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- Master of Arts in Islamic Studies

## Master of Arts in Islamic Studies

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### Admission & Application Requirements

Applicants seeking admission to the Master of Arts in Islamic Studies should have a bachelor's degree from a recognized university. They must also have a strong undergraduate academic record (minimum 3.0 GPA or equivalent). Applicants who wish to pursue the Contemporary Fiqh or Contemporary Qur'anic Studies concentration should have a bachelor's degree in Shari'a, Islamic Studies, or a related area.

Applicants who intend to pursue a concentration in Comparative Religions or Islamic Civilization and Societies are required to submit an IELTS score of 6.5 or a TOEFL score of 79 to demonstrate their proficiency in English. Applicants can be exempt from this requirement if they meet one of the conditions listed below:

- The applicant completed their studies at a university in a country where English is the native language
- The applicant provides an official letter confirming that they obtained their degree from a university where the medium of instruction is English (if not otherwise exempt)
- The applicant's first language is English

Applicants who intend to pursue a concentration in Contemporary Fiqh or Contemporary Qur'anic Studies must demonstrate proficiency in Arabic through previous studies (e.g. completing an undergraduate degree in which the language of instruction was Arabic or by completing a proficiency examination offered by CIS).

Students will be asked to identify a concentration at the time of application. This is to ensure that students' language proficiency is consistent with the concentration they have selected. However, students have until the end of their first semester to finalize their selection and may change concentrations as long as they meet the language proficiency requirement at the time of applying.

## **Application**

The online application form can be accessed [here](#).

Please note that this application is for admissions only. Information on how to apply for funding (where this is an option) is provided to students who have been admitted to the program.

It is the applicant's responsibility to submit all required documents at the time of application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

## **Academic transcripts**

Official electronic copies of transcripts should be submitted as part of the online application. Final transcripts and graduation statements are required for all previous university studies. All transcripts submitted should include an explanation of the grading system.

For those who have not completed their current studies, transcripts must include results from the last completed semester of coursework. Transcripts in languages other than English or Arabic must be accompanied with an official translation.

Applicants who are admitted to the program based on copies of or incomplete transcripts will be required to provide original transcripts upon enrollment in order to register for courses.

## **Standardized test results**

Official copies of standardized test results (TOEFL, IELTS) must be sent directly to HBKU. Please refer to the institutional codes below:

- TOEFL: 4981
- IELTS: No code required. Students should ask the IELTS center where they tested to send the IELTS TRF to Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar

Applicants should also submit copies of their test scores with the online application.

## **Letters of recommendation**

Applicants should submit two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from an academic referee. Referees should send their letters of recommendation from their professional email directly to and mention the name of the applicant and program they are applying to in the subject line of the email.

Click [here](#) to download the recommendation form

## **Personal statement of interest**

Applicants should submit a personal statement that explains why they are applying and how their studies will contribute to the achievement of their personal objectives, including information about past achievements and challenges they have faced in their academic or professional life (minimum of 300 words, maximum of 500 words).

Applicants who intend to pursue concentrations in Islamic Civilization and Societies or Comparative Religions should submit a personal statement in English. Applicants who intend to pursue a concentration in Contemporary Fiqh, or Contemporary Qur'anic Studies should submit a personal statement in Arabic.

## **Resume/curriculum vitae**

Applicants should submit a copy of their current resume or curriculum vitae with the online application.

## **Identification document**

All applicants should submit an electronic copy of their passport as part of the online application. Nationals and residents of Qatar should also submit their valid Qatari ID.

## **Student Funding**

The College of Islamic Studies provides opportunities for scholarships/funding on a competitive basis. Further information will be provided to applicants who are admitted to the program.

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- Please do not submit any additional application materials which are not on the list of required items. Any additional materials received will be automatically discarded.
  - HBKU cannot return documents to the applicant once they are submitted.
  - All documents submitted through the online application must be in PDF format. Any documents submitted in a different format will not be accepted.
  - Application deadline for international applicants: February 1, 2020
  - Application deadline for nationals and residents of Qatar: March 15, 2020

## Program Admissions

### Important Dates

- 01  
Feb  
2020  
[Application deadline for international applicants](#)
- 15  
Mar  
2020  
[Application deadline for nationals and residents of Qatar](#)

## Contact Information

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