



Arizona State University

Middle East and North Africa
MENA region

ASU Charter

ASU is a comprehensive **public research university** measured not by whom it excludes but by **whom it includes** and how they **succeed**; advancing **research and discovery** of public value; and assuming **fundamental responsibility** for the economic, social, cultural and overall health of the **communities** it serves.

New American University

Arizona State University has become the foundational model for the New American University, a new paradigm for the public research university that transforms higher education. ASU is committed to excellence, access and impact in everything that it does.

**#1 in the U.S.
for innovation**
ASU ahead of MIT and Stanford
—U.S. News & World Report, 6 years, 2016–2023



**#1 in the U.S. and
#2 in the world
for global impact**
Ahead of MIT, New York University and Penn State
—Times Higher Education, 2022

Welcome

We are proud that ASU is the academic home of more than **1,480 students from the Middle East and North Africa region** and that the university has impacted the lives of more than **6,190 alumni from the Middle East and North Africa region.**

We are committed to helping our students succeed – not just academically, but throughout their lives – and be prepared for a rapidly changing world in which new careers are constantly evolving.

Our legacy of excellence in education grows because of the strengths of our award winning faculty who invest in collaborative, interdisciplinary and solution-focused approaches to research, education and entrepreneurship.

We look forward to working with you to empower the workforce and leadership through discovery and impact.

Warmest regards,

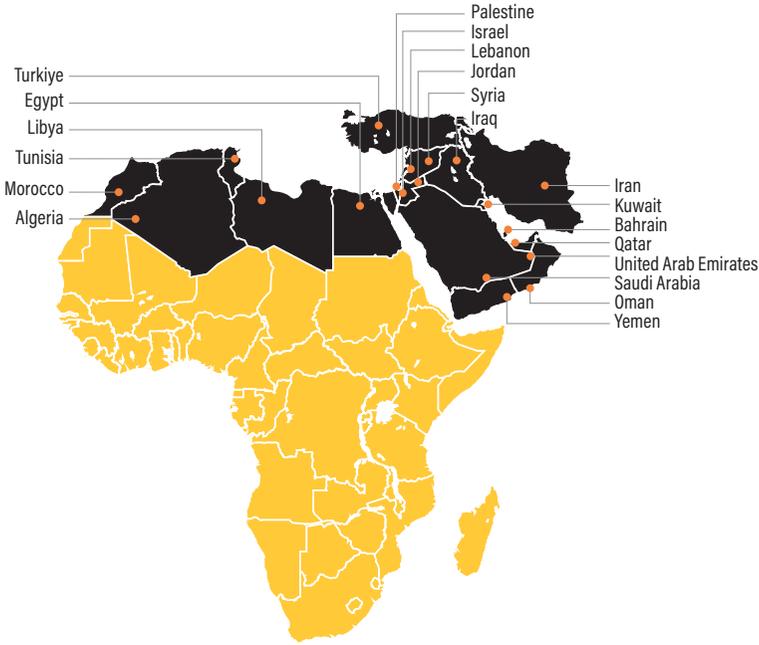
Julia Rosen

Vice President of Global Academic Initiatives
Office of University Provost



Student enrollment

MENA



1,495

students from MENA enrolled at ASU in fall 2022

900

undergraduate
students

595

graduate
students

763

students from MENA
enrolled in fall 2012

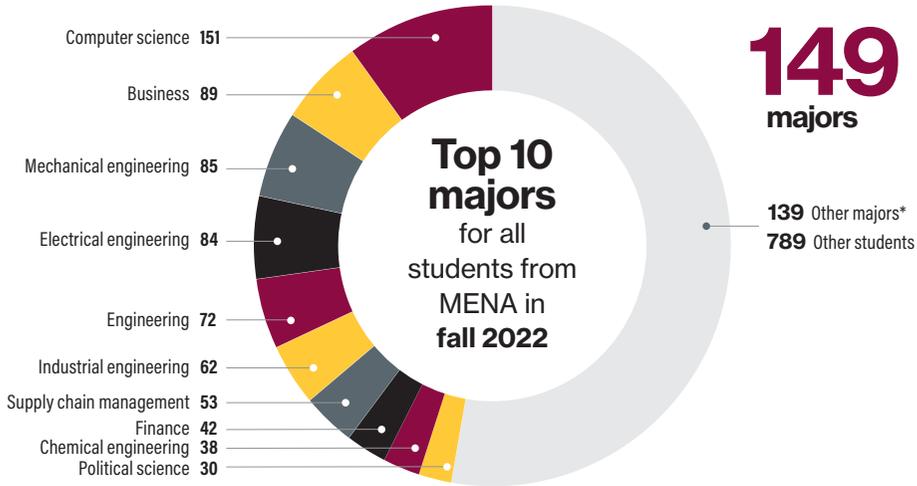
87%

increase in international
student enrollment from MENA
between fall 2012 and fall 2022

Student enrollment

2022

Top ASU programs chosen by students from MENA in 2022



* The remaining 139 majors

include civil engineering, accountancy, economics, biological sciences, aerospace engineering, computer systems engineering, and civil, environmental and sustainable engineering.

Student stories



Soud Alothman (Kuwait)
Electrical engineering, BS

“ I chose ASU because of its reputation and huge expansion in the electrical engineering department, as well as the amount of resources it holds. The networking experience at ASU has provided a great outcome when it comes to overachieving in the field. Also, I’ve had more than one professor who has personally reached out to offer the help I needed.”

Student stories



Azra Hussain (Kuwait)

Leadership and management, MNLM

Azra was born and raised in Kuwait and recently graduated from ASU with a degree in religious studies and a certificate in Islamic studies. During her time as a student, Azra raised four children and ran an educational nonprofit that she co-founded called the Islamic Speakers Bureau of Arizona. The bureau provides education about Islam and Muslims to build interfaith dialogue. Azra also conducts cultural sensitivity training for police departments, hospital personnel, educators and corporations.

“ Professor Agnes Kefeli Clay showed me how to approach and navigate the academic study of religion, but I stayed with ASU because of two amazing student advisors who have helped me navigate and stay on top of my degree through the decades. ”

Juliana and Rania Jundi (Iraq)

Biology, BS



Juliana Jundi



Rania Jundi

In December 2014, sisters Juliana and Rania Jundi emigrated with their family from northern Iraq to Arizona amidst the fall of Mosul. At the time they emigrated, Juliana and Rania were teenagers and spoke only Kurdish and Arabic. When decisions were made about attending a university, they chose ASU's New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, enticed by the biology program. ASU was a dream school for them. Juliana and Rania became involved with a number of initiatives on the West campus. Rania, who minored in psychology, founded the Cultural Diversity Club as a second-year student. Juliana founded three clubs: the Pharmaceutical Student Association, Sun Devil Cosmetics and the Iraqi American Student Association. She also served as the vice president of the Cultural Diversity Club. After graduation, the Jundi sisters will continue to pursue careers in the medical field. Rania has continued doing research and will take the MCAT, while Juliana started pharmacy school in the fall. Of her experience, Juliana says:

“ Iraq is a country of rich culture and one of the most culturally diverse nations in the Middle East. I started the association to promote awareness and appreciation of the culture, while helping the community to better understand the misconceptions that some people face. There's a phrase that I always use – kulnah al Iraq – which means we are all Iraq. It doesn't matter what ethnicity or religion you are – we are the same. I wanted to promote this idea across ASU. ”

Student stories



Alaa Amjad Khalaf (Palestine)

Political science, BS

International letters and cultures (Arabic studies), BS

Alaa credits her faith and family for inspiring her on her journey to earn two bachelor's degrees from ASU while also being a part of Barrett, The Honors College. She added the concurrent major in Arabic studies midway through her time at ASU because she realized that she needed something to keep her connected to her Palestinian roots. She celebrated her graduation by visiting Palestine to recharge surrounded with family and friends. She plans to take the LSAT and apply to law school.

“ Nothing you truly want or dream of is easy – it's all hard and requires a ton of time and dedication. Thankfully, with the support of my family and ASU professors, achieving my goals became a dash easier. ”



Asmaa Khalifa (Libya)

Organizational leadership, MS

Asmaa, who earned a bachelor's degree in liberal studies in ASU's College of Integrative Sciences and Arts in 2017, completed her master's degree in 2022. She is not only a student but also a caregiver to an elder, and a parent and teacher to her three children whom she homeschools. She eventually hopes to complete a doctorate. Asmaa has lived in Tripoli for two decades, where her husband's family is from.

“ I would like to teach undergraduates as well as continue to develop my theory on everyday leadership. The possibilities are a bit daunting right now, but I am looking at ways to expand the discipline here in North Africa. I believe that working hard and doing everything that is in my power to survive and thrive is the only way to go through life. I do not believe in quitting. I believe in making the impossible commonplace. ”

Student stories



Avi Kapur (GIE program in Israel)
Political science, BS

Avi studies political science and American political thought at ASU. He was part of the Global Intensive Experience in Israel and the West Bank offered by the School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership, served as a legislative assistant and intern with the Department of Economic Security, and was a member of the ASU Model United Nations. Avi believes his GIE experiences in Israel showed him that liberal democracies are fragile, especially those across diverse cultural and geographic contexts.

“ I learned that civil disagreement reflects both the cold, hard reality and the narratives pushed by opposing sides ... there are more than two sides in civil disagreement. ”



Yousra Manar (Morocco)
Sports law and business, MSLB

While pursuing her degree, Youstra became an SLB Selig Scholar and a graduate assistant for the program. During her time at ASU Law, she had the opportunity to intern for the Arizona Sports and Entertainment Commission and was the head coach for the girl's lacrosse team at Corona Del Sol High School in Tempe.

“ ASU Law and the Selig Sports Law and Business program truly equipped me with the professional tools and network I needed to succeed in my current career in sports. I gained an amazing support system from my peers and professors who encouraged me in pursuing a career in coaching. ”

Student stories



Rehab Meckawy (Egypt)

International health management, MS

Rehab graduated from ASU Online with support from the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education for the Opening Learning Scholars Program. In addition to her studies, Rehab co-founded the Egyptian Sun Devils Club, which is currently 270 members strong. She also co-founded the Sun Devils Global Friends Club, an online organization that works to build bonds between domestic and international students and increase cultural competence.

“My journey at ASU would not have been fulfilled without engaging in student organizations and leaving an impact on fellow online peers. ASU has been a life-changing experience for me because I discovered my own potential. I learned I needed to get out of my comfort zone because that’s where learning opportunities exist.”



Ahmed Radwan (Egypt)

Interdisciplinary programs, MS

Ahmed, from Cairo, is one of 190 ASU Online students graduating with scholarship support in 2022 through the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education. He received his degree in program evaluation and data analytics from the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions. He flew to Arizona with six others in the program to attend his graduation in 2022.

“Being able to make it to the graduation ceremonies in person is something I was always looking forward to, because after all the hard work and effort I would love to get recognized for my achievement. It also allowed me to have the chance to tour the place that I have been studying at.”

Student support and services

Student support:

- African Students Association.
- Arabic Language and Culture Club.
- Chabad at ASU.
- Egyptian Student Association in North America.
- Emirates Student Association.
- Iranian Students Association.
- Jewish Graduate and Professional Students Association.
- Kuwaiti Students Club.
- Lebanese Student Association.
- Omani Students Association.
- Saudi Students Club.
- Students for Justice in Palestine, ASU Chapter.
- Turkish Student Association TUSA



ASU's Saudi Students Club

Zied Alghamdi (left), the president of the ASU Saudi Students Club, sits with graphic information technology first-year student Ashley Carpenter, who is wearing traditional clothing from Saudi Arabia.



Nearby access to the Islamic Community Center of Tempe

This beautiful mosque, opened in 1984, is modeled after the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem.

Interfaith reflection and ablution rooms

ASU has an interfaith reflection room and ablution rooms to its Memorial Union to accommodate students who want to practice their religious beliefs, such as Wudu. The private rooms include a place to sit, running water, a hand-washing station and paper towels.

Hillel Jewish Student Center at ASU

Hillel is a student center that inspires scholars to make an enduring commitment to Jewish life by facilitating opportunities where students can gain the confidence, knowledge and skills to make a difference in Jewish communities, Israel and the world.

Alumni



6,132

alumni from MENA
earned a degree from ASU
between 1981 and 2023

4,072

alumni from MENA
have graduated from ASU
between 2012 and 2023

ASU Thunderbird Global Innovation Center

The Thunderbird Global Innovation Center, located in the heart of the Innovation Hub of the Dubai International Financial Center, partners with governments in MENA to support workforce development; designs programs for companies to expand their global presence; and offers global leadership programs tailored to the learning and cultural nuances of the region. It also focuses on student recruitment to the various Thunderbird programs, alumni engagement and thought leadership. There is an established Thunderbird alumni chapter in Jordan.

ASU alumni chapters

There are ASU alumni chapters in Egypt, Iran, Israel, Kuwait, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkiye and United Arab Emirates.

Najla Abdalla (Sudan)

Social work, BA



Originally from Sudan, Najla and her family moved to Iraq after the Second Sudanese Civil War. After 10 years of peace and prosperity, her family was forced to flee again to escape the Iraq war in 2004. Najla is highly motivated, having worked two jobs to help her family while she pursued her degree at ASU part time. Najla also interned with the International Rescue Committee in Phoenix, supporting refugees and the organization that once supported her own family.

“Some people just get a degree because they want to get money. But if you’re willing to help someone with your heart ... that’s what I think is the most important.”

Alumni



Mariam Alhabidi (Saudi Arabia)

Global technology and development, MS

While at ASU, Mariam explored entrepreneurship for women in Saudi Arabia and its potential to increase their sociocultural autonomy, financial independence and overall well-being. She went on to found “Cr8ive” Digital Marketing and Consulting in Abu Dhabi-Khober, out of a passion to help youth find their place in the world. A CEO and self-styled digital entrepreneur, she focuses on technology development for entrepreneurs and now operates in three countries.

“ Education is key. It mattered to my father that I became independent. That has instilled in me the belief that financial independence greatly helps women.”



Hanan Alhashmi (United Arab Emirates)

Urban and environmental planning, MA

Hanan wants to be an environmental planning consultant and work with all kinds of stakeholders in the UAE to aid in the country's process of shifting toward more sustainable development. Hanan will focus on how to secure development while conserving valuable resources such as groundwater.

“ I chose ASU because I knew it would have certain qualities I was looking for. It is incredibly culturally diverse, has numerous resources for students and has a variety of programs and courses, which all made it easy to find exactly what I was looking to learn.”

Alumni



Sheikh Rashed Salman al-Khalifa (Bahrain) MBA

Sheikh al-Khalifa has been in banking for more than 35 years and is one of the most prominent bankers in the region, with extensive knowledge and experience. Currently, he is a board member at the National Bank of Bahrain. He was the deputy CEO at the Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait, worked with Gulf International Bank in New York and Tokyo, and was a board member at Arab Banking Corporation in Jordan and Tunisia. He has a wide network of financial relations with many individuals and institutions in the Gulf and MENA regions. Sheikh al-Khalifa graduated from ASU with an MBA in 1982.

“ The value of a degree is measured in what effect and how much influence it has on one’s life. In my case, the MBA I earned at ASU has transformed my life entirely, opening new opportunities and horizons. I benefited enormously, building a rewarding career in banking primarily based on the sound education I received at ASU. I am forever thankful and indebted.”



Sultan Saeed Al-Mansoori (United Arab Emirates) Industrial engineering, BSE

His Excellency Sultan Saeed Al-Mansoori, who earned a degree in industrial engineering and management systems in 1988, received the ASU Alumni Achievement Award in 2010. Saeed has held leading positions in the government of the United Arab Emirates since 2004. He first served as the minister of development for government sector and as minister of communications. In 2008, he took his current position as the UAE’s minister of economy. He is involved in a number of collaborative efforts with ASU, including the United Arab Emirates-ASU SkySong Innovation Alliance to develop a facility in the UAE to engage global businesses in investing in new research and providing educational opportunities for ASU students and faculty. In 2020, he signed a new educational and discovery memorandum of understanding with ASU. His son is a current student at ASU.

“ The best thing you can have is a good education, and with that, the world is open to you. My experience at ASU was one of the greatest in my life and greatly influenced my future, plans, goals and ambitions, gave me the strength to stand up and be part of the development of my country.”

Alumni



Manal Al-Zadjali (Oman)

Nursing, PhD

A native of Oman, Manal came to ASU to pursue her doctorate in nursing from the Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation. She was the first nurse to graduate with a PhD in nursing and health innovation and the first master-prepared community health nurse in Muscat, Oman. She has taught community health nursing, studied health promotion and chronic disease, and published papers in Oman on obesity, cancer and community health nursing. She is presently the dean of the Higher Institute of Health Specialties, Ministry of Health, Sultanate of Oman. There, Manal is living out her long-term goal: applying her ASU experience in innovation to advance nursing and health care through higher education in Oman.

“ I have a long relationship with innovation, as my PhD is in nursing and health care innovation. I think innovation is not optional anymore in any role. ”



Ambassador Maen Rashid Areikat (Palestine)

Finance, BS

Ambassador Areikat has been the special advisor to ASU President Michael Crow on university global engagement in the Middle East and North Africa region since 2017 and is based in Washington, D.C. Before joining ASU, he was the top Palestinian diplomat in the U.S. from 2009 to 2017. Prior to this, Ambassador Areikat has been involved in Palestinian-Israeli peace negotiations and served as the coordinator general of the Negotiation Affairs Department of the PLO from 1998 to 2009, and was the official spokesperson of the Palestinian delegation for peace talks with Israel from 1992 to 1994. Over the years, he has managed to establish a wide network of relations in the region, in Europe, and in the U.S. Ambassador Areikat graduated from ASU with a BS in finance in 1983 and with an MBA from Western International University Phoenix in 1987.

Alumni



Abdelhamid Hamouda (Libya)

English (linguistics), MA

Abdelhamid came to ASU on a Fulbright Scholarship in 2012. However, circumstances caused by the war in Libya required his return home. Immigration considerations further complicated his return to the U.S. Then, he lost his scholarship one month before completing his master's degree while working with the International Committee of the Red Cross in his home country. He reached out to his ASU advisors in the U.S. for help, and the Department of English offered him a fellowship to cover his tuition while he completed his thesis remotely. He held his thesis defense via Skype from Tunisia. Hamouda has gone on to teach English with the University of Bengazil and the Higher Institute of Comprehensive Professions in Benghazi, Libya.

“ I felt privileged to study with some of the finest linguists in the world at ASU. I cannot emphasize enough how grateful I am to the entire ASU community for standing by me and helping me finish my studies. ”



Jad About Hosn (Lebanon)

Computer engineering, MS

Jad was one of three STEM scholars seeking degrees through ASU Online, supported by the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education, a Dubai-based foundation that provides underserved, high-achieving Arab students with scholarships, support and skills training. Jad won the scholarship after graduating from the American University of Beirut in Lebanon, where his professor recommended he attend ASU.

“ I learned pure technical skills back home, which is good, but all you do is solve a problem and solve a problem. At ASU, it's a chain of thoughts. We go over the wrong approach to see what was done wrong, and then we go over the correct one. Professors teach us to think about it. ”

Alumni



Irfan Kanat (Turkiye)

Information systems, PhD

Kanat shifted from his doctoral program in Turkey to come to ASU. He was interested in consumer behavior in software markets: how software is chosen, how it is used and how developers can make software more attractive. The process of digging into a research topic taught him skills that have fueled his career. Kanat is now an assistant professor of management information systems at The Ohio University in Athens, Ohio..

“ Once I started the program at ASU, I understood why the W. P. Carey School’s information systems programs are so successful. The degree has a research focus integrated into its doctoral program. We are granted great freedom in topics we want to pursue, proper guidance and chances to pursue it. ”



Khashayar (Shay) Khatiri (Iran)

Political science and history, BA

Born and raised in Gorgan, Iran, Shay came to ASU after struggling with college in his home country. Despite his past trouble with schooling, Shay said ASU gave him “more than he could ever return in a lifetime.” A graduate student in the School of Politics and Global Studies and the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, he was also heavily involved with the School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership, where he says he learned what it means to be a citizen. Shay founded the ASU chapter of the Alexander Hamilton Society and the AEI Executive Council at ASU, both of which have won multiple awards and competitions nationwide. He also completed fellowships on foreign, domestic and economic policies, and intellectual thought at Hertog Foundation, American Enterprise Institute and Hoover Institution. His dream was to study at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, where he completed a master’s degree in strategic studies in 2020.

“ ASU has been challenging in a productive way; resourceful and kind. The first time I felt that I had a home outside my family was when I walked on ASU’s campus, and that feeling always kept growing. ”

Alumni



Mohammed Madouh (Kuwait)

Communication and media studies, BA

When Mohammed studied at ASU, he was the fourth fastest swimmer in the history of ASU and qualified for the 2008 Olympics representing Kuwait. He was the first swimmer in Kuwait's history to qualify for the Olympic Games and became captain of the national swimming team, a position he still holds. He's balanced serious competition with graduate school and work. He recently obtained his master's degree in strategic public relations at Zayed University and is the internal communications lead with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation in Kuwait City.

“ I enrolled at ASU as a student athlete and joined one of the toughest collegiate programs in the U.S. ”



Hussam Malibari (Saudi Arabia)

Economics, BS

“ Since I came here, ASU has been helping me to improve myself, to get to know myself even better and do my best for my future. They have the tutoring center, huge libraries, study rooms and many services here that will help you become a successful person. ASU has resources like the career center where you can always go to ask questions, and that can give you opportunities to be in contact with companies. Every city I go, I have a friend. Here in the U.S. and all over the world. ”



Farid Taqatqa (Jordan, United Arab Emirates)

Engineering, MS

Originally from Jordan, Farid is an ASU Online graduate now living in Dubai. He received an Open Learning scholarship through the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education, a Dubai-based organization that provides underserved, high-achieving Arab students with scholarships, support and skills training. A chemical engineer, he works full time as a quality assurance technician.

“ The most exciting parts of my experience are the online learning experience itself, the high standards of the education system I am taking and the interesting curriculum of the program. ”

Alumni



Adil Mounir (Morocco)

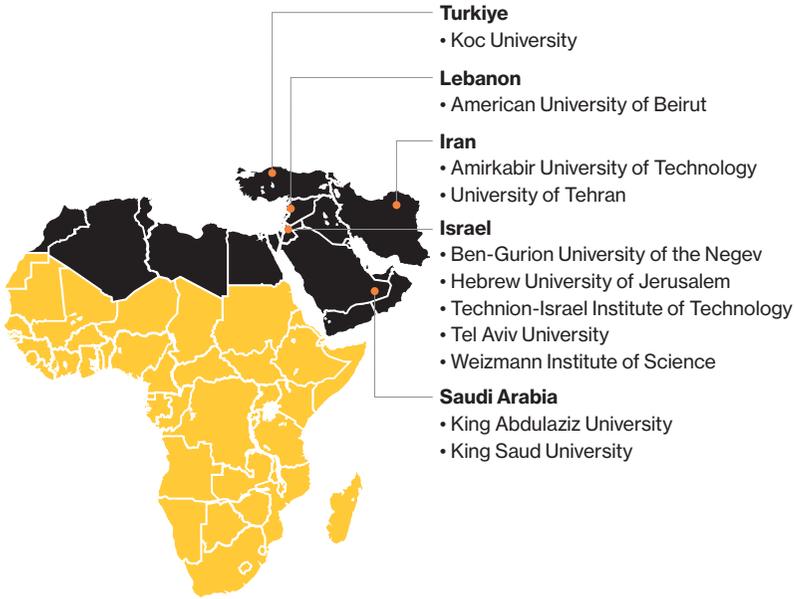
Hydrosystems engineering, PhD

With bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering, Adil joined the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment to pursue his doctorate under the guidance of Assistant Professor Giuseppe Mascaro. He is currently part of the Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy and Water Systems program funded by the National Science Foundation. He is developing a model that can simultaneously evaluate the water and energy systems for the Phoenix metropolitan area. The goal is to implement this model to explore the effects of population growth as influenced by water and energy policies and management under a changing climate.

“ During my undergraduate degree, I was introduced to the importance of water management in my home country, Morocco. I then found out that ASU has a number of professors who produced an impactful body of work related to simulating water availability in regions suffering from water scarcity. I wanted to learn firsthand from their expertise. Since I have joined ASU, I feel like I have been given all the tools necessary to investigate the water issues I am interested in. ”

Research

Top 11 institutions



2019–2022 papers co-authored by ASU and MENA researchers

Papers can be mapped to multiple subject areas.

MENA

Between 2019 and 2023

805

papers were co-authored by ASU and MENA researchers with **305** collaborating institutions.

Middle East

Between 2019 and 2023

742

papers were co-authored by ASU researchers with **269** collaborating institutions in the Middle East.

North Africa

Between 2019 and 2023

63

papers were co-authored by ASU researchers with **36** institutions in North Africa.

Research awards

82 grants over the last 10 years from U.S.- and Middle East-sponsored foundations and private sponsors totaling more than

\$70 million

More than **\$42 million** currently supports **21 projects** in the MENA region. Of note are:

Development of a primary school teacher training network in Morocco (USAID).

Engineering of next-generation nanofertilizers (Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, Morocco).

Engineering processes for extraction of rare earth metals from phosphorus rock mining (OCP S.A. Morocco).

Establishment of a Center for Excellence in Energy in Egypt (USAID).

Physics postdoctoral training at Khalifa University of Science and Technology related to the Emirates Mission to Mars (UAE).

The Israel-U.S. Initiative on Cybersecurity Research and Development for Energy, a bridge between American and Israeli organizations to better both countries' capabilities to defend against cyberattacks on energy grid and water systems (Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation).

Featured faculty



Madelaine Adelman

Professor, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Madelaine Adelman is a professor of justice and social inquiry in the School of Social Transformation, where she teaches courses such as research methods, sexuality and social justice, qualitative data analysis, and identity and justice, to undergraduate, master's and doctoral students. New ideas about identity, violence and the state – and opposition to them – animate her research on families and schools, two social institutions that shape both the content and quality of people's lives in profound ways. She is the author of "Battering States: The Politics of Domestic Violence in Israel" (Vanderbilt University Press, 2017), and co-editor (with Miriam Elman) of "Jerusalem: Conflict and Cooperation in a Contested City" (Syracuse University Press, 2014).

Featured faculty



Brenda Baker

Associate Professor, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Baker is a bioarchaeologist with extensive field experience in Egypt, Sudan, Cyprus and the U.S. She is an associate professor with the School of Human Evolution and Social Change and researcher with the Center for Bioarchaeological Research at ASU. Her research integrates archaeology and biological anthropology to investigate the lives and health of past people. She directs the Bioarchaeology of Nubia Expedition in northern Sudan, work that falls in a roughly 36-square-mile area along the right bank of the Nile River. The tract includes known sites dating from the Neolithic period (around 5,000 BCE) through the Christian era. She is also the bioarchaeologist for the North Abydos Expedition, sponsored by New York University's Institute of Fine Arts and Princeton University, where she conducts burial excavation and analysis of human remains from both cemetery and settlement contexts.



Rajesh Buch

Professor of Practice, Thunderbird School of Global Management

Buch is the director of sustainability practice with ASU's International Development Office and the director of business development with the Rob and Melani Walton Sustainability Solutions Service. In 2015-2020, Arizona State University partnered with Cultivation New Frontiers in Agriculture, a nonprofit organization that conducts cost-benefit analyses, develops methodology and implements regular follow-ups to track on-farm net present value indicators for the Feed the Future of Egypt Food Security and Agribusiness Support program. The program's goal was to increase incomes and improve food security for at least 14,000 Egyptian smallholder farmers across seven locales. The expected impact includes a 12% annualized increase in incomes and a yield increase of up to 50% on selected crops such as basil. ASU's project was initiated by Buch.

Featured faculty



Phil Christensen

Regents Professor, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The UAE's first Mars mission orbiter, Amal (which translates to hope), lifted off on July 14, 2020. The Emirates Mars Infrared Spectrometer, a tool the mission is using to measure the lower atmosphere, was developed by Christensen, a professor in the School of Earth and Space Exploration and Christopher Edwards of Northern Arizona University. In the Christensen research group at ASU, scientists and researchers are building instruments on spacecraft to explore the geology and mineralogy of Mars and other bodies in space. They also conduct research, create instruments and software, and provide mission support to NASA. In 2021, Christensen was awarded a two-year grant to support Khalifa University of Science and Technology's Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics Postdoctoral Program – Emirates Mission to Mars.



Hasan Davulcu

Professor, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

Davulcu is a professor in the School of Computing and Augmented Intelligence. He's developed patented AI and machine learning algorithms to mine information from multi-lingual text, image and video sources on social networks. He is currently the lead of a National Science Foundation Partnership for Innovation grant focusing on behavioral analytics for detecting financial fraud and lead of a U.S. Department of Defense Minerva Research Initiative project titled "New Analytics for Measuring and Countering Social Influence and Persuasion of Extremist Groups." He is co-founder and CTO of ARTIS MAGI – a startup developing and deploying highly complex and proprietary algorithms derived from social science and artificial intelligence to pinpoint pivotal target audiences and sway them in desirable directions.

Featured faculty



Cody Friesen

Associate Professor, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

According to the United Nations, the year 2050 could see more than five billion people suffer water shortages as a result of climate change, increased demand and polluted supplies. Friesen, an associate professor in the School for Engineering of Matter, Transport and Energy at ASU and the founder of Zero Mass Water, is the creator of the SOURCE Hydropanel, a device that combats water scarcity by absorbing moisture from the air and converting it into clean drinking water. Friesen developed the technology with the backing of an 11-member team of ASU engineering researchers, and it earned him the 2019 Lemelson-MIT Prize, the largest cash prize for invention in the U.S.

“ If we could do for water what solar does for electricity, we could fundamentally shift the axis of the planet and improve the human condition with respect to water. ”



Sayfe Kiaei

Professor, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

Kiaei is the director of the Connection One Center (National Science Foundation IUCRC Center) and Motorola Chair in Analog and RF Integrated Circuits in the School of Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering at ASU. In 2021, he established a Center of Excellence for Energy in Egypt with \$22 million in support from U.S. Agency for International Development and will work to improve the capacity of Egypt's higher education institutions to drive public and private sector innovation, modernization and competitiveness; strengthen government policy to stimulate economic growth; and contribute solutions to the country's development challenges in the energy sector. Prior to this project, Kiaei led a successful five-year program funded by USAID for more than \$45 million in Pakistan, resulting in two new university colleges in energy with more than 10 new degrees, 75 new courses and 1,000 new master's degrees and doctoral program students enrolled in the program.

Featured faculty



Orde Kittrie

Distinguished Professor of Practice, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law

Kittrie is a leading expert on nonproliferation law and policy with a focus on Iran sanctions, and an expert on international law, particularly as it relates to the Middle East. Kittrie is the author of "Lawfare: Law as a Weapon of War" (Oxford University Press, 2016), which describes how and why law is becoming an increasingly powerful and prevalent weapon of war, through examples of lawfare use by the U.S., China, Israel, Palestine, as well as nongovernmental organizations and individuals. Prior to entering academia, Kittrie served for 11 years at the Department of State. As the department's lead nuclear affairs attorney, he helped negotiate five U.S.-Russia nuclear agreements and a UN treaty to combat nuclear terrorism.



Rhett Larson

Richard Morrison Professor of Water Law, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law

Larson is an expert on water issues in the Middle East and played a leading role in a collaboration awarded \$1.95 million to provide affordable sources of clean water throughout Jordan and Lebanon. The consortium, which also includes six engineering faculty members, has developed a holistic water system that operates at the household and community levels by making use of nontraditional water resources in order to avoid further depleting the region's scarce groundwater supply. The project, funded by the United States Agency for International Development, involves an international mix of public and private partners: H2O for Humanity (Illinois), GreenCo Water (Australia), Mercy Corps (a global development organization), the René Moawad Foundation (Lebanon) and Zero Mass Water (Arizona).

Featured faculty



Irina Levin

Director, Critical Languages Institute

Levin is the director of the Critical Languages Institute, the associate director of the Melikian Center for Russian, Eurasian and East European Studies and an instructor with Barrett, The Honors College at ASU. Levin is an anthropologist whose research and teaching interests are in migration studies, the anthropology of law, the political theory of sovereignty and mobility, gender and labor studies, and Eurasian and Middle Eastern studies. Her ethnographic fieldwork has been with a forcibly displaced community in Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Turkey. This work is focused on issues of disputed citizenship, legacies of displacement, narratives of collective trauma, and the social and political work of identity documents. As both states and individuals try to establish and maintain security in precarious times, displaced people's efforts to make legal and moral claims highlight key tensions in human rights, immigration, and citizenship law. Levin's work traces these tensions as they echo across both "east" and "west," market and command economies, and national law and humanitarian praxis.



Charles Loftus

Instructor, Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions

Loftus earned his doctorate in public administration with an emphasis on criminal justice public policy and public police misconduct and corruption. He also has a master's degree in public administration with an emphasis on policy analysis and ethics. His research interests are police officer misconduct and counter-terrorism and intelligence studies. Loftus has taught counter-terrorism, domestic terrorism, research methods, statistics, police management and international politics. He is the director of a study abroad program through ASU that takes students to Israel to learn about counter-terrorism, intelligence coordination, Islamic fascism, jihadism, proactive security measures, infrastructure protection and emergency responses to terrorism.

Featured faculty



Larry Mays

Professor, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

Mays received the Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water – Surface Water Prize in 2014 in Saudi Arabia “for his comprehensive work in surface water hydrology and water resources engineering, culminating in three leading and innovative textbooks in the field, and for his application of this extensive knowledge base to develop optimization models in practical hydrology for current problems, including real-time optimal dam release during flood conditions and watershed development in urban areas.” Mays’ research in hydrosystems engineering in the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment has focused on the application of optimization, and risk and reliability analysis, to the design, management, and operation of water infrastructure systems. He has published 24 books, and one of his major efforts has been the study of ancient water systems, such as the Aflaj in Oman, and the relation that these systems could have on solving problems of water resources sustainability using the concepts of traditional knowledge.



Martin Pasqualetti

Professor, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Pasqualetti’s general research interests encompass three areas of emphasis: energy and society, energy and land use, and renewable energy development. His current research concentrates on the social acceptance of renewable energy landscapes and recycling of energy landscapes. He is a professor in the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning and the ASU liaison to the International Renewable Energy Agency in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. In 2015, he received the Alexander and Ilse Melamid Gold Medal from the American Geographical Society for his international contributions to the study of energy. He has worked in Palestine, Oman and UAE, in addition to efforts in the U.S., Mexico, Canada, the United Kingdom, Turkey, the Czech Republic, Israel, China, Singapore and Guyana.

Featured faculty



Francois Perreault

Associate Professor, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

The Perreault Laboratory combines the tools of nanotechnology, chemistry and microbiology to address global environmental challenges and achieve a sustainable future. As part of the Nanosystems Engineering Research Center on Nanotechnology-Enabled Water Treatment in the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment at ASU, the Perreault lab is researching how to integrate nanomaterials in water treatment systems in a safe and sustainable way. In North Africa, Perreault has worked to engineer safe and sustainable next-generation nanofertilizers for enhanced phosphorus efficiency, with support from Mohammed VI Polytechnic University in Morocco. In Israel, he has a project integrating water treatment with nutrient utilization in intensive aquaculture with Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel.



Beth Polidoro

Associate Professor, New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences

Polidoro studies environmental chemistry and aquatic conservation in the School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences. Polidoro and ASU's Salt Water Assessment Team strive to keep the oceans and sea life safe. She looks at pollution, including microplastics, in the marine environment: where it comes from, where it ends up, and what the impact of chemicals are on both marine species and people who eat seafood. She also studies contaminants in freshwater lakes and urban ponds in Arizona. Polidoro enjoys translating her research findings for nonexperts and guiding conservation and environmental policies as well. Her studies take her to Cuba, the Philippines, American Samoa and the Gulf of Oman.

Featured faculty



Bruce Rittmann

Regents Professor, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering

Rittmann is in the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment and the director of the Biodesign Swette Center for Environmental Biotechnology at ASU. He studies microbial communities in humans, water and biofuels. His lab explores how to manage these microbial communities and how to exploit them to an advantage. His work also extends into renewable energy. He is developing technology that uses naturally occurring microorganisms to remove contaminants in water. Rittmann, along with research scientist Chen Zhou, is also using photosynthetic bacteria to develop biofuels and is looking at recovery of rare earth metals from phosphorus mining in Morocco. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the National Academy of Inventors. He has 17 patents and was the co-winner of the 2018 Stockholm Water Prize.



Shahla Talebi

Associate Professor, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Talebi is a professor of religious studies in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. A native of Iran, she lived through the 1979 revolution and the Iran-Iraq War. She has lived in the U.S. since 1994. She received her undergraduate degree in sociocultural anthropology from the University of California at Berkeley and her master's and doctorate degrees, also in sociocultural anthropology, from Columbia University. Talebi's research interests include questions of self-sacrifice and martyrdom, violence, memory, trauma, death, burial, funerary rituals, commemoration and memorialization, religion, revolution, and nation-state in contemporary Iran.

Featured faculty



Nicole Thompson

Professor, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College

Thompson is a professor and vice dean of the division of teacher preparation in Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University. Her work focuses on how best to prepare teachers to educate pre-K-12 students. Her research interests include teacher preparation, American Indian education, and transformation and reform in education. Thompson is the lead on a \$5 million U.S. Agency for International Development grant that supports a collaboration to create a comprehensive, future-focused curriculum for primary grade teacher education in Morocco. During a five-year period, Thompson and the Teachers College will work with Morocco's Ministry of Education, universities within the kingdom and teacher training institutions, with the aid of experienced technical assistance and private sector agencies, to form the Higher Education Partnership–Morocco.



Hava Tirosh-Samuelson

Regents Professor, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Tirosh-Samuelson is the Irving and Miriam Lowe Professor of Modern Judaism and director of Jewish Studies at ASU. Tirosh-Samuelson is a Jewish intellectual historian who focuses on the interplay of philosophy and mysticism, Judaism and science, and Judaism and ecology. Within the field of science and religion, Tirosh-Samuelson explores the interplay of religion, science and technology with a focus on transhumanism and the relationship between Judaism, science and medicine. She is editor-in-chief of "The Library of Contemporary Jewish Philosophers" (2013–2018), a series of 21 volumes that feature outstanding contemporary Jewish thinkers. She has also received a number of John Templeton Foundation grants, most recently: "Beyond Secularization: Piloting New Approaches for the Study of Religion, Science, and Technology in Public Life" (2016–2018) and "Beyond Secularization: Religion, Science and Technology in Public Life" (2019–2022).

As director of the Center for Jewish Studies at ASU, Tirosh-Samuelson manages the international society, Judaism, Science and Medicine Group, and she is a member of the International Society of Science and Religion.

Featured faculty



Emel Topal

Instructor, College of Integrative Sciences and Arts

In 2003, Topal came to ASU from Turkey, where she completed her bachelor's and master's degree. She pursued her doctoral studies at the Biodesign Institute with focus on infectious disease and vaccine development. Her research contributed to the establishment of an effective vaccine for preventing *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 intestinal attachment and colonization, the primary cause of acute renal failure in children. Now, as an instructor at ASU, she teaches science and mathematics. She received an Outstanding Teaching Award for 2019-2020 from the college. Topal and her family typically visit Turkey each summer and during those visits she volunteers in the primary and middle school where her extended family lives.

Academic partnerships in MENA

2

ASU-Cintana institution

Comprehensive partnership with multiple levels of engagement

1

General collaboration agreement

University-to-university agreement

1

Direct enrollment partnerships

ASU students study abroad, and pay a program fee that includes host institution tuition

4

Memorandum of understanding

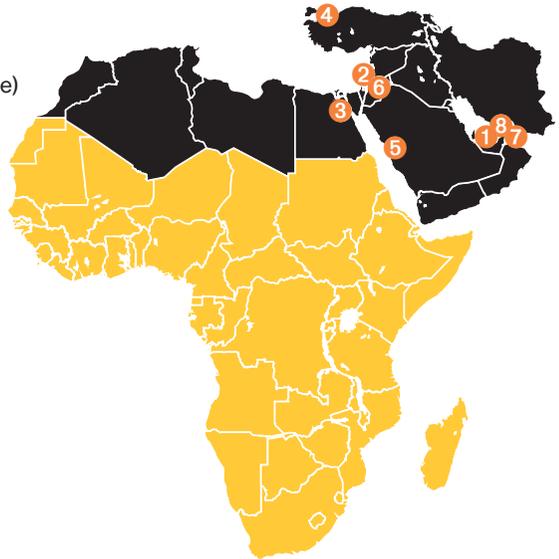
Signed agreements between universities

University partners

1. Abu Dhabi University
2. American University of Beirut
3. Galala University (ASU-Cintana Alliance)
4. Istanbul Bilgi University (ASU-Cintana Alliance)
5. King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia
6. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
7. United Arab Emirates University
8. UAE Ministry of Economy

Partnership countries

Egypt	Saudi Arabia
Israel	Turkiye
Lebanon	United Arab Emirates



Student exchange programs

Council on International Educational Exchange: Business, engineering, arts and sciences program at the American University of Sharjah, UAE

This program allows students to study with their peers from the Arab world in an academic environment and structure based on a U.S. university system. Most Arabic courses are designed for nonnative speakers and focus on modern standard Arabic. Students take innovative courses in social sciences, humanities, natural sciences, business, engineering, architecture and Middle Eastern studies.

GIE: Leadership and Service in Israel and the West Bank

The Global Intensive Experience in Israel and the West Bank is offered by the School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership. A three-credit learning experience, this course is an invitation to ASU students to assess their own views about democracy, conflict, civil disagreement and citizenship through a blend of readings, meetings with Israeli and Palestinian leaders and activists, and immersive experiences. During the 2022 GIE program, students deepened their understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as they visited key sites in Tel Aviv, Bethlehem and an Israeli settlement. They also volunteered at a Tel Aviv community garden and at the Tent of Nations farm in the West Bank. Growing food and planting trees reminded students to focus on hope and resilience.

GIE: Leadership and Technology in Israel

This Global Intensive Experience in Israel will highlight Israeli high-tech innovation and leadership in various sectors such as agriculture, medical, life science and

business development. Students will visit four cities: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa and Ramallah in the West Bank. Students will visit cutting-edge technology organizations to gain an understanding of Israel's leadership in technology innovation, and how these organizations are structured. Students will also visit Israel's diverse cultural sites, while also getting a chance to study Palestinian leadership on the trip to Ramallah.

International Studies Abroad: Arabic studies, international relations and language in Meknes, Morocco

Located in Hamra, the ISA Meknes Study Center offers excellent academics with courses taught by local, U.S. and visiting professors from Carroll College. Students have the option to choose from a variety of course options in many disciplines such as political science, Middle Eastern studies, gender and religious studies, and international relations. Courses consist of only ISA students, and the small student-professor ratio allows for an interactive classroom setting.

Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainability in Jordan

This program provides a global immersion experience in Jordan and the Middle East. Students will complement their prior knowledge in social entrepreneurship and sustainability with hands-on learning experiences from NGOs, nonprofits and emerging entrepreneurs in Jordan. While emphasizing the unique issues and best practices at each organization, the program also offers a broad, macroeconomic view on the Jordanian economy by studying its economic environment and policies.

Academic partnerships and programs

ASU Thunderbird Center in Dubai

Thunderbird's Dubai office partners with governments in the region to support workforce development and nationalization efforts; designs programs for companies that want to expand their employees' global management capabilities; and offers global leadership programs tailored to the learning and cultural nuances of the Middle East.

Campus-based programs

STEM Scholars Program

Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education, a UAE-based foundation provided scholarships to high-achieving Arab students with a passion for science, technology, engineering and math. Eligible students received a full scholarship to enroll in undergraduate programs at ASU while participating in mentorship and community service. This program stopped accepting applicants in 2019.

Expanding educational access

ASU-Cintana Alliance:

Galala University (Egypt)

Galala University is one of the newest fourth-generation Egyptian universities, serving more than 25 million people in the city of Galala. GU's 14 colleges range in various scientific fields and disciplines, including business and engineering.

As part of the ASU-Cintana partnership, GU students can earn a fully accredited bachelor's degree from both GU and ASU without leaving Egypt.

ASU-Cintana Alliance:

Istanbul Bilgi University

Istanbul Bilgi University (BİLGİ) offers associate, bachelor, master, and doctoral degrees to more than 20,000 active students and has over 50,000 alumni. BİLGİ is committed to intellectual inquiry, service to society, honest and open dialogue, providing a safe haven for civil debate in Turkey and around the region.

Building Leadership for Change through School Immersion in Saudi Arabia

This initiative of the Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College was created in direct response to the kingdom's goal of investing in the future of their country by changing the educational landscape in their local schools. It aims to strengthen the values, skills, knowledge and attitudes of teachers, counselors and principals through university-led structured immersion in high-performing, English-speaking K-12 school systems. The ministry designed the initiative to transform the Saudi Arabian education system to strengthen the country's competitiveness, support economic diversification, and provide the support required for the success of the National Transformation Program. Building Leadership participants are expected to be effective change agents when they return to Saudi Arabia.

Education for Humanity in Lebanon

The Education for Humanity initiative leverages the resources and digital strengths of ASU to extend educational access to displaced communities. The initiative focuses on the distribution of digital learning tools offered in a blended learning model to enable admission to university and proof of academic

Academic partnerships and programs

and workplace readiness. The program seeks to work in close collaboration with both local partners and implementing organizations to offer a comprehensive and holistic learning ecosystem that addresses the critical barriers refugees face when trying to pursue a degree. In Lebanon, Education for Humanity has partnered with Lebanese University to offer modules on how to be a successful learner.

Empower Kids Palestine

Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College is working in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, An-Najah University, and other local and international nonprofit organizations to educate students, teachers and community members about the science and benefits of renewable energy technology. The curriculum and training complement photovoltaic panels installed on schools across Palestine to provide the electricity to run school and community infrastructure.

The Al Ghurair Young Thinkers Program

Arizona State University is expanding its global reach to the United Arab Emirates with a new college- and career-readiness platform for young Emirati people. The Al Ghurair Young Thinkers Program, developed jointly with the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education, was launched to help Emirati students ages 15 to 25 prepare for university life and professional careers in fields critical to the future of the UAE. EdPlus created the online platform for the Young Thinkers Program, which includes college-readiness modules in English and Arabic, the interactive me3® career pathway game, and a live chat application to talk to trained coaches. The platform is optimized for smartphones.

Expanding education outreach (Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq)

Education for Humanity at ASU

Education for Humanity at ASU works in partnership with humanitarian organizations and local universities to provide ASU's online education offerings and other tech-enabled education solutions to support refugees and communities affected by displacement. It has served refugees in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Uganda and Rwanda. The program is developing "micro-credentials" in areas including teacher training and entrepreneurship to serve as the midway point between short-term skill development, like English courses, and a long-term degree pathway.

Higher Education Partnership (Morocco)

Partners with ASU's Higher Education Partnership with Morocco support Moroccan faculty in designing and piloting a comprehensive systems approach to teacher preparation. Participants receive a three-year license in primary teaching through pedagogical preparation and apprenticeships. Offered by Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College and led by associate professor Nicole Thompson, this USAID-funded program references international standards in inclusive education with particular attention to gender equity.

Academic partnerships and programs

Leadership Through Problem-Based Learning Initiative (Egypt)

Peter Rillero, associate professor of science education at ASU, created the Leadership Through Problem-Based Learning Initiative, a grant-funded STEM program to teach high school-aged girls how to solve complex problems involving biology and physics. The program is available to young women at Xavier College Preparatory, a private Catholic high school in Phoenix, and Al Farouk Islamic Language School in Cairo to work together through virtual, collaborative, problem-based learning in science. The students communicate virtually through WhatsApp, Dropbox and social media websites like Facebook. For both physics and biology classes, each student partners with one or two students from the other country to solve current science problems.

Open Learning Scholars Program

EdPlus at ASU launched more than 30 online master's programs available in 22 Arab countries in association with the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation, including Mauritania, Comoros, Djibouti, Sudan and Somalia. The program has provided full scholarships for more than 300 Emirati and Arab youth. These master's programs represent the ongoing commitment by ASU to expand its diverse and increasingly global student body of students and by the foundation to help train a new generation of Emirati and Arab youth who also may be working full time or handling family responsibilities.

Fostering economic development

ASU and UAE partner for global decision-making platform

Partnered with the United Arab Emirates, ASU created a decision platform designed to provide relevant, knowledge-driven support, planning and action-oriented outcomes to critical challenges confronting the world today. This initiative to create a global decision network advances a set of innovative processes and tools to help leaders and decision-makers in both the UAE and Arizona address some of the most complex economic, social and environmental challenges we face today while building a more sustainable global future. The network would be based on the ASU Decision Theater, an innovative research facility designed to address shared challenges and explore a new decision-making landscape through the application of focused research within a flexible platform.

Partnership with King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (Saudi Arabia)

The partnership allows ASU and KAUST to share entrepreneurial expertise, advance sustainability research and commercialize research discoveries from both institutions. KAUST students who visit ASU will have access to ASU's resources and connections in Arizona and Silicon Valley, including Draper University. The partnership will not only further advance entrepreneurialism, innovation, technology transfer and economic development in Arizona and Saudi Arabia, but also bring world-class scientists together to tackle grand challenges, such as water resource management, quality and conservation, through interdisciplinary research.

Academic partnerships and programs

Global initiatives

The Francis and Dionne Najafi Global Initiative

To advance the goal of educating 100 million learners by 2030, the Francis and Dionne Najafi Global Initiative contributed \$25 million to the Thunderbird School of Global Management for an accredited online global management and entrepreneurship certificate consisting of five world-class courses in 40 languages. Of the 100 million learners the program will reach worldwide, it is estimated that 70% will be women and young women. Never before has such an ambitious global higher education program been launched. The certificate will be covered by full scholarships; there is no cost to students because of the philanthropic support undergirding the initiative. In year one, the initiative aims to reach learners in their native languages in Iran, Kenya, Mexico, Indonesia, Egypt, India, Senegal, Brazil and Vietnam. By year two, the program will be expanded to at least 25 languages across Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America. By year four (perhaps earlier), the program will have expanded to Europe and Central Asia and comprise 40 languages.

Preparing the next generation of MENA leaders

Next Generation Leaders (Palestine)

ASU's Next Generation Leaders Program is effectively helping train students in leadership by engaging educational leaders from a range of settings who want to transform and better their practice. The program teaches educators how to enhance learning opportunities for students of all ages in Palestine, and thereby creates a network of leaders capable of affecting change throughout the educational system. The program includes a focus on three customized courses, field experiences and engagement with university life.

Stevens Initiative

The Stevens Initiative is an international effort to build career and global competence skills for young people in the U.S., the Middle East, and North Africa by growing and enhancing the field of virtual exchange: online, international and collaborative learning. It prioritizes virtual exchange projects that focus on science, technology, engineering and math while supporting the education of refugees across the MENA region and proposing an in-person exchange to complement the virtual learning experience.

Academic partnerships and programs

Promoting scholarly exchange and collaboration

Amal Mars Mission: Launching the Arab world into the space race

The Amal Mars Mission, also called the Emirates Mars Mission, is the first unmanned, interplanetary satellite spearheaded by the United Arab Emirates and the first planetary science mission led by an Arab-Islamic country. A collaboration with the University of Colorado Boulder, University of California, Berkeley and ASU, the Amal spacecraft is in many ways a state-of-the-art weather satellite. It will help answer some outstanding questions about the changes and history of Mars' climate and atmosphere. It will create a global picture of how the Martian atmosphere varies throughout the day, season and year.

Historic roles of the Maghreb region

The Center for Maghrib Studies at ASU produces knowledge and understanding of the Maghreb region, which consists of North African countries west of Egypt. The center focuses on the historic roles of the Maghreb culture over the centuries to increase understanding of and insight into this understudied and pivotal region. The center has a pedagogical mission to promote educational innovation, research and dialogue between the U.S. and the Maghreb region. Their goals are implemented through conferences, newsletters and collaborations with scholars and institutions of learning in the U.S. and North Africa.

Sustainable Cities Workshop in Cairo

This workshop was funded by the National Science Foundation's Office of International Science and Engineering through a grant to the University of Alabama Birmingham's Sustainable Smart Cities Research Center, and was sponsored by the Egyptian Housing and Building Research Center and Alexandria University. Participants came from several U.S. universities as well as universities and organizations in Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany and Egypt. The products of each working group were potential collaborative proposals.

The Israel-U.S. Initiative on Cybersecurity Research and Development for Energy

The U.S. and Israel, through the U.S. Department of Energy, the Israel Ministry of Energy and the Israel Innovation Authority, have established the U.S.-Israel Center of Excellence in Energy, Engineering and Water to help both countries hone energy grid cyber defense capabilities. Part of this effort has been the establishment of the Israel-U.S. Initiative on Cybersecurity Research and Development for Energy, whose research and development efforts will be overseen by ASU in the U.S. and Ben-Gurion University in Israel. The ASU effort is headed by Yang Weng, an assistant professor of electrical engineering in the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering, and his team, renowned cybersecurity researchers Associate Professor Lalitha Sankar and Regents Professor Ying-Cheng Lai. The collaborative goal is to leverage the core competencies of each partner on artificial intelligence and to deliver transformative cybersecurity solutions for Israel and the U.S., opening global markets for new technologies.

**#1 in the U.S.
for innovation**

ASU ahead of MIT and Stanford

— U.S. News & World Report, 8 years, 2016–2023

**#1 in the U.S. and
#2 in the world
for global impact**

Ahead of MIT, New York University and Penn State

— Times Higher Education, 2022