Master of Arts in Women, Society and Development

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A two-year program focusing on women's studies in general and Arab women in particular. It draws from a variety of disciplines, including economic and social theory; development and policy studies; and law and communication studies.

The Master of Arts in Women, Society and Development is an interdisciplinary program focusing on issues related to women in the context of social and economic development in the Middle East, as well as women’s various roles in the advancement of their communities and societies. It draws on a variety of disciplines in social sciences and humanities, ranging from economic and social theory; to development and policy studies; to law and communication studies.

The program equips students with the ability to engage in local and regional knowledge production, and to hone their skills in understanding and responding to women's issues that are specific to the Middle East.

It enables students to translate this knowledge into practices and social interventions that are needed to improve the status of Middle Eastern girls and women in their own communities.

The program aligns with Qatar’s aspirations to contribute to global sustainable development in matters related to women and gender issues. It offers Qatar a think-tank capability on women's issues that can be used for coherent national policy-making on issues related to women.
The launch of an MA program focusing on Arab women’s studies marks another milestone in Qatar’s track record, as it comes at a time when the entire world is calling for the development of education systems.”

His Excellency Dr. Hamad bin Abdulazeez Al-Kuwari, Adviser at Amiri Diwan and Qatar’s candidate for the Director-General post at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Program focus:

Students will understand global research on women’s issues from a theoretical and methodological perspective needed for advancement to PhD programs.

Students will understand how global research both defines and is informed by the specific debates and issues pertaining to women and development in the Middle East.

Students will learn how to translate academic theory and debate into local, knowledge-making practices needed to identify and address women's issues at the neighborhood, community and regional levels.

Students will learn how local knowledge-making can be used to inform regional and national policies by applying inclusive equitable and effective public policies in all public and private institutions.

Students will study about movements in other regions of the world.

Curriculum:

A 39-credit full-time program, taught in English over two years that includes:

- Core course: History, Politics and Cultures of the Middle East
- Core course: Social, Economic and Development Theory
- Core course: Research Methods
- Core course: Introduction to Women and Gender Studies
- Core course: Women, Work and Economic Development in the Middle East
- Core course: Arab Women in a Global and Comparative Context
- Core course: Critical Writing and Research Skills
- Three Elective Courses
• Independent Study

• MA Thesis

• Internship