College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Prospectus 2021/2022
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About HBKU
Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF), was founded in 2010 to continue fulfilling QF’s vision of unlocking human potential.

HBKU is a homegrown research and graduate studies university that acts as a catalyst for positive transformation in Qatar and the region while having a global impact.

Located within Education City, HBKU seeks to provide unparalleled opportunities where inquiry and discovery are integral to teaching and learning at all levels, utilizing a multidisciplinary approach across its focus areas.

The university provides an array of graduate programs through its College of Islamic Studies, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Science and Engineering, College of Law, College of Health and Life Sciences, and College of Public Policy.

HBKU is also home to three research institutes – Qatar Biomedical Research Institute (QBRI), Qatar Computing Research Institute (QCRI), and Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute (QEERI) – which together with the colleges are at the forefront of efforts to seek novel solutions to grand challenges facing Qatar and the region.

Additionally, HBKU’s Executive Education Center delivers customized programs for the business community of Qatar and the region.
At Hamad Bin Khalifa University, our people are our greatest strength, and when students enroll in one of our academic programs, they become part of a thriving community that is committed to the pursuit of excellence and innovation. HBKU has a mandate to build and cultivate human capacity by offering students an enriching academic experience that extends beyond the classroom. By utilizing unique collaborations with local and international partners, we aim to tackle the challenges of the region and the world through interdisciplinary education and innovative research.

HBKU is proud to offer students the opportunity to learn from world-renowned faculty and industry leaders through our colleges and our three national research institutes, providing the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to become experts in their chosen fields, and take their careers to the next level. HBKU is situated in a regional economic and cultural hub, and our students benefit greatly from exposure to diverse perspectives as they determine how to use their degrees to positively contribute to their own development and that of their communities, whether in Qatar or across the world.

Additionally, HBKU benefits from an exceptional student-to-faculty ratio and from being based in Education City – a unique hub of learning that offers students a wealth of opportunities to play an active role in a vibrant multicultural environment.

As a student at HBKU, you have the opportunity to play a key role at an institution which, at its heart, is committed to innovating today and shaping tomorrow.
Research

Research is the cornerstone of Hamad Bin Khalifa University’s commitment to building human capacity through interdisciplinary education and innovation that supports Qatar’s journey towards sustainable growth. HBKU’s interdisciplinary research and education environment is distinguished by a unique synergy among the colleges and research institutes.

The university’s students, faculty, and researchers work within an ecosystem that addresses challenges of national priority and contributes to outcomes with a tangible impact on society. Collectively, they are achieving breakthroughs in the fields of biomedicine, genomics and precision medicine, information and communications technology and sustainability, while advancing knowledge across the humanities, Islamic studies, law, and public policy.

At each of the six colleges, students work under the guidance of faculty to conduct research that results in tangible solutions and innovative outcomes.
About CHSS
The College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) was established with a vision to enrich society in Qatar and across the wider world with transformative educational experiences that bridge disciplinary boundaries and offer the academic community opportunities to engage in innovative research and collaboration. We aspire to nurture a diverse body of academically grounded and socially responsible global citizens, whose versatility will enable them to navigate the complexities of today’s world and become the leaders of tomorrow.

The college currently offers a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program in Humanities and Social Sciences, and four interdisciplinary Master’s degree programs; MA in Translation Studies; MA in Audiovisual Translation; MA in Women, Society and Development; and MA in Digital Humanities and Societies. The Master of Arts programs in Translation Studies and Audiovisual Translation are delivered by the Translation and Interpreting Institute (TII) and internationally validated by the University of Geneva in Switzerland.

Through the TII, the college also offers high-level training workshops, a range of language programs, as well as quality professional translation and interpreting services. TII was founded in 2012 with a remit to build capacity in Qatar and the region and to function as a physical and virtual space that delivers sophisticated translator and interpreter education, high-level training in a range of languages, and quality translation and interpreting services of the highest international standards. Its core mission is to equip students for a successful career as translators and interpreters in multiple language combinations.
Academic Departments

Translation and Interpreting Studies Department at the Translation and Interpreting Institute (TII)

The Translation and Interpreting Studies Department spearheads an ambitious strategy for postgraduate education in the region, delivering a unique set of graduate programs to train leading professionals working between Arabic and a range of languages in all areas of translation and interpreting.

Currently, the Department offers the following MA Programs:
- Master of Arts in Translation Studies (MATS)
- Master of Arts in Audiovisual Translation (MAAT)

Middle Eastern Studies Department

The Middle Eastern Studies Department aims to tackle the fusion and fluidity of identities, cultures, and knowledge production in the region and beyond. The department and its MA programs encourage the examination of the international and indigenous scholarship production and how they enhance the understanding of Arab and Qatari development contexts for the study of women’s role in society, and the impact of different digital technologies on communication, media, culture, and human development needs in the region.

Currently, the Department offers the following MA Programs:
- Master of Arts in Women, Society and Development (MAWSD)
- Master of Arts in Digital Humanities and Societies (MADHS)

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Humanities and Social Sciences

The PhD in Humanities and Social Sciences is the first degree of its kind in Qatar, and one of the few in the world providing students with the philosophical and technical grounding to design and tailor their own interdisciplinary program. The program is flexible, accommodating students who wish to apply their interdisciplinary research in a variety of subjects in the fields of humanities and social sciences, while allowing for specializations through a dissertation.
TII was established in 2012 with a vision to offer world-class education in translation, interpreting and foreign languages, contributing to the growth of a knowledge-based economy as a center of education and research, and a service provider and employer.

TII’s mission is to provide a comprehensive suite of postgraduate programs in translation and interpreting that prepare qualified graduates for professional and scholarly careers. It is committed to advancing research in the various fields of translation studies and serving the community by providing foreign language education and offering high-quality translation and interpreting services.
In addition to offering two academic degrees, TII houses several centers:

**Translation and Training Center**

The Translation and Training Center (TTC) aims at bridging the gap between the academic and professional aspects of translator training. The center aims at promoting community development and building capacity through continuing education opportunities in translation and interpreting, as well as offering quality translation and interpreting services to Qatar Foundation and strategic partners.

The Center designs and implements training workshops with a view to developing the professional and technical skills that professionals and TII’s MA students require to access the translation market, especially in the areas of quality assurance, project management and entrepreneurship. In addition, TTC offers internship programs to TII’s MA students, where they have the opportunity to work under the supervision of highly qualified professionals.

The Center’s translation and interpreting training and services are undertaken by a highly qualified team of professionals. In addition to offering translation, interpreting, and audiovisual translation services, TTC delivers professional development workshops to the wide community of translation professionals and communicators. Due to the wide range of offerings, TTC engages and collaborates with various entities within Qatar, including ministries, museums, educational institutes, and others.

**Language Center**

The Language Center (LC) offers excellent language training in twelve languages, namely Arabic, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin Chinese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Turkish. The courses can be taken for personal enrichment or for professional purposes. Therefore, there are various course formats whose content ranges from basic language instruction and language for professional and special purposes, to language for travel.

The center’s language courses are normally held twice a week for 12 weeks. All four skills are taught: listening, speaking, reading and writing, while placing emphasis on communication, which is often of greatest interest to adult students.

Some courses are divided into two parts: two shorter courses of five or six-week sessions each, to give greater flexibility to students who travel or have scheduling difficulties.

Acquiring language in its cultural context is also an integral part of the center’s teaching philosophy. The center organizes a program of cultural events to expose the students to the cultures of the languages they are learning, and works closely with foreign embassies in Qatar, as well as international language and cultural institutions.

In addition to adults’ language programs, LC offers a range of language programs for kids and teenagers in Arabic, French, Spanish, Mandarin Chinese, German and Portuguese. During classes, children will learn to understand and express themselves in the language of choice taking an exciting journey into the culture, where they will be practicing through well-structured lessons and diverse activities such as songs, games, crafts, music, drama and art.

Language Center website: [https://tii.qa/LC](https://tii.qa/LC)
Academic Writing and Research Excellence Center

The Academic Writing and Research Excellence Center (AWARE) assists students with their academic writing and research skills in both English and Arabic. Students can benefit from its services in three ways: by attending workshops, scheduling individual one-to-one tutorials with instructors, and visiting the digital resources LibGuide pages which are accessible via the AWARE homepage.

For more information about TII's activities, please visit www.tii.qa
Students and Alumni

Graduates of CHSS programs leave with sound knowledge in applications and methodologies used within the interdisciplinary fields of Translation and Interpreting Studies and Middle Eastern Studies. Graduates are equipped with all the skills and experience they need to contribute to and excel in a rapidly changing world.

Our interdisciplinary programs enable our alumni to work within various fields in Qatar and the region.

Some of the fields in which our alumni work include:

- Education
- Communications
- Tourism
- Foreign affairs
- Media
- Healthcare
- Oil and gas
- Telecommunications
- Banking

CHSS prides itself on a rich culture and community with a diverse student body representing many different countries, all with the common attribute of pursuing education under the college’s umbrella.
CHSS recruits and retains highly qualified faculty with a proven track record in the fields of Translation Studies and Middle Eastern Studies. Our outstanding roster includes faculty members teaching four Master of Arts programs and one PhD program, in addition to distinguished visiting and adjunct faculty.

**CHSS’ faculty members are involved in research areas that include:**

- Accessibility
- Action Research in Translation
- Contrastive Discourse Analysis
- Corpus-based Translation Studies
- Legal and Medical Translation and Interpreting
- Literary translation and Narrative Studies
- Media Translation
- Multisensory Communication and Audiovisual Translation
- International Relations
- Energy Geopolitics
- Political Economy
- Specialized Translation and Terminology
- Legal and Medical Translation and Interpreting
- Theory-Practice Interface in Translation
- Translation and Conflict Translation Pedagogy
- Translation Technology
- Digital Humanities and Digital Media
- Identity and Cultural Heritage
- Intercultural Studies
- Gulf History and Politics
- Refugee and Migration Studies
- Middle East Studies
- Computational Linguistics
- Computational Social Science
- Corpus Linguistics
- Arabic Language Technologies
- Social Media Analytics
- Women and Gender Socio-Cultural Studies
- Women, Work and Economic Development
- Medical Sociology
- Corpus-based Translation Studies
- Specialized Translation
- Applied Linguistics
- Computational Linguistics
- Arabic Language Technologies
- Social Media Analytics
- Women and Gender Socio-Cultural Studies
- Women, Work and Economic Development
- Medical Sociology
- Corpus-based Translation Studies
- Specialized Translation
- Applied Linguistics
At a Glance

5 Programs
PhD in Humanities and Social Sciences
MA in Translation Studies
MA in Audiovisual Translation
MA in Women, Society and Development
MA in Digital Humanities and Societies

100+ Students
across the College

60+ Nationalities
across HBKU

Qatari Students (30%)

136 CHSS Alumni
The MA in Translation Studies (MATS) delivered by TII is designed to train highly skilled translators in the areas of business and commerce, science and technology, literary translation, legal and medical translation, and translation of media texts, as well as translation for international organizations. The acquisition of practical translation competence is complemented by advanced training in the use of translation technology and work placement experience. A theoretical component encourages sophisticated intellectual inquiry, thus equipping students with a sound foundation for professional work and doctoral study in the field of translation studies.

In May 2020, validation for the MATS program was officially renewed to a second five-year term by the Faculty of Translation and Interpreting (FTI) of the University of Geneva.

Graduates of the program are equipped to:

- Work as in-house translators in various sectors, including media, industry, tourism, advertising, insurance, banking, and public administration, as well as for international organizations (e.g. United Nations agencies).
- Specialize as editors, revisers, terminologists, or translation project managers.
- Start their own businesses or take a competitive examination to become sworn (certified) translators working for the courts of justice in Qatar.
- Pursue careers in translation or opt for advanced research at PhD level.

Structure

A two-year full-time program, or a three-year part-time program that requires 42 credits with eight required courses, three electives, an internship and a thesis. All courses are conducted face-to-face and are classroom-based. They are taught in English and take place on campus at HBKU.

Curriculum

Students are taught by faculty members of CHSS, who are leading scholars and researchers in their fields, and by distinguished visiting professors and experts working in the field of translation. Students are introduced to professional experience through an internship at TII’s Translation and Training Center or with external partners, such as companies or ministries. Further insights are provided by professional translators’ contribution to practical courses. The program is benchmarked against the highest international standards.
Translation and Interpreting Studies Department

Master of Arts in Audiovisual Translation

The MA in Audiovisual Translation (MAAT) delivered by TII is designed to train specialists in the mediation of audiovisual texts, both for foreign language viewers and sensory-impaired audiences.

The flourishing field of audiovisual translation opens itself to fundamental and applied research in a wide range of domains. Taking audiovisual text as its focus area, research can address technical and technological issues, as well as linguistic and/or cultural and ideological issues. In audiovisual translation, socially oriented scholars will find ample space for applied research with an impact in domains such as television, the arts, cultural, and educational contexts.

In May 2016, the Faculty of Translation and Interpreting (FTI) of the University of Geneva officially granted validation for the MAAT program.

Graduates of the program are equipped to:

- Master the practical and technological skills required for a career in subtitling, dubbing, voiceover, subtitling for the hard of hearing and audio description.
- Use their enhanced analytical skills in a practical setting.
- Pursue careers in translation or opt for advanced research at PhD level.

Structure

A two-year full-time program, or a three-year part-time program that requires 42 credits with nine required courses, two electives, an internship, and a thesis.

All courses are conducted face-to-face and are classroom-based. They are taught in English and take place on campus at HBKU. AVT 636 - Intersensory Translation for Access will be offered as a fully online course.

Curriculum

Students are taught by faculty members of CHSS, who are leading scholars and researchers in their fields, and by distinguished visiting professors and experts working in the field of translation.

The program, which includes work placement experience, is taught in state-of-the-art computer labs equipped with the latest professional subtitling software.

The program is benchmarked against the highest international standards.
The MA in Women, Society and Development is a two-year 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 in the region. It draws on a variety of disciplines in social sciences and humanities, ranging from economic and social theory, to development and policy studies, to history and communication studies.

The program fulfills Qatar’s aspiration to contribute to global sustainable development goals relating to women and gender issues and the role of women in social and economic development. It also provides the nation with a think-tank capability on women-related issues that can be used for developing coherent national policies that cross the commercial, health, education and family sectors.

The program is open to all those interested in developing expertise in a wide variety of issues relating to women, society and development in the Middle East.

Graduates of the program are equipped to:

- Engage in local and regional knowledge production, and to enhance their skills in understanding and responding to women’s issues that are specific to the Middle Eastern context.
- Pursue careers in different fields and entities such as research, higher education, consulting entities, media firms, diplomatic entities, and national, regional and international non-governmental organizations.
- Pursue advanced research at PhD level.

Structure

A two-year, full-time program that requires 39 credits with three departmental core courses, three program core courses, three electives, an internship (or an independent research project), and a thesis.

All courses are taught in English.

Curriculum

Students are taught by faculty members of CHSS, who are leading scholars and researchers in their fields, or by distinguished visiting professors specialized in Middle Eastern studies.

Students are introduced to professional activity through an internship at world-renowned professional institutions locally or internationally.
The MA in Digital Humanities and Societies is a two-year program that allows participants to study the Middle East's digital culture from a scholarly and applied perspective. Through the program, students are able to specialize as archival print scholars of Middle Eastern digital cultures or as researchers trained to employ the powerful methodologies of the digital humanities to investigate practices, patterns and trends of digital culture.

The MA in Digital Humanities and Societies program welcomes applicants with an interest in digital cultures and digital humanities, including students who have recently graduated from an undergraduate program, entrepreneurs, project managers, and working specialists in IT, public relations, communications, libraries, media and cultural heritage backgrounds.

Graduates of the program are equipped to:

- Contribute to cutting-edge theory and timely intellectual conversations about digital cultures in the Middle East and other regions.
- Pursue careers in different fields such as higher education administration, library or cultural heritage organizations, research centers, communication, media and marketing firms, or digital start-ups.
- Pursue advanced research at PhD level.

Structure
A two-year, full-time program that requires 39 credits with three departmental core courses, three program core courses, three electives, an internship (or an independent research project), and a thesis. All courses are taught in English.

Curriculum
Students are taught by faculty members of CHSS, who are leading scholars and researchers in their fields, or by distinguished visiting professors. Students are introduced to professional activity through an internship at world-renowned professional institutions locally or internationally.
The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Humanities and Social Sciences is the first degree of its kind in Qatar, and one of the few in the world providing students with the philosophical and technical grounding to design and tailor their own interdisciplinary program while being able to specialize through a dissertation.

The program is flexible, accommodating students who wish to apply their interdisciplinary research in a variety of subjects in the fields of humanities and social sciences, while allowing for specializations through a pathway to a PhD in an established field at the time of graduation. It exposes them to identity making, policy-making, development strategies, institution building, leadership guidance, and sustainable development.

Students will draw from a common curriculum and gain skills in interdisciplinary research, yet graduate with a PhD in a field that will offer them strong employment opportunities. Aligned with the objectives of Qatar National Vision 2030, the program equips its students with the personal and professional skills to ensure all graduates are prepared to work globally, with strong sustainability values and connections to the community.

Graduates of the program are equipped to:
- Engage with themes and ideas that cut across disciplines
- Demonstrate expertise in disciplines within relevant fields
- Demonstrate expertise in theory
- Acquire knowledge for advancing research towards societal and scholarly impact
- Produce original interdisciplinary research

Structure
The 54-credit hour degree program taught full-time over a minimum of three years in English includes 18 credits of taught courses and 36 credits of supervised research. PhD students must complete all the PhD degree requirements within seven years of matriculation in the PhD program. Drawing on pedagogical and research collective, students will partake in a common curriculum; gain competence in interdisciplinary research, yet graduate with a PhD that will support their employment opportunities.

All courses are taught in English.

Curriculum
The curriculum requires students to take the following courses and exams:
- Explorations in Global Humanities
- Explorations in Interdisciplinarity
- Doctoral Independent Study
- Doctoral Comprehensive Exam
- Candidacy Exam
- Dissertation

Students will also take three open elective courses for disciplinary breadth. These can be taken from across HBKU programs and other QF campuses.
Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking admission to the MA Degrees should have a bachelor’s degree in a relevant field with a strong academic record (minimum 3.0 GPA out of 4) from a recognized university.

Applicants seeking admission to the PhD in Humanities and Social Sciences should have a master’s degree in a relevant field with a strong academic record (minimum 3.0 GPA out of 4) from a recognized university.

Applicants are required to submit a minimum IELTS score of 6.5 or TOEFL score of 79 in order to demonstrate their proficiency in English. The IELTS or TOEFL score must be no more than two years old.

For applicants who are interested in programs within the Middle Eastern Studies Department, further details about the language proficiency requirement and the process to seek exemption (where this is an option) are available on the website: admissions.hbku.edu.qa

IELTS or TOEFL requirements will not be waived under any circumstances for applicants to the MA in Audiovisual Translation and the MA in Translation Studies. An English language-related major will not exempt applicants from this requirement; neither will holding any specific passport. Applicants to the MA in Audiovisual Translation and MA in Translation Studies should have strong language proficiency in Arabic. Applicants will be assessed on their Arabic language skills during the admissions interview and through a written assessment.

Applicants to the PhD in Humanities and Social Sciences are required to submit a GRE General Test score at the time of application.
Application Requirements

Application:
A completed online application form: admissions.hbku.edu.qa

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 (where required) must be sent directly to HBKU. Please refer to the institutional codes below:
- GRE: 7551
- 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

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

Letters of recommendation:
Applicants to the PhD program should submit two letters of recommendation, preferably from academic referees.

Please visit admissions.hbku.edu.qa for further information about the submission process.

Personal statement of interest:
Applicants should submit a personal statement as part of the online application. The statement should explain why they are applying to the program, and how their studies will contribute to the achievement of their personal and professional motivations (minimum of 300 words, maximum of 500 words).

PhD Research Proposal:
Applicants should submit a research proposal. Full details are available on our website.

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

CHSS provides opportunities for funding on a competitive basis. Further information will be provided to applicants who are admitted to the program.
Contact Information

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