You Will Learn

Courses use Communicative Language Teaching, a learner-centered approach that develops speaking, listening, reading, and writing through interaction and practical language use. Lessons incorporate conversation, structured activities, multimedia, and culturally grounded materials.



What You Will Develop?

Depending on their course and level, learners develop the ability to:

- Communicate in everyday, academic, or professional situations appropriate to their level
- Understand and produce spoken and written language with increasing confidence
- Apply vocabulary and grammatical structures in meaningful contexts
- Engage more deeply with the communities and cultural traditions connected to the language

Certification and Licensing

Participants receive a certificate from Global Studies University upon successful completion of both parts of a full level. The community Language Program is licensed by the Sharjah Private Education Authority.



Explore Courses and Enroll
View course details, registration information, and placement test guidance. For support, contact languages@gsu.ac.ae.

Our Publications and Campus Bookshop

GSU publishes a growing collection of books, journals, and series in Arabic and English, alongside translated works that support teaching, research, library holdings, and archival collections.

Through collaborations with external publishers, the University expands knowledge sharing across disciplines, regions, and intellectual traditions.

Visit Meroë, GSU's campus bookshop, to browse publications, collaborative titles, selected university merchandise, and works that reflect original research and critical perspectives across global studies.

مروية
meroeë

Learn more about our
bookshop and the story
behind its name.



Learn and Live in Sharjah



Ranked #2 Safest Country in the World

The UAE offers a secure and welcoming environment for students from across the globe.

(Numbeo Safety Index, 2025)

Strategically Located in the Arab World

Sharjah is a crossroads for cultural and academic exchange, connecting Africa, the Middle East, and beyond, and offering students rich opportunities for engagement and learning.

Third Largest Emirate in the UAE

Spanning 2,590 sq km, Sharjah balances modern development with expansive natural landscapes.

Cultural Capital of the Islamic World

Sharjah, recognized by UNESCO as World Book Capital and Arab Capital of Culture, recently added the Faya palaeolandscape as its first UNESCO World Heritage site, alongside six sites designated by ICESCO.

Diverse and Inclusive Community

Home to over 200 nationalities, Sharjah fosters intercultural dialogue, global connections, and a thriving student community. With its rich mix of languages, cuisines, and cultures, the city is rapidly emerging as a world-class destination for students

(Ranked among the Top 60 Best Student Cities, QS 2024).

A Hub of Museums and Cultural Institutions

Home to more than 20 museums, thriving art galleries, and traditional souqs, Sharjah offers abundant opportunities for cultural engagement and academic enrichment.

Natural Beauty and Scenic Surroundings

From mountains and nature reserves to pristine beaches and waterfronts, Sharjah's scenic landscapes provide students with countless opportunities for exploration and relaxation.

Easy Accessibility for Students and Scholars

Sharjah is well-connected to other emirates, with major airports nearby and convenient public transport links, allowing students and scholars to explore and experience the region with ease.

Inaugural Graduation

In December 2026, Global Studies University will hold its inaugural graduation ceremony, honoring the Class of 2026, the first cohort of the MA in Global African Studies. The occasion will mark a defining moment in the University's history.



Get in Touch

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday,
8:30 am-5:30 pm

Visit Us

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Al Manakh, Sharjah
United Arab Emirates

Office of Admissions

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Disclaimer: All information in this brochure is accurate at the time of printing (September 2026).

Accreditation and Licensure: Global Studies University is institutionally licensed and accredited by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA), UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MoHESR).



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION
& SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH



مجلس اعتماد الأكاديمية
Commission for Academic Accreditation