
1. YOUR FIRST WEEK AT MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY DUBAI

WELCOME TO MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY DUBAI

Congratulations on choosing to study at Middlesex University Dubai! It is a great pleasure to welcome you to our campus.

Making the decision to pursue university studies is an important milestone in your life. We realize that you are making a big commitment to your future, and we want to help you to be as successful as you can.

I hope you feel that you are not only joining Middlesex University Dubai, but the much wider Middlesex family which includes a state-of-the-art campus in the heart of London, plus 3 overseas campuses around the world. As a truly a global University, we are committed to meeting the needs and ambitions of a culturally and internationally diverse range of students. We prepare our students to be professional, skilled individuals fitted for the modern world, committed to lifelong learning and able to contribute to the communities in which they live and work.



You are joining Middlesex University's oldest and largest overseas campus. Middlesex University Dubai was opened in 2005 with just 28 students. There are now nearly 3,500 students from over 100 countries studying in Dubai. The success of the Dubai campus reflects the ongoing growth and development of Middlesex University as a whole.

At Middlesex Dubai, my colleagues will endeavour to ensure that you get top-class academic delivery and an outstanding student experience which will transform your potential into success. We provide practical employability support to our students, graduates and alumni. Your well-rounded student journey will ensure that you succeed in a competitive job market. By offering a variety of co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities, we help you improve your employability skills and give you the help that you need.

I am proud that Middlesex University Dubai is a leading university of choice for students like you because we strive to put students first and focus our research on real-world challenges.

Finally, I ask you to take advantage of all that we have to offer, so that you have a truly successful student experience at Middlesex University Dubai.

Dr Cedwyn Fernandes
Pro-Vice Chancellor, Middlesex University
Director, Middlesex University Dubai

1.1 Induction

New students, especially those who are coming to Dubai for the first time, may find that the laws and customs of the United Arab Emirates are very different to those in their home countries. We advise all students and staff members to become familiar with them and ensure they are respected. In the UAE, there may be serious penalties for doing something that might not be illegal elsewhere. You are strongly advised to familiarise yourself with and respect local laws and customs. The UK Government's website offers some helpful advice on its website at www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/united-arab-emirates/local-laws-and-customs regarding local laws and customs along with more detailed '**Living in the United Arab Emirates**' guidance available at www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-the-united-arab-emirates.

At all times, students must also ensure full compliance with the laws of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). This includes the regulatory framework of the Dubai Government's Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA), Dubai Development Authority (DDA) and all other applicable federal or Emirate-level laws.

During your first weeks at Middlesex, you will participate in a range of events designed to introduce you to the campus, the faculty, the student sports and cultural activities, specialist teaching spaces, the Library, and all the other facilities and services available to you.

Induction

The first event, called 'Induction', offers an introduction to the university, an opportunity to complete all administrative enrolment requirements and an overview of student activities. You will meet the Director and get the chance to take a Campus Tour to familiarize yourself with the Campus.

Make sure you arrive punctually and bring with you what is required. This normally includes your Offer of Admission and other items mentioned in your Induction invitation (sent via email). Please check the date, time and room number of where you need to be on your first day before you arrive. This information will be provided in the Induction invitation and is available through the Admissions Office.

Although the term 'Induction' is often used, do not expect to become completely familiar with the university in just a few sessions. See this more as an essential event which tries to introduce you to life at Middlesex University and what is offered to you in order to make the most of your student experience here. Quite often it takes a number of weeks or even months to feel settled into university life and to become aware of the various opportunities the university offers.

Week of Welcome

Week of Welcome is the first week of the academic year. In the course of this week you will meet your Campus Programme Coordinator, who will provide you with an overview of your programme of study and its special features, such as competitions, labs, events, assessments

etc. You will also meet other academic staff members, who will give you an orientation to your different modules, as well as fellow students. Furthermore, you will be introduced to the services that are here to help you, such as the Library, the Centre of Academic Success (CAS) and the Careers and Employability Services. You will get to meet representatives of the sports and cultural activities clubs and sign up to the ones of interest to you. The Week of Welcome will be filled with fun activities, presentations, quizzes and cultural awareness events.

The schedule follows your programme's timetable and depends on the programme you are studying. Please make sure that you arrive punctually at the lecture classroom indicated in your timetable. You will be notified by email for additional activities organised and available to your cohort.

Induction and Week of Welcome Checklist

By the end of your first week, you should have:

- Had a campus tour.
- Met your Programme Coordinator, and noted the names of all your Module Coordinators.
- Fully enrolled – by enrolling on MyUniHub. See a useful video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nw1Bril-XDM> or contact our Student Office.
- Paid any fees due. See 'Student Finance Guidelines' in this guide.
- Picked up your Student Identity Card. Gained access to your Programme Handbook.
- Logged on to MyUniHub to check your modules.
- Logged onto your Middlesex University email account.
- Updated your mobile phone number(s) on MyUniHub so that we can keep in touch with you.
- Registered with the Library. This will allow you to access extensive resources.
- Registered with the Careers and Employability Service (CES).
- Met with the Student Activities and Sports & Fitness Coordinators, to find out how you can attend social events to meet new people and sign up for a sport or a fitness programme.
- Validated your UAE Emirates ID card.
- Signed the KHDA Student Contract.

1.2 Late Starters

Some of you may have to join Middlesex later than the usual date and therefore have missed all of the induction and welcome events. If this is the case it is possible for the university to help you get up to speed. If you miss the first day of your programme induction, it is important that you act promptly. Contact the Student Office as soon as possible and they will help you catch up with what you have missed. You will be given a check list at the same time to ensure you catch up with the bits that you have missed out on.

1.3 Medical History Information

Newly enrolled students must complete a medical history form that is kept on file in the Student Office. If you have a medical condition or disability that may require care or may restrict your campus activities, please submit a letter from your family physician describing your condition and providing instructions for care to the Student Office.

1.4 UAE Emirates ID Validation

The Dubai Government's Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) mandates that all higher education institutions including Middlesex University Dubai validate the Emirates Identity (ID) Card for all students studying within the Emirate of Dubai.

You need to bring your original **Emirates ID Card** and your **Middlesex University Student ID** to complete the validation process. Please note that we need the physical Emirates ID card, in order for them to be validated with the KHDA. This will be returned on the spot, as soon as they are read via the KHDA's E-Portal system.

The validation of your Emirates ID card is vital for your student records. In case you do not validate your Emirates ID card in a timely manner, we will have to report to the KHDA and this could have implications on your enrolment.

1.5 KHDA Student Contract

The Dubai Government's Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) mandates that all higher education institutions, including Middlesex University Dubai, ensure that a Student Contract is signed by all enrolled students. It ensures that both Universities and Students are aware of their duties and responsibilities towards each other and towards the KHDA. You need to bring your original Middlesex University Student ID to sign the Student Contract. Once completed, the contract will be provided to the KHDA via their E-Portal system.

The KHDA Student Contract is vital for your student records. In case you do not submit a signed KHDA Student Contract in a timely manner, we will have to report this to the KHDA and this could have implications on your enrolment.