

# College of Islamic Studies

كلية الدراسات الإسلامية  
College of Islamic Studies

جامعة حمد بن خليفة  
HAMAD BIN KHALIFA UNIVERSITY



Prospectus  
**24/25**

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# Overview

NBK KU

The image shows a spacious, modern interior, likely a lobby or a public area. In the foreground, large, three-dimensional letters spell out 'NBK KU'. The letters are primarily white with blue and dark blue accents. The 'N' and 'K' have blue diagonal stripes, while the 'B' and 'U' are solid dark blue. The 'NBK' part is on the left, and the 'KU' part is on the right. In the background, two men are standing and talking. The man on the left is wearing a white thobe and ghutra, while the man on the right is wearing a dark t-shirt, jeans, and a cap, with a backpack. The ceiling is white with several hexagonal recessed light fixtures. The floor is highly reflective, showing the lights and the letters. There are white columns and glass partitions in the background.

# Excellence

Recognition of Quality Through Achievements

# Innovation

Leading Transformation

# Partners

Success Through Synergy

# People

Shaping Society

# Innovating Today, Shaping Tomorrow

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 were established in 2011 in line with Qatar National Vision 2030 to seek novel solutions to grand challenges facing Qatar and the region.

# Why Study at HBKU?

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At Hamad Bin Khalifa University, students join a vibrant community dedicated to excellence and innovation. We cultivate human capacity through enriching academic experiences, unique collaborations with partners, and interdisciplinary education to address global challenges.

HBKU offers students exposure to world-renowned faculty and industry leaders, equipping them with knowledge and skills to excel in their fields. Located in a regional hub, students gain diverse perspectives to contribute positively to their development and communities globally.

Moreover, HBKU thrives with an outstanding student-to-faculty ratio in Education City, a hub that provides abundant opportunities for active participation in a dynamic multicultural setting. As an HBKU student, you can play a pivotal role in an institution dedicated to innovation and shaping the future.





## Research

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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 research and educational environment is distinguished by 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 tangible impacts 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.





# About the College of Islamic Studies

# College Overview

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The College of Islamic Studies (CIS) provides a unique platform that contributes to critical intellectual debates on Islam in a global context through its blended academic programs and an immersive learning experience, as well as its distinguished research division, which includes several research centers and clusters. The college's graduate programs equip students with the training and skills required to pursue careers in academia and research, as well as the cultural, business, and financial sectors, through specialized tracks and year-round development opportunities.







## Students

CIS students come from a range of academic backgrounds that are as diverse as their nationalities, strengthening the academic and cultural fabric of the college and HBKU. The programs at CIS admit students with high academic standing in related undergraduate or graduate programs. Students with relevant work experience are also encouraged to apply.

The CIS alumni community now includes more than 800 graduates representing 70 nationalities. CIS alumni have diverse career trajectories and positions in public and private sectors within Qatar, the region, and the world.

In addition, a notable number of CIS alumni have pursued their doctoral degrees either at CIS or prestigious universities abroad.

### Career Prospects

CIS programs offer graduates an array of career possibilities. Whether seeking career development opportunities or occupying senior-level positions, CIS graduates are well-equipped to tackle the challenges of a constantly evolving global landscape and a rapidly changing job market.

**Graduates of CIS programs can readily occupy positions in a range of institutions depending on their specialization and interest:**

- ▶ Government
- ▶ NGOs and INGOs
- ▶ Education and research
- ▶ Religion- and faith-based institutions
- ▶ Policy institutes
- ▶ Financial institutions and advisory firms
- ▶ Central and private banks
- ▶ Multinational and private corporations
- ▶ Media
- ▶ Development agencies
- ▶ Translation and interpretation
- ▶ Art galleries
- ▶ Museums and archives
- ▶ Architectural and design firms

# Faculty and Research Areas

CIS faculty are established experts within their respective fields who not only incorporate curriculum-based instruction, but also encourage inquiry and intellectual pursuits that extend beyond the traditional classroom. In addition, CIS faculty are actively engaged in conducting research and contributing to global scholarship in a wide range of research areas, including but not limited to:

- ▶ Fiqh and society
- ▶ Islam and modernity
- ▶ Theological and philosophical ethics
- ▶ Applied Islamic ethics (Islamic bioethics, migration, and human rights, etc.)
- ▶ Islamic social finance and circular economy
- ▶ Green finance, food security, and impact investing
- ▶ Fintech and digital banking
- ▶ Islamic banking and financial markets
- ▶ Sustainable development and faith
- ▶ Global governance and religion
- ▶ Preservation of heritage and cultural identity in Muslim societies
- ▶ Trends and typologies of Islamic architecture





## Research Division

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CIS' Research Division consists of a number of research centers and clusters that foster interdisciplinary research to generate greater collaborative learning and research work. It aims to increase research output and dissemination at CIS, including peer-reviewed and high-impact publications, events such as conferences and roundtables, media reporting, grant proposals, and a data repository (I-BIR).

### Center for Islamic Economics and Finance (CIEF)

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CIEF provides thought leadership in the fields of Islamic banking and finance. It is dedicated to leading inquiries and convening discussions on the relationship between the Islamic faith and economic phenomena pertaining to the behavior of individuals, institutions, and markets.

### Muhammad Bin Hamad Al Thani Center for Muslim Contribution to Civilization (CMCC)

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CMCC grants non-Arabic speakers access to scholarly works, which highlight the contributions Muslims have made to human civilization by translating a selection of the Great Books of Islamic Civilization into English and other major languages.

### Research Center for Islamic Legislation and Ethics (CILE)

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CILE leads the reform and renewal of contemporary Islamic legal and ethical thought and behavior by contributing to a sustainable ethical framework for addressing contemporary global challenges.

## Islamic Bibliographic Info Repository (I-BIR)

The Islamic Bibliographic Information Repository (I-BIR) is an open-access digital platform for CIS research and publications. I-BIR was developed for sharing and preserving all academic works, including information on research clusters, in-house publications, student theses, event reports, and profiles of CIS faculty and researchers. Maintained by the Research Division, I-BIR also features specialized projects within CIS, such as an extensive repository within the Islamic Economics and Finance Database, a project on the Digital Sira, the Covenants of the Prophet Muhammad Project, and Maker Majlis.





## Research Clusters

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Research clusters are designed to provide a network-based, resource-rich environment to produce collaborative research outcomes. More than 50 projects have been awarded research grants across four cycles of the research clusters to date.

The broad, cross-disciplinary themes for the research clusters include:

### **Critical Issues in Islamic Studies**

This initiative aims to redefine the epistemological framework of Islamic studies by integrating Islamic learning with the contemporary social sciences, and thereby challenging and providing alternatives to the existing narratives of the academy. It attempts to meet the social and psychological needs and challenges faced by Muslim societies in modernity, by offering unique insights, novel solutions, and innovative research on Islamic studies, as broadly conceived.

### **Islam and Applied Ethics**

The initiative addresses the modern challenges and their impact on Islamic jurisprudence while also developing innovative Islamic solutions. Researchers are encouraged to explore diverse topics and offer a comprehensive and holistic view of Islamic law, analyzing its consideration of the maqasid of Islam, science, and contemporary practices. The cluster also focuses on the practical application of ethical concepts, particularly those emanating from Islamic sources, to help address contemporary moral and ethical dilemmas facing humanity.

### **Islam, Reform, and Global Affairs**

Critically analyzes the reform project in the Muslim World, its forms, the rise of reform movements, their pioneers, their methodologies, and their achievements and failures. It also addresses pressing global issues affecting contemporary Muslim societies and humanity globally such as topics pertaining to sustainable development, and sheds light on the theoretical debates and practical discussions revolving around institutional dynamics, contextual variables, and other factors that affect integral development.

### **Islamic Art, Architecture, and Urbanity**

Hosts contemporary theoretical and critical discourses in relation to Islamic art, identity, and urban life, while highlighting the overlap with Islamic values. Within this research cluster, researchers are encouraged to explore topics related directly to Islamic art and architecture, their history, and/or landscaping and urban planning.

### **Islamic Civilization: Foundations and Institutions**

Explores the growth of Islam and studies the four areas that form the basis of Islamic civilization, namely theology, philosophy, mysticism, and jurisprudence. It also looks at the institutions that were introduced and developed within the Islamic civilization and were actively involved in the creation of an Islamic society. This research cluster engages with critical discourses on contemporary issues of Islamic civilizations globally.

### **Islamic Finance and Sustainable Economies**

Explores the interdisciplinary study of the Islamic banking and finance industry while scrutinizing the relationship between the Islamic faith and economic phenomenon pertaining to the behavior of individuals, institutions, and markets, and its interaction with emerging financial technologies. It also examines Islamic perspectives on production, redistribution, and exchange; the Islamic components of the moral economy, such as social and behavioral norms, roles, and the functioning of Islamic economic institutions including zakat and waqf; and emerging concepts such as sustainable economy, Fintech, and environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investments.



## At a Glance

# 10 Programs

- ▶ PhD in Islamic Finance and Economy
- ▶ PhD in Islamic Studies
- ▶ Master of Arts in Applied Islamic Ethics
- ▶ Master of Arts in Contemporary Islamic Studies
- ▶ Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology
- ▶ Master of Arts in Islam and Global Affairs
- ▶ Master of Science in Islamic Art, Architecture and Urbanism
- ▶ Master of Science in Islamic Finance
- ▶ Graduate Certificate in Islamic Studies
- ▶ Graduate Certificate in Islamic Finance



# 175

Students

\*Qatari students (24%)

# 823

Alumni

# 70

Nationalities  
across CIS

# Programs





# Doctor of Philosophy in Islamic Finance and Economy



The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Islamic Finance and Economy is an innovative multidisciplinary program that provides students with the required analytical and research skills to understand, analyze, and interpret the workings of the rapidly expanding Islamic financial services and market sectors, and to tackle their emerging challenges and opportunities. The program is centered on the national priorities as set out in the Qatar National Vision 2030, on the local aspirations as enshrined in the objectives of the Shari’a, and on global targets such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

A key motivation for the PhD program is to develop unique and innovative approaches for the continuous transformation of economies to become more responsible, inclusive, and resilient. The policy relevance of Islamic finance continues to increase, alongside the need to understand and integrate concepts such as responsible finance, green finance, and circular economies.

## Program Focus

The program focuses on Qatar’s economy and businesses with expected spillover benefits for the region and globally. In this sense, the program’s curriculum philosophy and content are unique as they refer to local values, national targets, and international goals.

It also seeks to develop synergy between the three through transformation, social entrepreneurship, and shared prosperity and well-being.

### The following are the main features of the program:

#### Quantitative foundation

Examine how to critically investigate and analyze the relationship between finance, economics, and Shari’a by using both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies.

#### Shari’a studies

Acquire the abilities to interweave the tenets and values of Shari’a with the theory and practice of finance and economics, and develop a mindset to analyze, innovate, and create solutions to contemporary challenges.

#### Social entrepreneurship

Promote innovation, original thinking, and entrepreneurial creativity and acumen in applying Islamic finance and economics theories in Qatar and other circular economy contexts.

#### Sustainability

Provide students with an in-depth understanding of the pivotal role played by entrepreneurs in developing a sustainable economy and promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth and wealth.

#### Responsible finance and economics

Foster a deep understanding of environmental, social, and governance concerns and analysis of Islamic financial and economic principles, through which students become prepared to participate effectively in reforming theories, practices, and policies.

## Curriculum

**A 60-credit program taught over four years in English that includes:**

### Five core courses (12 credits)

- ▶ Applied Econometrics
- ▶ Applied Topics in Usul Al Fiqh and Maqasid Al Shari’a
- ▶ Advanced Topics in Islamic and Sustainable Economy
- ▶ Advanced Topics in Islamic and Sustainable Finance
- ▶ Advanced Research Methods

### Two elective courses (6 credits)

- ▶ Students can select one course offered in the program
- ▶ Students can select one course from the PhD course catalogs of other HBKU colleges

### Dissertation (42 credits)

This component includes dissertation proposal seminars, dissertation progress workshops, and dissertation defense seminars, in addition to a pre-dissertation comprehensive examination.

# Doctor of Philosophy in Islamic Studies

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Islamic Studies is an interdisciplinary program that cultivates a detailed understanding of Islamic studies and a mastery of a chosen disciplinary pathway. This expertise is acquired by undertaking dynamic and innovative research that facilitates the analysis and production of contemporary Islamic discourses engages with diverse themes and topics, and supports the human development goals of the State of Qatar and broader global needs.

The PhD in Islamic Studies program is highly versatile to accommodate students wishing to apply interdisciplinary research on a variety of specializations within the field of Islamic studies. Students develop essential contemporary epistemological and methodological skill sets for the analysis of Islamic discourses, while also synergizing with a solid foundation built on the rich and diverse teachings of the Islamic intellectual heritage.

## Program Focus

The PhD in Islamic Studies program leverages the collective expertise and diverse academic offerings of the college to provide an integrated educational experience that encompasses subjects such as Islamic art, architecture, and urbanism; global affairs; Islamic psychology; and applied Islamic ethics; as well as

subjects that are more traditionally conceived under the broad umbrella of Islamic studies. Students develop a mastery of their chosen academic field and its applications to address current issues, advance knowledge, and facilitate positive social progress based on Islamic principles.

The program comprises a robust language component, in which the primary languages of Arabic and English are supplemented by one subsidiary research language associated with Muslim societies, including but not limited to Persian, Turkish, Bahasa Indonesia, and Hausa. The multilingual proficiency enriches the undertaking of dynamic and innovative research that can produce high-quality peer-reviewed publications to advance regional and global scholarship in the areas of Islamic studies and intersecting disciplines.



## Curriculum

**A 72-credit degree program taught over four years in English that includes:**

### Six core courses (18 credits)

- ▶ Research Methods in Islamic Studies
- ▶ Comparative Islamic Theology and Philosophy
- ▶ Comparative Theories in the Study of Religion
- ▶ Sources and Methodology of Islamic Law
- ▶ Comparative Quranic Exegesis
- ▶ Sources and Methodology of Hadith

### Six elective courses out of eleven options (18 credits)

- ▶ Comparative Applied Islamic Ethics
- ▶ Family and Society in Islam
- ▶ Globalization and Muslim Societies
- ▶ Graduate Seminar in Islamic Studies
- ▶ Islam and Modernity
- ▶ Islam, Environment and Sustainability
- ▶ Islamic Manuscript Studies
- ▶ Muslim Encounters with Other Societies
- ▶ Readings in Usul Al-Fiqh
- ▶ The Islamic City
- ▶ Translating Arabic-Islamic Texts

### Dissertation (36 credits)

This component includes dissertation proposal seminars, dissertation progress workshops, and dissertation defense seminars, in addition to a pre-dissertation comprehensive examination.

# Master of Arts in Applied Islamic Ethics

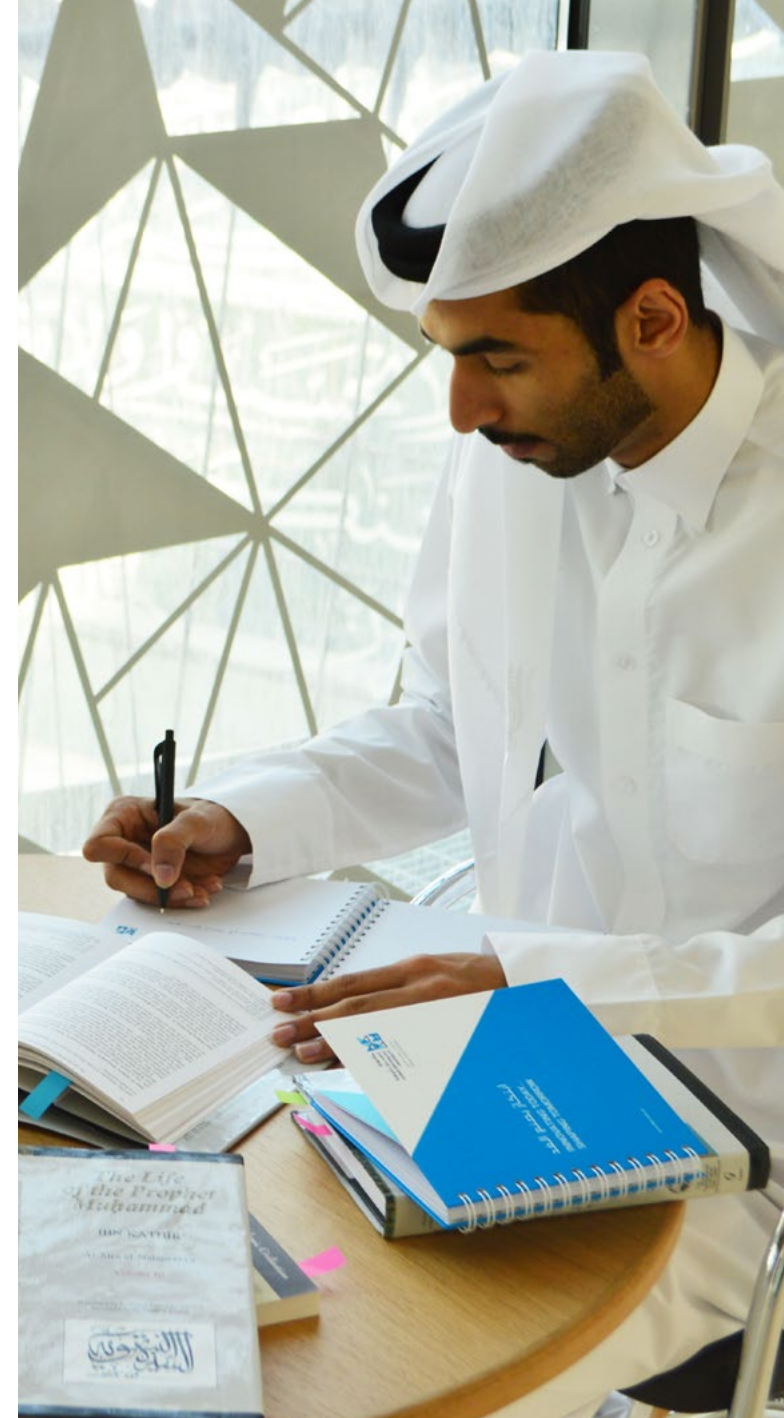
The first of its kind worldwide, the Master of Arts (MA) in Applied Islamic Ethics addresses how Islam, as a world religion with a rich moral heritage, engages with and contributes to global moral discourses. Both theoretically rigorous and practical, the interdisciplinary program is grounded in the Islamic tradition and culturally sensitive contexts and leverages its distinguished faculty who are experts in their specializations and active consultants to national and international policy bodies.

Graduates of this program will have the skills to engage with pressing ethical issues in a manner that is both critical and compassionate. Graduates can continue their academic studies at the PhD level in the many fields covered in the program. They may also choose to work in a professional environment. This includes regulating ethical guidelines and policies in government and private institutions active in a wide range of areas. Fields of application include biomedical sciences, engineering, business, politics, family, migrant labor, and human rights – in Muslim and Western contexts.

## Program Focus

The MA in Applied Islamic Ethics is designed to develop a strong foundation in moral frameworks and theoretical ethics in order to equip students with the skills to address pressing ethical dilemmas in today's unprecedented age.

The overall structure of the program integrates two main aspects: the academic aspect of Islamic ethics, which employs a scholarly approach rooted in the Islamic scholarly tradition; and the applied aspect, which improves students' skills in addressing the vexing ethical dilemmas and questions faced in contemporary times. This integration adds critical value to professional qualifications.



## Curriculum

A 36-credit degree program taught over two years in English that includes:

### Two foundational courses (6 credits)

- ▶ Islamic Ethics: Mapping the Field
- ▶ Research Methods and Sources on Ethics

### Two core courses (6 credits)

- ▶ Scriptural Ethics: Ethics in Qur'an and Sunnah
- ▶ Theological and Philosophical Ethics

### A choice of five electives out of 13 options (15 credits)\*

- ▶ Art and Ethics
- ▶ Business Ethics
- ▶ Comparative Religious Ethics
- ▶ Environmental Ethics
- ▶ Ethical Issues in Psychology
- ▶ Ethical Reasoning and Moral Decision-Making
- ▶ Ethics in Science and Technology
- ▶ Ethics of Migration and Human Rights
- ▶ Gender and Islamic Ethics
- ▶ Islamic Bioethics
- ▶ Islamic Ethics and Artificial Intelligence
- ▶ Islamic Ethics of Pandemics
- ▶ Peace, War, and Politics of Ethics

### Thesis (9 credits)

\*With approval, students can also choose either a tutorial or an internship as an elective.

# Master of Arts in Contemporary Islamic Studies

Specialization in Contemporary Islamic Thought (taught in English)

The Master of Arts (MA) in Contemporary Islamic Studies\*, is a program of study that synthesizes traditional Islamic sciences with contemporary religious thought. It aims to develop a generation of graduates with critical skills and exceptional knowledge of Islam in the modern context.

The specialization attracts students who are seeking a unique opportunity to engage with rigorous multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary graduate training across a range of core subjects, while also enabling them to pursue a focused field of study within modern Islamic scholarship.

Students will learn how to critically approach and analyze issues related to Islam and Muslim societies, develop sophisticated and balanced arguments, and meaningfully shape discourses surrounding Islam.

## Program Focus

The program track is structured to examine traditional Islamic knowledge and contextualize it within of the challenges faced by modern society. Students explore diverse theoretical perspectives and thought traditions, such as postcolonial and decolonial thought, pluralism, scientific thought, media-driven discourses, and diaspora studies, in order to delve deeply into the complexities of contemporary debates.

The track is tailored for students who aim to advance their academic pursuit through a PhD degree and a career in academia, or for those seeking employment opportunities across various sectors that can be enhanced with expertise in Islamic thought.

\*The MA in Contemporary Islamic Studies offers two specializations: Contemporary Islamic Thought (taught in English) and Fiqh and Society (taught in Arabic).



## Curriculum

A 36-credit degree program taught in English over two years that includes:

### Three foundational courses (9 credits)

- ▶ Foundations of Islamic Thought
- ▶ Contemporary Quran and Hadith Studies
- ▶ Applied Research Methodologies in Islamic Studies

### Three specialization courses (9 credits)

- ▶ Islam and Modernity
- ▶ Islamic Thought and Postcolonial Studies
- ▶ Islamic Law and Society

### A choice of three electives out of six options (9 credits)

- ▶ Islam and Politics in the Muslim World
- ▶ Modern History of the Muslim World
- ▶ Muslim Encounters with Other Societies
- ▶ Muslim Societies in Diaspora
- ▶ Scientific Thought in Muslim Societies
- ▶ The Media and Muslim Societies

### Thesis (9 credits)

\*Students can select up to three elective courses from the range of options offered within each specialization. Students also have the option of selecting one elective course from the CIS catalog.

# Master of Arts in Contemporary Islamic Studies

Specialization in Fiqh and Society (taught in Arabic)

The Master of Arts in Contemporary Islamic Studies, with its two separate specializations\*, is a program that seeks to create a positive interactive relationship between Islamic fiqh (jurisprudence) and modern society, through productive scholarly openness and effective cultural interaction. The program aims to develop a generation of graduates with critical thinking skills and exceptional knowledge about Islam in the modern context.

This specialization seeks to prepare distinguished specialists in Islamic fiqh who can engage with scientific institutes and research centers globally, creating constructive interactions that benefit their societies and humanity at large. Additionally, the specialization aims to establish a positive, interactive relationship between the origins, methods, and texts of Islamic fiqh and the issues, challenges, and methods of society.

## Program Focus

The Fiqh and Society specialization focuses on critical issues in contemporary societies by identifying all their social dimensions in order to reach the appropriate

jurisprudential treatment. The specialization introduces its students to the effectiveness of the Islamic fiqh system and its ability to provide appropriate solutions for modern-day challenges, through courses that touch upon jurisprudential issues and developments, social justice, and sustainable development in the Islamic context, family and society in relation to fatwa, the higher objectives of Islamic law, non-textual legislative sources, in addition to other topics.

With this specialization, students learn the skills to critically analyze social jurisprudential issues and enhance their ability to contribute to and develop the field to further their academic or career path.

\*The MA in Contemporary Islamic Studies offers two specializations: Contemporary Islamic Thought (taught in English) and Fiqh and Society (taught in Arabic).



## Curriculum

A 36-credit degree program taught over two years that includes:

### Three foundational courses (9 credits)

- ▶ Foundations of Islamic Thought
- ▶ Contemporary Quran and Hadith Studies
- ▶ Applied Research Methodologies in Islamic Studies

### Three specialization courses taught in Arabic (9 credits)

- ▶ Non-textual Legal Sources
- ▶ Fatwa, Family, and Society
- ▶ Islamic Jurisprudence, Politics and the State

### A choice of three electives out of six options (9 credits)

- ▶ Islam and Politics in the Muslim World
- ▶ Modern History of the Muslim World
- ▶ Muslim Encounters with Other Societies
- ▶ Muslim Societies in Diaspora
- ▶ Scientific Thought in Muslim Societies
- ▶ The Media and Muslim Societies

### Thesis (9 credits)

\*Students can select up to three elective courses from the range of options offered within each specialization. Students also have the option of selecting one elective course from the CIS catalog.

# Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology

The Master of Arts (MA) in Counseling Psychology is uniquely offered within an Islamically integrated framework. It aspires to fill an urgent need for more trained mental health practitioners who are cognizant and capable of effectively integrating the religious sensitivities of Muslim populations into mental healthcare treatment.

Students are trained within a curriculum structure that aligns with international competency standards for mental health practitioners preparing them for potential licensure anywhere in the world. In addition, under the guidance of internationally recognized faculty in the field, students have unique training opportunities to build their clinical experience—both on-site at the psychology training clinic housed within CIS and off-site through the program’s external mental healthcare partners.

The holistic approach of the program aims to produce a generation of scholars and practitioners who will enrich the nascent field of Islamic psychology, both locally and globally.

## Program Focus

The MA program in Counseling Psychology aims to utilize the rich Islamic academic atmosphere of CIS to advance clinical training and scholarship that is Islamically oriented and integrated. Students will have the opportunity to train under internationally distinguished faculty and develop a research focus that speaks to their interests and the gaps in current practice.

## Curriculum

**A 55-credit degree program taught over 2.5 years\* in English, that includes:**

### Fourteen core courses (42 credits)

- ▶ Advanced Techniques and Interventions
- ▶ Appraisal and Psychological Assessment Methods
- ▶ Career and School Counseling
- ▶ Cross-Cultural Psychotherapy



- ▶ Ethical, Professional, and Legal Issues in Psychology
- ▶ Foundations of Islamic Sciences
- ▶ Group Therapy
- ▶ Human Growth and Development
- ▶ Introduction to Psychotherapy and Counseling Theories
- ▶ Introduction to Psychology in the Islamic Tradition
- ▶ Marital and Family Therapy
- ▶ Psychopathology and Diagnosis
- ▶ Research and Program Evaluation
- ▶ Substance Abuse and Addictions

**Practicum (1 credit)**

**Internship I and II (6 credits)**

**Thesis or Research Project (6 credits)**

\*Students have the opportunity to fast-track their studies by completing all requirements within two years, or extend their study to a maximum of three years.

# Master of Arts in Islam and Global Affairs

The Master of Arts (MA) in Islam and Global Affairs (IGA) is a highly customizable program that provides an opportunity to analyze the place of Islam in the context of global affairs, and the challenges facing global Muslim communities in an increasingly interconnected world.

The program encourages students to be active, autonomous, and critical contributors in their chosen field of research. Through research and integrative lab assignments, they are able to explore complex, interconnected global issues in collaboration with local and international organizations. Graduates of this program will possess the skills to become multidimensional ethical global leaders and change makers.

Students of the program analyze how Islam promotes a concern for human well-being and dignity on a global level. They develop a deeper understanding of how the values of Islamic teachings promote peace and cooperation across cultures, religions, and geographies.

## Program Focus

The purpose of the MA in IGA is to provide tailor-made opportunities and leverage the expansive institutional network to examine issues pertaining to Islam and the global political infrastructure. The program offers both traditional and disruptive learning tools, techniques, and methods to study the complex relationships between Islam, human development, and economic transformation in the Muslim world and globally.

The student-centered approach and individualized learning experience embody a global focus, interdisciplinary approach, and practical scope, through the utilization of multiple creative components.



**Integrative Lab (I-Lab):** Students are supported with creative design, thinking tools, and production platforms. I-Labs provide personalized working spaces and international exposure to enable them to work on and develop solutions to global problems.

## Curriculum

**A 36-credit degree program taught over two years in English that includes:**

### Three foundational courses (9 credits)

- ▶ Introduction to Islam and Global Affairs
- ▶ Islamic Worldview
- ▶ Research Methods

### Three core courses (9 credits)

- ▶ Global Inequalities
- ▶ Islam, Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding
- ▶ Globalization and Faith-Based Development

### Two specialization courses (6 credits)

- ▶ Special Topics in Islam and Global Affairs
- ▶ A choice of one specialization course out of two options:
  - ▶ Islam and Global Governance
  - ▶ Humanitarian Action in the Muslim World

### I-Lab (3 credits)

### Thesis (9 credits)

# Master of Science in Islamic Art, Architecture and Urbanism

In light of contemporary developments in the integration of Islamic art and its reformulation in modern architecture, there is a growing need for experts who are able to combine heritage with contemporary techniques and trends by providing innovative architectural and urban design solutions.

The Master of Science (MS) in Islamic Art, Architecture and Urbanism is a multidisciplinary program conducted in collaboration with the University of Oxford. It aims to equip future designers, curators, and historians with a critical and informed understanding of Islamic art and architecture across centuries, spanning from Andalusia to Central Asia into the present era.

This program encourages research aimed at safeguarding Islamic heritage by examining the diversity and the contextual history of Islamic material culture. In addition, graduates will investigate notions of rapid urbanization, designing civic spaces, spatial humanities, migration and urbanism, cross-cultural art influences, heritage preservation, and more, qualifying them to pursue careers in Islamic art history, contemporary mosque architecture, sustainable urbanism fields, and related career pathways.

## Program Focus

The MS in Islamic Art, Architecture and Urbanism program is unique in focus, structure, and content with no similar program offered in the Islamic world. The program focuses on the critical construction, acquisition, dissemination, and application of art history, architecture, and urbanism to international institutions in general, and more specifically to diverse Islamic societies.

This comprehensive program delves into the art, architecture, and urbanism of a wide range of Islam-influenced civilizations. It offers specializations that aim to develop critical tools for the analysis of buildings and public spaces at different scales, and advanced skills for their application in architectural design projects.

Another track endeavors to develop expertise in the study and display of historical objects and the deep understanding and appreciation required to exhibit such artifacts.

The program utilizes creative platforms beyond the traditional classroom, such as collaborative workshops by international figures in the field; provides opportunities to explore a different country in the Islamic world every year; and helps expand the students' networks through encounters with specialists and specialist institutions both locally and abroad.

## Curriculum

**A 36-credit degree program taught over two years in English that includes:**

### Seven core courses (21 credits)

- ▶ Ahkam al-Bunyan: Building Ordinances
- ▶ History of Islamic Art and Architecture I (650-1250)
- ▶ History of Islamic Art and Architecture II (1250-1900)
- ▶ Independent Project Modelling
- ▶ Interpreting Environments: Habitat Values and Sustainable Practices in Islam
- ▶ Research and Design Methods
- ▶ Survey of Architectural Typologies of the Islamic World

### A choice of three specializations (6 credits)

- ▶ **Specialization I: Islamic Arts: History and Cultural Display**
  - ▶ Islamic Objects and Manuscripts
  - ▶ Museum and Exhibition Studies
- ▶ **Specialization II: Contemporary Mosque Architecture**
  - ▶ Islamic Architecture and Urbanism in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries
  - ▶ Mosque Architecture Design
- ▶ **Specialization III: Sustainable Cities of Muslim Societies**
  - ▶ Contemporary Cities for Muslim Societies
  - ▶ Globalization, Cities, and Urban Policies

### A choice of one elective out of four options\* (3 credits)

- ▶ Sustainable Islamic Urbanism: Past and Present
- ▶ Urban Interventions in Historic Islamic Cities
- ▶ Physical Spaces and Spatial Humanities in Digital Societies
- ▶ Types and Typologies of Domestic Architecture

### Thesis (6 credits)

\*Students can also select an elective course from other specializations within the program.



# Master of Science in Islamic Finance

The Master of Science (MS) in Islamic Finance is a specialized program that teaches qualitative and quantitative methods of analysis in both Islamic and conventional finance.

This innovative program has been developed to offer students a unique opportunity to enjoy a strong multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary graduate education across a range of core subjects. It also enables participants to pursue a specialization in one of several important areas, including Islamic Finance and Sustainable Finance.

The mixed philosophy of the program enables graduates to attain the skills needed to understand the global financial system, and proposes viable alternatives to existing models by blending guidance from Shari'a with modern scientific knowledge and the techniques of economics and finance.

This master's program is one of an extremely limited number of top-tier specialized Islamic Finance programs globally.

By emphasizing practical as well as theoretical aspects of Islamic finance, students are better equipped to address global opportunities and participate effectively in business and financial sectors.

## Program Focus

Islamic banking in Qatar constitutes approximately 25 percent of local banking activity. The MS in Islamic Finance program is focused on giving graduate students a greater understanding of the practical business applications of Shari'a.

Furthermore, the engagement of our faculty members in leading financial scholarship in global academia as well as their close partnerships with the industry and government ensures that the program directly speaks to current affairs and developments in the financial and economic sectors.



## Curriculum

**A 36-credit degree program taught over two years in English that includes:**

### Four core courses (12 credits)

- ▶ Islamic Financial Contracts
- ▶ Islamic Banking and Financial Markets
- ▶ Islamic Corporate Finance and Financial Engineering
- ▶ Research Methods

### A choice of two concentrations (6 credits)

- ▶ **Islamic Finance**
  - ▶ Islamic Asset, Funds and Portfolio Management
  - ▶ Analysis of Financial Statements with Applications to Islamic Banks

### ▶ Sustainable Finance

- ▶ Sustainable Finance and Impact Investing
- ▶ Islamic Economics and Sustainable Development

### A choice of three electives out of nine options (9 credits)

- ▶ Applied Quantitative Methods
- ▶ Behavioral Islamic Economics and Finance
- ▶ Fintech and its Islamic Finance Applications
- ▶ Legal, Regulatory and Institutional Aspects of Islamic Finance
- ▶ Principles and Objectives of Islamic Law
- ▶ Strategic Management in Islamic Finance
- ▶ Independent Studies
- ▶ Internship
- ▶ A course from the PhD catalog\*

### Thesis (9 credits)

\*Students can select an elective course from the courses offered within the PhD program.

# Graduate Certificate in Islamic Finance (GCIF)

The Graduate Certificate in Islamic Finance (GCIF) is an opportunity designed for individuals seeking to improve their knowledge and skills in this field and caters to a diverse range of academic and professional social sciences backgrounds. It provides training in the essential skills to operate effectively in the Islamic finance market, as well as in-depth knowledge of Islamic finance principles and practices.

The GCIF program is open to students from any academic discipline and provides career advancement opportunities for finance-based professionals. It also serves as a bridge program for students who may consider pursuing a master's degree in Islamic finance at the college.

## Program Focus

The Islamic finance market has rapidly expanded into a lucrative sector with an estimated global worth exceeding USD 2 trillion. Consequently, the certificate program endeavors to contribute to this nascent industry by providing students with exposure to knowledge, thought leadership, and research.

It cultivates a holistic understanding of the Islamic financial system by recognizing the differences between conventional and Islamic financial principles. Furthermore, students acquire transferable skills to apply essential concepts of Islamic finance in practical settings, which enhances both their employability and educational pathway prospects.



## Curriculum

**An 18-credit graduate certificate program taught over one year in English that includes:**

### Three core courses (9 credits)

- ▶ Islamic Financial Contracts
- ▶ Islamic Banking and Financial Markets
- ▶ Islamic Corporate Finance and Financial Engineering

### A choice of three electives out of eleven options (9 credits)

- ▶ Analysis of Financial Statements with Applications to Islamic Banks
- ▶ Applied Quantitative Methods
- ▶ Behavioral Islamic Economics and Finance
- ▶ Fintech and its Islamic Finance Applications
- ▶ Islamic Asset, Funds, and Portfolio Management
- ▶ Islamic Economics and Sustainable Development
- ▶ Legal, Regulatory, and Institutional Aspects of Islamic Finance
- ▶ Principles and Objectives of Islamic Law
- ▶ Research Methods
- ▶ Strategic Management in Islamic Finance
- ▶ Sustainable Finance and Impact Investing

# Graduate Certificate in Islamic Studies (GCIS)

The Graduate Certificate in Islamic Studies (GCIS), offered in Arabic, is a comprehensive program designed for individuals interested in understanding Islam and its impact on Muslim communities worldwide. This certificate offers a unique opportunity to explore the interdisciplinary nature of Islamic studies, and gain a better understanding of Islamic history, theology, philosophy, law, and ethics.

The insights gained from the program can be practically applied to professional and educational settings, significantly contributing to the development of more inclusive and diverse communities. The certificate also serves as a bridge program for students considering pursuing a Master's degree in Contemporary Islamic Studies offered at the college.

## Program Focus

The GCIS aims to promote a deeper understanding of Islamic thought and its characteristics of moderation, ease, and openness. It equips students with the ability to follow and interact with Islamic jurisprudence, its traditional and contemporary texts, and its constant and changing principles. A strong foundational grasp of Islamic studies enables students to understand intellectual nuances, identify their intellectual positions in various discourses, apply theories to their own realities, and engage positively with other cultures, religions, and philosophies.



## Curriculum

**An 18-credit graduate certificate program taught over one year in Arabic that includes:**

### Six core courses (18 credits)

- ▶ Foundations of Islamic Thought
- ▶ Contemporary Quran and Hadith Studies
- ▶ Applied Research Methodologies in Islamic Studies
- ▶ Non-Textual Legal Sources
- ▶ Fatwa, Family and Society
- ▶ Islamic Jurisprudence, Politics and the State

# Admissions



# Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking admission to the graduate programs at the College of Islamic Studies should have a strong academic record (minimum 3.0 GPA out of 4.0) from a recognized university.

Applicants to the masters programs should hold a bachelor's degree while applicants to the PhD program should hold a master's degree.

PhD applicants must demonstrate strong evidence that they possess the qualities to become successful researchers and professionals. This includes outstanding performance in relevant coursework, as well as a proven track record of high motivation and commitment to innovative and original research.



College of Islamic Studies

Please refer to the following table for a summary of the admission criteria:

Program	Required Field of Study	Language Proficiency
<b>PhD in Islamic Finance and Economy</b>	Economics, Business, Finance, Accounting, Shari'a, or a related field	IELTS: 6.5 or TOEFL: 79 Further details about the language proficiency requirement and the process to seek exemption (where this is an option) are available from <a href="https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa">admissions.hbku.edu.qa</a>
<b>PhD in Islamic Studies</b>	All fields	
<b>MA in Applied Islamic Ethics</b>	All fields	
<b>MA in Contemporary Islamic Studies</b> Specialization in Contemporary Islamic Thought	Islamic Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Religious Studies, or a related area within the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences with relevant experience.	IELTS: 6.5 or TOEFL: 79 Further details about the language proficiency requirement and the process to seek exemption (where this is an option) are available from <a href="https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa">admissions.hbku.edu.qa</a>
<b>MA in Contemporary Islamic Studies</b> Specialization in Fiqh and Society	Shari'a, Fiqh and Society, Usul Al-Fiqh, Usul Al-Din and Qanun, or a related area within Islamic 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). In addition, students need to prove their English language proficiency by providing a score equivalent to TOEFL 35-45 or IELTS 5. Exemption is possible if applicants have studied in English.
<b>Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology</b>	Psychology, Counseling, Social Work, or a related field.	IELTS: 6.5 or TOEFL: 79 Further details about the language proficiency requirement and the process to seek exemption (where this is an option) are available from <a href="https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa">admissions.hbku.edu.qa</a>
<b>MA in Islam and Global Affairs</b>	All fields	
<b>MS in Islamic Art, Architecture and Urbanism</b>	Art History, Archaeology, Interior Architecture/Design, Architecture, and Urban Planning	
<b>MS in Islamic Finance</b>	Economics, Business, Finance, Accounting, Shari'a, or a related field	
<b>Graduate Certificate in Islamic Finance (GCIF)</b>	All fields	
<b>Graduate Certificate in Islamic Studies (GCIS)</b>	All fields	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). In addition, students need to prove their English language proficiency by providing a score equivalent to TOEFL 35-45 or IELTS 5. Exemption is possible if applicants have studied in English.

# Application Requirements

## Application

A completed online application form

[admissions.hbku.edu.qa](https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa)

## Academic transcripts

Official electronic copies of transcripts must 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:

- ▶ 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 should submit two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from an academic referee. Please visit [admissions.hbku.edu.qa](https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa) for further information about the submission process.



## Personal statement of interest

The personal statement should introduce the applicant to the Admissions Committee. Topics that may be discussed include personal or professional goals and personal, academic, or career history.

The Committee looks beyond test scores and grade point averages in making selection decisions. The personal statement gives the Committee a means to consider a variety of factors in assessing applicants.

## Resume/Curriculum vitae

Applicants are required to submit a copy of their current resume or curriculum vitae as part of the online application. This should include the following information:

- ▶ Academic qualifications
- ▶ Professional experience
- ▶ Publications
- ▶ Research projects
- ▶ Academic awards or honors
- ▶ Conference presentations

## Identification document

Applicants are required to submit an electronic copy of their passport as part of their online application. Nationals and residents of Qatar should also submit their valid Qatari ID.

# Tuition and Student Funding

The College of Islamic Studies provides a limited number of tuition waivers on a competitive basis.

Program	Total Program Tuition Fees	Tuition Fees per Credit Hour	Total Program Credit Hours	Program Duration
<b>PhD in Islamic Finance and Economy</b>	QAR 162,000	QAR 2,700	60	4 years
<b>PhD in Islamic Studies</b>	QAR 162,000	QAR 2,250	72	4 years
<b>Master of Arts in Applied Islamic Ethics</b>	QAR 72,000	QAR 2,000	36	2 years
<b>Master of Arts in Contemporary Islamic Studies</b>	QAR 72,000	QAR 2,000	36	2 years
<b>Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology</b>	QAR 72,000	QAR 1,309	55	2.5 years
<b>Master of Arts in Islam and Global Affairs</b>	QAR 72,000	QAR 2,000	36	2 years
<b>Master of Science in Islamic Art, Architecture and Urbanism</b>	QAR 72,000	QAR 2,000	36	2 years
<b>Master of Science in Islamic Finance</b>	QAR 72,000	QAR 2,000	36	2 years
<b>Graduate Certificate in Islamic Finance</b>	QAR 36,000	QAR 2,000	18	1 year
<b>Graduate Certificate in Islamic Studies</b>	QAR 36,000	QAR 2,000	18	1 year



# Contact Information

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**Admission inquiries:**

admissions.cis@hbku.edu.qa

**P.O. Box: 34110**


Doha – Qatar


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