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NYU Abu Dhabi is the first of its kind—a highly selective liberal arts and science college with engineering located outside of the United States, which builds on the benefits of being a part of a leading global research university, New York University.

From its start in 1831, NYU has set itself apart from many other colleges and universities by its mission—to make a superb education available to all people with the ability and desire to learn and succeed, to link the liberal arts and sciences to real-life experience, and to create a university that would draw strength from both its city and the wider world. NYU Abu Dhabi is the latest evidence that this vision has been realized.

As an NYU Abu Dhabi student, you will participate in a truly global undergraduate experience. Your classmates will be among the most diverse, intellectually passionate, and globally conscious students anywhere. Your faculty members are active creators of knowledge at the frontiers of their disciplines and, at the same time, exceptional teachers devoted to your intellectual progress and personal growth. The curriculum is broad, innovative, and challenging. Your course work will empower you to develop the knowledge and skills to thrive in whatever career you choose and to continue to learn on your own.

Along the way, you will discover exciting opportunities for independent research and scholarship, continuing intellectual and cultural enrichment, preprofessional internships, community service, and regional and international travel. You will graduate from NYU Abu Dhabi prepared with the skills and habits of mind needed and expected in global work environments, ready to become the person you want to become and to make the difference you want to make in the global community. If this is the educational experience you have been looking for, I invite you to consider making NYU Abu Dhabi the beginning of your future.

Alfred H. Bloom
Vice Chancellor, New York University Abu Dhabi
Instead of asking “Where do I want to go to college?” it might be simpler to start by thinking about your values and goals, your activities and interests, your personality and friendships, and your likes and dislikes about school in general. You can then collect information from all the resources available to you, including printed publications, websites, your high school counselor, and even your friends and family.

Outline the Selection Criteria
Once you’ve collected information, use what you’ve learned to start thinking about your values and goals and defining the setting you feel will most likely help you to succeed.

- Urban, suburban, or rural area?
- Large, medium, or small school?
- Far away or close enough to go home occasionally on weekends?
- Academic excellence in specific areas of study?
- An environment that provides ample research opportunities?
- Diversity of the student body?
- Opportunity for international global experience?
- Extracurricular activities or interests?

As you ask these questions, keep in mind that it is very likely that you will discover not just one but a number of schools that provide an appropriate environment for your interests and academic needs. At NYU Abu Dhabi, you would find a small, urban campus with an exceptionally rigorous curriculum in the liberal arts, sciences, and engineering. You would have the research and international opportunities afforded to you by New York University and its global network as well as one of the most diverse student bodies around. In these early years of the campus, you will have the opportunity to pioneer student life activities to suit your interests. Does this sound like you?

Be Realistic: Academic Preparation
It will be harder to get into some colleges than others, and it is important to choose some schools that you are confident will be drawn to you and your academic record—along with some that may be more selective. Review the academic requirements and profiles at each of the schools that you like and determine whether or not your qualifications match. Your achievements in high school, both academic and extracurricular, will be viewed as strong indicators of whether or not you are likely to succeed at NYU Abu Dhabi.

Course Work: Challenge Yourself
One of the primary pieces of evidence you will submit as part of your college application is your transcript or academic record to demonstrate your academic ability. The higher the degree of difficulty of the courses you’ve taken—and the higher your achievement in them—the better. Demanding courses give you the opportunity to master important skills and study habits that will be crucial in college, including effectively analyzing problems, improving research and writing skills, and preparing for presentations and examinations. Strong grades in an advanced curriculum demonstrate your ability to excel. Your choice of courses in high school and your performance in those courses are an important part of the admissions review at NYU Abu Dhabi. We want to see that you have challenged yourself within the context of your high school. For example, if you are a terrific math student and your high school offers advanced placement or honors courses in math, we expect you to have taken those courses. You should also show interest in disciplines across your school’s offered curriculum. Be sure to tackle challenging courses, but be careful not to overload and end up with a schedule that is too tough to handle.

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Now is my time to experience the world and put to use my love for studying history; if I can understand how past decisions were made, it will enable me to help others make better decisions going forward. Alyazia Al Shaibani: Abu Dhabi, UAE
Evaluation Time: Letters of Recommendation

You should think ahead to requesting letters of recommendation—from teachers, counselors, principals, and perhaps employers or advisers—that will be required as part of the application process. It’s never too early for you to establish and foster good relationships with these key individuals.

NYU Abu Dhabi requires at least one Teacher Evaluation, although we welcome additional recommendations if you would like to submit them. The Teacher Evaluation form for the Common Application (which NYU Abu Dhabi uses) asks the teacher to rank certain characteristics about the applicant. These characteristics are related to the student’s academic potential, motivation, and leadership abilities. Actively participating in class, asking questions, and engaging in conversations with your teachers after class are all good ways for you to develop a relationship with the teachers and administrators at your school so that asking for a recommendation when it’s time—several weeks before the application is due—will come naturally.

Prepare Your Finances

Familiarize yourself with the financial support process, and keep an open mind about how you and your family will finance your education. Working out how your family will be able to send you to the school you really want without regard to cost may be a challenge, but it’s important that you don’t rule out a college simply because it seems too expensive. At NYU Abu Dhabi, very generous financial support will be available to ensure that no qualified applicants are unable to attend because of a lack of financial resources; both tuition and room and board will be considered as part of your financial support package.

What Does NYU Abu Dhabi Look for in an Applicant?

NYU Abu Dhabi attracts students from every part of the world and from all backgrounds. We look for students who will fit comfortably at the very top of the world’s talent pool—tomorrow’s heads of state, Nobel laureates, Tony Award winners, and business leaders. Together, they comprise the most diverse student body anywhere in the world and form a global leadership network.

We recognize that not all students have access to the traditional indicators that measure excellence. Therefore, the minimum standard requirements are your high school record to date and letters of recommendation. Of course, standardized test scores and other credentials that indicate your success and achievements may strengthen your application. The key criterion that is used to judge your candidacy is your ability to marshal evidence, in whatever form you deem appropriate, that you belong as part of this highly selective group of NYU Abu Dhabi scholars—that you have the extraordinary talent, intellectual passion, creative spirit, and dedication to shape a better world.

Since our applicants come from a broad range of high schools and educational systems from every region of the world, it is difficult to recommend one particular course of study that would maximize your chances of admission. However, most successful applicants will have included the following areas of study in their high school programs:

■ English—four years of English with heavy emphasis on writing
■ Math—three to four years
■ History/Social Studies—three to four years
■ Science—three to four years
■ Foreign Language—two to three years

If they are available to you, honors, accelerated, Advanced Placement (AP), or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses are great assets on a transcript. In addition, admissions officers want to see that you have made the most of the opportunities available at your school, whether in the classroom, on stage, in the fine arts studio, or in any other arena where you excel. We want to see that you have challenged yourself and excelled in the classroom and beyond!

How to Apply

You should submit your application between September and December of the year before you wish to enroll. Please be sure to thoroughly review the admissions requirements on our website at www.nyuad.nyu.edu/admissions.
What Will You **STUDY?**

You probably already have some ideas about what you would like to pursue on this exciting journey into your future. Choosing a direction can be challenging because most people have more than one talent, more than one interest, and everyone you know will have an opinion about which options are best for you. It helps to remember this: it’s your career, your life, your dreams and ambitions—so be true to yourself and keep an open mind, too!

**NYU Abu Dhabi’s Core Curriculum**

The core courses, which can be completed over your four years of study, ensure that all students have a shared educational experience. The material in the courses includes discussions of primary texts, works of art, technology, and science. Students take two core courses in each of four theme-based areas:

- Pathways of World Literature
- Structures of Thought and Society
- Art, Technology, and Invention
- Ideas and Methods of Science

Students can also expect the following:

- Small classes
- Sustained contact with faculty
- Seminars with lively discussion
- Cross-cultural perspectives
- Significant reading and writing requirements

Why Study the Liberal Arts and Sciences?

NYU Abu Dhabi offers a comprehensive undergraduate program in the arts, sciences, humanities, and engineering. At NYU Abu Dhabi, we believe that exploring beyond your comfort range and into new subjects enables you to expand your view of the world—and your role in it. NYUAD freshman Usama Hameed Sami from Lahore, Pakistan, says, “I thought I was destined to do mathematics in college, but now, looking at the range of different courses that NYUAD has to offer, it is too tempting not to touch the other disciplines! I aim to have a thorough taste of as many disciplines as I can before I decide what my major will be.”

Taking courses in a wide range of disciplines provides the skills you need for lifelong learning—the ability to ask the right questions, to develop strategies for answering them, to think critically, to interpret data coherently, and to communicate effectively both orally and in writing. Daniel B. Gellai, who is from Budapest, Hungary, places the value of a liberal arts education into a useful context when he says, “It is our duty to learn from each other—not just about heritage and culture but also to understand our different ways of thinking, solving problems, and resolving conflicts.”

Thinking About a Profession

For some students, it makes sense to go directly to a professional school, especially if they have already experimented with that field, know that they are good at it, and enjoy it. However, it also makes sense that, at age 18, you may still be interested in exploring a range of disciplines.

Having a plan for what you think you would like to pursue is a good idea. Studying the liberal arts and sciences is an even better one. As Jin U Bak, who grew up in India and South Korea, says, “I
always wanted to become an engineer, but after hearing about NYU Abu Dhabi’s liberal arts program, I told myself, that’s it! I’m going to become an ‘all-rounder,’ I’m going to explore who I am.”

College is your chance to really explore your options, and taking courses in many different disciplines can help to solidify your professional goals. Like Jin U, you may think you are sure now about what you want to study and do with your future, but with more exposure and more experience, your thoughts may change. And who knows? Through studying the liberal arts and sciences, you might just learn something surprising about yourself that opens up a whole new world of opportunity.

The Bachelor’s Degree: A Giant First Step

At NYU Abu Dhabi, studying the liberal arts and sciences is not achieved at the expense of professional training. The curriculum provides a strong foundation for future professional work, but it is only part of the larger program. You will have the opportunity to obtain professional experience through internships in your chosen field—a combination that is the hallmark of NYU’s programs throughout the global network. If you later choose to pursue advanced professional study—for example, in science, medicine, engineering, business, or the arts—you will find that through studying a wide range of connected topics across academic disciplines and gaining in-depth knowledge in your major, you have grown into a well-rounded and confident individual with the leadership qualities and academic skills that are so necessary in every field of work and study.
NYU Can Really Take You Places:
THE GLOBAL NETWORK

NYU Abu Dhabi offers you a whole world of academic opportunities. The larger goal of New York University—with its two portal campuses in New York and Abu Dhabi—is lofty: to prepare its students, who study in some of the world’s great urban centers, to become tomorrow’s global leaders and to cultivate a spirit of inquiry, creativity, and independent ambition.

New York University, through NYUAD and its entire global network, offers a truly global education. With international mobility built into your program of study, you will have the opportunity to spend at least one semester studying abroad at the other NYU portal campus in New York City or at any of NYU’s global academic centers around the world. No matter where you go in the network, you will take NYU courses taught by NYU professors, along with other NYU students who are studying primarily either in Abu Dhabi or New York City.

Through international study, you will gain exposure to diverse people and cultures as well as experience research, new ideas, and perspectives in a different cultural context.

As an NYU Abu Dhabi student, you will have many choices of where you will go and what you will study within the network. And because the network is entirely NYU operated, if you go to Buenos Aires for one semester and Shanghai the next, you are never really leaving NYU. While you are away from NYU Abu Dhabi on these planned semesters, you will stay on track with your academic work. Within the network, you will take NYU courses and have the chance to conduct research that will help you to achieve far more than what you could do in just one location.

What Is the NYU Global Network University?
The global network university is a fundamentally linked network of NYU academic centers spanning five continents. The places NYU has chosen as home to these academic centers are significant world cities that, like the locations of the two portal campuses in New York City and Abu Dhabi, are known as “idea capitals,” linked in global conversation and debate on many of the same topics. The NYU global academic centers—Accra, Ghana; Berlin, Germany; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Florence, Italy; London, England; Madrid, Spain; Paris, France; Prague, Czech Republic; Shanghai, China; Sydney, Australia (opening 2013); Tel Aviv, Israel; and Washington, DC, US (opening 2012)—all offer the chance to supplement your academic work with NYU professors by participating in the special cultural context of the host city.
Opportunities for International Study
At NYU’s global academic centers, you will choose from a full array of courses taught by NYU’s exemplary faculty. In most of the programs, courses are held on-site in NYU-operated buildings. While most courses are taught in English, there are course offerings in other languages as well as the opportunity to study the local language. Courses are modeled on equivalent NYU courses at the portal campuses in Abu Dhabi and New York City and, with a little planning, will readily fit into your NYU Abu Dhabi academic program. Courses for majors are also offered at these centers: in London, premedical students can take science-track courses, and economics and business students can take global finance courses. Music majors can go to Florence or Prague for composition workshops and musical instruction.

Many of the NYU global academic centers have strong local ties with the world’s best universities—the Universidad de Madrid in Spain, the Sorbonne in France, and the University of Ghana-Legon in Ghana, to name a few. Students with strong language skills will have the chance to enroll in courses at these affiliated universities. You will be able to interact with your host community through internships, community service, and social exchanges. Through your international study experiences, you will truly feel that NYU is a campus without borders, and you will know that you are receiving an education without limits.

Becoming a Confident Global Citizen
When students who have had an experience at an NYU global academic center come home, they often say that they have been profoundly changed and that they see their own culture more clearly. But what does a statement like that really mean? At NYU, we believe that your education should involve life-changing experiences that broaden your perspective—of yourself and of others. As a student at NYU Abu Dhabi, you will develop cultural dexterity by experiencing not only Abu Dhabi but also New York City and other parts of the world. At each NYU location abroad, you will continue to work closely with prominent faculty and other ambitious students, you will apply what you have learned, and you will develop the skills and qualities of mind and person to make a real difference in the world around you. No matter which NYU locations within the global network university you choose, your scholarly pursuits and your adventures as a global citizen will provide you with a new lens through which to view your education, your goals, and yourself.
At NYU Abu Dhabi, we can inspire each other to realize our full potential. For the first time, I feel like I’m discovering the world as it really is.

Ruey-ting “Gary” Chien: Taipei, Taiwan
NYU Abu Dhabi: A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Early in their conversations, the leaders of NYU and Abu Dhabi recognized Abu Dhabi—the capital of both the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)—as an ideal location. The international composition, rigorous academic programs, and rich array of extracurricular options that characterize NYU Abu Dhabi align with the country’s ambitious vision for Abu Dhabi’s development into a leading global city.

NYU Abu Dhabi is a contributing force in the urban development and progress that characterize Abu Dhabi. As an NYU Abu Dhabi student, you will not only receive an amazing NYU education with a curriculum as rigorous as any in the world, but you will also have the opportunity to be part of an exciting historic period.

A Complete Undergraduate College
NYU Abu Dhabi, a college fully integrated into a major research university, offers an extraordinary curriculum of liberal arts, sciences, and engineering. It is the first such campus operated by an American university outside the United States. Like NYU’s campus at Washington Square in New York City, NYU Abu Dhabi is a portal campus to NYU’s extensive global network, offering a complete residential college education as well as access to NYU’s global academic centers on five continents.

The NYUAD Campus
The NYUAD campus consists of three facilities: the Downtown Campus, where most classes are held; the Center for Science and Engineering, where the instructional and research labs are located; and Sama Tower, which combines student, faculty, and staff residences; the dining hall; student life spaces; and administrative offices.

The Downtown Campus
The academic facilities were built for NYUAD and were designed to meet the requirements of our unique programs, research opportunities, small classes, and interaction between students and faculty. The classrooms and library include state-of-the-art technology, with wireless access throughout. The campus is located in the heart of downtown Abu Dhabi, just off the Corniche, the city’s striking boulevard. The Corniche faces the waterfront and an expansive recreational zone with parks, jogging and bike trails, restaurants, a boardwalk, and public beaches.

The Center for Science and Engineering
The Center for Science and Engineering (CSE) houses NYUAD’s experimental laboratories for teaching and research, classrooms, faculty offices, and a variety of related facilities. CSE is equipped with hard-wired and wireless communications as well as audiovisual and videoconferencing facilities.

Sama Tower
Sama Tower is a new, 50-story apartment building located a short walk from the Downtown Campus. NYU Abu Dhabi student residences are located in Sama Tower, as are apartments for faculty and staff.

Sama Tower’s student residences are an important part of the living and learning experience. Students live together on single-gender floors in shared studio or two-bedroom apartments. Each floor has a spacious lounge for meetings, movie nights, activities, and relaxing with friends. Resident Assistants (RAs), who are upperclass students from NYU’s campuses in Abu Dhabi and New York, live on each floor and provide personal and academic support for residents.

The Future Campus on Saadiyat Island
The permanent campus of NYU Abu Dhabi will be located on Saadiyat Island, a 27-square-kilometer natural island that lies a short distance off the coast of Abu Dhabi and is now under development. The master plan for Saadiyat Island calls for the creation of multiple districts, including the Cultural District, where several important institutions will be located, including the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi and the Louvre Abu Dhabi.

NYUAD’s Saadiyat Island campus will be located in the Al Marina District, distinguished by its prominent marina and downtown feel. The campus will occupy a spacious site within a dense urban context that features a network of public amenities, including parks, bicycle paths, and public transportation. As in New York, NYU Abu Dhabi will be an open, ungated campus; it will be “in and of the city.”
Faculty members reflect on the intellectual opportunities that NYU Abu Dhabi offers, on the students who thrive at NYUAD, on asking questions, and on “thinking big.”

Rubén Polendo, associate professor of theater at NYU Abu Dhabi, says, “In deciding to attend NYU Abu Dhabi, you are making a commitment for your entire education to react to a myriad of experiences and conversations that will be at such a high level. You’re also really making a commitment to making a global conversation part of your curriculum for four years. Not a semester where you come back and think, ‘Wow, that was an incredible experience.’ But actually, ‘This is my reality for my college education.’ If you have the courage, the commitment, the excitement to engage in that conversation, and to continually ask questions, it can be remarkable. These students have the ability to do more than they think. They come and ask these questions, and often times, in asking them, they’ve already started answering them, and they’ve surprised themselves. It is this kind of student who gravitates to NYU Abu Dhabi—and this kind of student, one who has an addiction to questions, who will thrive in Abu Dhabi.”

Ron Robin, senior vice provost at NYU Abu Dhabi, reminds students that their college years are their chance to dream big. “As a soon-to-be undergraduate student, you are at the age where you should focus on making your dreams come true. Things get more complicated as you walk down the line—your family and your job and other responsibilities will place demands on your time. As a student, this is the time to make your dreams real and set yourself up for success down the road. So be an adventurous person. Grab life with both hands, seize the moment to become someone different, learn something new, think big. At 18 or 19, you may have some idea of where you want to end up, but you really have not yet had a chance to fully experience the sort of potential you have. You have to go for it. It’s an opportunity to stretch yourself as much as possible. You might be surprised at what you can achieve for yourself, for your community—and for the world.”

Through years of working with undergraduates at NYU’s New York City campus, Professor Ron Robin advises students to study what they love.