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## 13. STUDENT LIFE

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## 13.1. HUB19

HUB19 is the latest addition to the recreational spaces and facilities we offer to all our students. Located on the Ground Floor of Block 19 in Knowledge Park, this large space offers well-equipped dedicated rooms for:

- Computer Gaming
- Indoor Games – Snooker, Table Tennis
- Dance Studio
- Music Room
- Board games – this is temporarily unavailable
- Student Clubs' meeting room – this is temporarily unavailable

Due to COVID-19 restrictions only Student Lounge is available for the students. In the second semester we allowed Dance room to be used as Student Lounge for the moment. Other recreation rooms based in HUB19 premises will be temporarily unavailable. In order to promote social distancing, Music Room and Dance Studio **must** be reserved online. Please check our website for the latest updates on COVID-19.

### Opening timings for HUB19 (during teaching terms):

Sunday - Thursday	8.00 am – 5.00 pm
Friday - Saturday	Closed

The range of 'board games', such as Chess, Monopoly, Pictionary, Carom, as well PlayStation, are temporarily unavailable. Please check our website for the latest updates on COVID-19.

HUB19 and the Postgraduate (PG) Lounge have been created exclusively for Middlesex University Dubai students. External visitors are not allowed in these premises. The PG Lounge is for use by postgraduate (enrolled) students only. Your Middlesex University Dubai Student ID Card **must** be presented upon entry in to HUB19. Electronic gates have been installed in HUB19 where students have to tap their Student ID card before entering. When a student receives his/hers Student ID card, IT department has to verify the card and this would enable students to enter HUB19. **Failure to provide the Student ID card will result in no entry.**

To ensure student safety, the lounges are equipped with CCTV system.

It is the responsibility of every student to keep the lounges neat, clean and orderly at all times.

Please be courteous to fellow-students; always rearrange the chairs, tables and couches back to their original positions after you are done using them.

Personal belongings should always be kept in the owners' possession. Students should ensure they have collected all their objects at the time of exiting the student lounges (even if exiting temporarily).

The University will not be liable towards misplaced or lost items.

## 13.2. Code of Conduct in the Student Lounges

For details, please refer to Section 15.4, Appendix A2

## 13.3. Team Middlesex

Students can get the most out of their University life by joining one of the active sports male and female teams or student art, social, sport, music, charitable activity clubs. You can improve your leadership, project management and communication skills by becoming a volunteer or organiser for one of many on-campus events. **This year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, a lot of these activities are not being organised or are put on hold. Please check our website for the latest updates on COVID-19.**

The Student Activities offices are located in Block 19, on the Ground Floor. For sports teams and training opportunities, contact our Assistant Manager Student Activities Sports, Mr Slavko Micanovic (phone: 04 374 8447, email: [S.Micanovic@mdx.ac.ae](mailto:S.Micanovic@mdx.ac.ae)).

To join a Social Club and or for any other extra-curricular activity contact the Assistant Manager Student Activities Cultural, Ms Selma Cengic (phone: 04-446 1247, email: [S.cengic@mdx.ac.ae](mailto:S.cengic@mdx.ac.ae)). Keep an eye out for try-outs, event announcements via Student Activities notice boards across the campus, through student emails, the **Student Life** page on the University's website and the University's Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/MiddlesexDubai/](https://www.facebook.com/MiddlesexDubai/)

We have introduced an official Instagram account for events announcements, showcasing student university experience on campus. Students can visit Instagram account @wearemdx: <https://www.instagram.com/wearemdx/>

Despite all restrictions due to pandemic we continued to organize virtual events. We started the Academic year 2020-2021 with Virtual Week of welcome where we had five (5) days of ice-breaker activities, challenges, quizzes, sport sessions and winners. More than 500 attendees joined our first virtual event for this year, approximately 80 per day. More than 2000 students registered for sports and social clubs and every day the number was increasing. We continued with virtual events celebrating UN International days from World Tourism Day, International Day of Peace, debates conducted by Fearless club, poetry writing monthly competitions, dance workshops, masterclasses and many more. We had five days of introduction to IFP students in the second week of October, covering one of their classes and involving them in discussions in order for them to meet their classmates. All events were conducted online and we tried to not stop enhancing student experience.

## Week of Welcome

To celebrate the start of the new academic year and make new friends, we organize a series of fun and interactive activities for all students. From singing, to flash mob, DJ music, games, movie screening and treasure hunt. This is a week-long event where new and returning students can also register for sport and social clubs. **This year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, a lot of these activities are not being organised.**

## Fresher's Party

To welcome new students and to celebrate new academic year, we usually organize Fresher's party for all new students to encourage them to make new friends and have fun. **This year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Fresher's party has been put on hold.**

## Red Beat Magazine

Student Magazine is created by PR & Advertising Club. The magazine highlights upcoming events, student experiences and current topics in the university. This magazine is created by the students for the students. Our online student magazine published more than 40 articles written by MDX students. We organized an exclusive webinar with Bloomberg representatives hosted by one of our lecturers and Public Eye coordinators. You can find more details on: <https://www.mdx.ac.ae/teammiddlesex>.

## Community Events

### Blood Donation Campaigns

Every year Middlesex University Dubai hosts two successful blood donation events on campus for the Latifa (Children's) Hospital in Dubai, one in each semester. The goal is to continue assisting their team and patients in this drive and host two more campaigns each year. Blood Donors Cards from Dubai Health Authorities are issued to all student donors. **This year due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event has been put on hold.**

### Breast Cancer Awareness

These two important awareness days are observed together through a vast array of events: quizzes, seminars, free check-ups, merchandise sales for a selected agency supporting free cancer screening tests in UAE for underprivileged women. **This year due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event has been put on hold.**

### World Food Day

This United Nations' awareness day reminds us of the difficulties of food supplies in some impoverished parts of the planet. Our Club Impact and Culinary Clubs enthusiasts create a great day, filled with providing knowledge on highlighting this growing issue. At the same time, they provide a home-made culinary experience for our international students to create a feeling of "home away from home". **This year due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event has been put on hold.**

## International Day

During the Autumn term, Middlesex University Dubai hosts an International Day. It is a day full of events, performances, food exhibitions and parade with stalls representing each participating country, offering food, souvenirs, leaflets and information on each country – by MDX students for MDX students and staff members and others! Be proud and educate your fellow students and staff members about the intricacies of your cultures and traditions! Parade of Nations, music and dance entertainment is on the Main Stage as well. **This year due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event has been put on hold.**

## Health Day

Students Activities with Events Club and Students Council organise this important, fun-filled and informative day on Campus every April. Doctors, beauticians, nutritionists are invited each year to educate us more on the hazards of smoking, bad food choices and consequences they carry. A number of prestigious healthy food manufacturers sponsor this Day each year, so students sample healthy food throughout the day, as well as personal hygiene and quality skincare products for young adults. **This year due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event has been put on hold.**

There are many more exciting events and drives organised by Student Clubs. To stay informed on the upcoming events, please read the Notice-boards, check information on the website ([www.mdx.ac.ae/contact-us/events-list](http://www.mdx.ac.ae/contact-us/events-list)) and your emails or simply contact the Assistant Manager Students Activities Cultural, Ms Selma Cengic (phone: 04-374 8983, email: [S.cengic@mdx.ac.ae](mailto:S.cengic@mdx.ac.ae)).

## Youth Festival ('YF')

Every year, after a packed calendar of events and tournaments, the University organises the largest student event – the Youth Festival. There is a week-long schedule of competitions in more than 30 categories, from singing, art and writing, to cricket, football, running and fashion show leading up to a grand finale and a glittering awards ceremony. **This year due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event has been put on hold.**

This event is an excellent platform for students to showcase their talents. Under the guidance of Student Activities Office and other staff members, this event is entirely organised, coordinated and managed by students. Judges and referees in the competitions are leading professionals, prominent members of Dubai's social and professional circles, magazine editors and so on.

We welcome students to propose competition categories as well to participate in various competitions. If this looks like “too much lime-light” for some of you, please join the army of much needed volunteers – the true heroes of this event. We can assure you that you will learning and practice a range of skills from leadership to teamwork and make more friends than you can ever imagine.

## 13.4. Sports

The University encourages our students to be active in sports. Apart from athletics, the University's football, volleyball, basketball, badminton, cricket, table tennis, martial arts and rugby teams achieved amazing results and have won numerous trophies and over 90 medals. Our individual students' performance made a true impact on the domestic inter-college scene last year. If you wish to be active in one or more of the sports mentioned above, please contact our Assistant Manager Student Activities Sports, Mr Slavko Micanovic (phone: 04 374 8447, email: [S.Micanovic@mdx.ac.ae](mailto:S.Micanovic@mdx.ac.ae)) or visit him at our Activities' office in HUB19, located in Block 19 on the Ground Floor. **However, this year due to COVID-19 restrictions, all sports activities have been put on hold. Please check our website for the latest updates on COVID-19.**

While we are waiting for permission from the government authorities & the KHDA to resume all sports activities, we are providing live fitness training with our Senior Sports & Fitness Coordinator, Mr Sasa Obradovic, popularly known as Coach Sasa. These sessions are offered three times per week and pre-recorded exercises were posted on our social media and sent via email for those students who couldn't attend.

"My MDX Hour Fitness Challenge" engaged staff and students to stay active as much as they could. This was also supplemented by green challenge, sand challenge, swim challenge and cycling challenge.

Representing the University in sports is a lot of fun but it is a privilege as well. Although we greet all students to actively participate and practice to keep fit, positions in the first teams will be reserved for students who:

- Successfully maintain the good academic standing, with no Fail grades throughout the year.
- Regularly attend university classes, as well as ALL practice sessions for sports.
- Follow and promote the "No Smoking" policy of our university.

### Men's Football

The male football team is the oldest and most popular sports team on Campus, existing since 2006 and attracting over 80 enthusiasts each year. In normal circumstances, Middlesex students from every continent meet three times per week to train on a professional ground, under the watchful eyes of two skilled coaches, always eager to teach the new fitness levels, tactics and tricks. Football team finished 2018-2019 season with three gold and two silver trophies and confirm its domination amongst Dubai universities. However, this year due to COVID-19 restrictions, all sports activities have been put on hold.

### Women's Football

The academic year 2019-20 was a brilliant year for the women's football team. They managed to win two Gold Cups last year! Coached by a wonderful and enthusiastic coach and a footballer himself, the women's team is going from strength to strength, learning the skills, always with a

smile! However, this year due to COVID-19 restrictions, all sports activities have been put on hold.

### **Basketball and Athletics - Men and Women**

Middlesex Basketball and Athletics teams and individuals have made an amazing impact on the Dubai amateur sports scene since 2012. In the academic year 2019-20, men and women have had brilliant results. Apart from winning the 2nd place in prestigious DIAC cup, for both men and women, teams also won five trophies. Like every year, Team Middlesex is all game for entering and achieving at marathons on national and international levels. Last season we participated in the Dubai Standard Chartered Marathon, RAK Half marathon, Al Qasba Run – WINNERS, Dubai Nike Run, Dubai Athletics League and winning five trophies and 82 medals in 2018-2019 race season.

Trials for all our sports teams, which are usually held in the first two weeks of the new academic year, have been put on hold due to COVID-19 restrictions.

### **Notes on Student Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities**

As participants of an extra-curricular activities associated with Middlesex University Dubai, students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which demonstrates respect for the University, its staff and peers, while maintaining sensible and good behaviour at all times. At the same time students should be aware that participating in extra-curricular events and activities carries the risk of personal injury, property damage or other losses.

While we will make reasonable efforts to ensure that extra-curricular events are organised in a safe and secure manner, the University, its officers, agents and employees shall not be liable for any loss, damage, injury or other negative consequences that may result from your participation in such events. As a participant in such events and activities, students are expected to comply with guidelines set by event organisers alongside the University's policies, rules and regulations. You should also be aware that the University may not be able to provide additional insurance coverage for personal health, automotive, and property or accident damages for such extra-curricular events and activities. In case of the occurrence of any unfortunate incidents, participants may become responsible for their own personal medical costs or personal property losses incurred.

### **Use of Student Images in University Extra-Curricular Activities**

All students who participate in activities or events organised by the University, or any of its Sports Clubs or Social Clubs are granting permission for the University to take photographs/video of them while participating in extra-curricular activities such as sports events or social activities. These photos and/or videos may be used in ways that include, but are not limited to: promotional materials, media coverage, or any other medium deemed appropriate by the University. If you have any concerns or queries in this regard, please speak of a staff member in Student Activities.

## 13.5. Student Volunteer Programme Guidelines

### Introduction

Middlesex University Dubai recognises the contributions that Volunteers and Unpaid Interns make in fulfilling its mission of education. This document provides general guidance concerning Volunteers and Unpaid Interns.

### Definition and Scope

#### MDX-Dubai Volunteering Programme

The programme is designed to help students gain experience and develop transferrable soft skills. We hope to provide students with opportunities outside of the classroom that enhance their student experience, contribute to making them all-rounders, provide a space for networking, and hope to help them prepare for the workforce. Students can earn work experience by participating in this programme.

These Guidelines applies to all Middlesex University Dubai students (IFP, UG and PG). Students who are under 18 years of age can volunteer only with parental consent.

#### Who is a volunteer?

A volunteer is any person who willingly offers his/her services for Volunteering Activity, under no duress or any coercion

- without any expectation of monetary compensation or subsequent employment,
- typically, on a part-time basis,
- without displacing employees or performing work that would otherwise be performed by employees.

### Benefits of The Programme

Volunteering allows students the opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills in a professional setting while still in the University. It promotes a sense of responsibility among community members and instils a volunteering culture in the students. This encourages a positive engagement in various activities that benefit the community. Students can utilise their leisure time for serving the community through Volunteering.

#### Benefits to Students

- Gain career-related experience
- Gain practical knowledge from the workings of the Department
- Opportunity to explore different career routes
- Work experience obtained from Volunteering will be valuable inputs for their resumes
- Increased self-confidence and improvement in communication skills
- Creates a sense of responsibility for the community

- Offers a networking opportunity for students

#### Benefits to the University Departments

- Immediate assistance and support in the implementation of projects
- Students provide fresh ideas and opportunities from a student perspective
- Students bring enthusiasm and desire to learn, which in turn energising the workplace
- This creates more awareness and understanding about the Department that is hiring the volunteers or unpaid interns

#### Selection Process of Volunteers

- Our Student Activities team, welcomes students to become part of 'Team Middlesex' if students are looking to join a sports team, social club, or if they want to get involved in volunteering initiatives across the campus. Students can register via the online form on <https://www.mdx.ac.ae/team-mdx-connect>.
- Updates on the upcoming events are also shared on the Instagram page @wearemdx and on the University website.
- The Student Activities Department will maintain a database of students who register for the Volunteering opportunity.
- The database will be updated periodically with details of the students' volunteering activities and the number of hours volunteered.
- Prior to any event/volunteering activity, the Student Activities team will share the information with students who have registered. Students who are interested in the event/volunteering activity should contact the Students Activities team. Selection of the volunteers will be at the discretion of the Student Activities Department.
- Once the selection has been made, Student Activities Team will send a confirmation email to the selected students, outlining the details of the volunteering activity.
- The selected volunteers will then be informed about their roles and responsibilities by the concerned Department. The Department will also give a full briefing to the volunteers. Each event is different and volunteers are required to attend an event briefing session.
- At every event, attendance will be taken, and the number of hours clocked in by students will be recorded.

#### Types of Volunteering Activities

- All Volunteering Activity in the University is unpaid.
- All Volunteering Activities will be managed by the Students Activities Department. Only those students who have registered will be allotted a Volunteering Activity or Event.
- Volunteering Activity involves any events or activities organised on the campus or outside by the University for the students.
- Volunteers will assist and help other Departments with their activities/events. Types of volunteering activities will include marketing, academic, organisational, event management, student engagement programmes etc.

- Any Administrative or Academic Department of the University can ask for student volunteers.

## Requirements and Responsibilities

### Responsibilities in Volunteering Activities:

- Should be dedicated and hardworking
- Must take on the responsibility and strive to complete the tasks allotted to them
- Follow the Policies and Procedures of the University
- Be punctual, and work the required number of hours as agreed
- Notify their supervisor if they are unable to attend as planned
- Behave and dress appropriately, as per the work culture of the University
- Respect the confidentiality of the workplace and the Department
- Have an open discussion with the supervisor about any problems faced

### Requirements from Student Volunteers:

- All volunteers are expected to follow Campus Guidelines and Rules and Regulations of the University, and the Laws of the UAE, including but not limited to health & safety guidelines, confidentiality, intellectual property, computer use policy, non-discrimination, non-violence, social media policy, etc.
- There is a ZERO TOLERANCE for misconduct and breaches of the University Rules or Regulations. Consequently, students who fail to comply with University Regulations will be removed and will not be able to volunteer directly with any club, Department, or in any University related event.
- Volunteers are always expected to be polite, energetic, presentable and approachable.
- Volunteers should not engage in any volunteering activity during their class timings.

## Request for Volunteers from Departments

- The Administrative or Academic Departments wishing to recruit student volunteers should make a request to the Student Activities Department.
- An email should be sent to [studentactivities@mdx.ac.ae](mailto:studentactivities@mdx.ac.ae) with requirements (number of the volunteers, date, time, location and short description of the job role).
- Student Activities will then send out a request form to be filled out by the concerned Department.
- Upon receipt of the request form, the Student Activities Department will forward a shortlist of volunteers to the concerned Department.
- The Department will then select volunteers based on their requirements. It is the Department's responsibility to train the student volunteers about the job requirements and outline their expectations from the student volunteers.
- Once the task has been completed, a feedback report about the student volunteers should be sent to the Student Activities.