



College of
Engineering and Architecture

Department of
Architecture

**Architecture and Planning
Programme (Plan 47)**

General Courses



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Programme (Plan 47)
General Courses**

2025



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Introduction

General courses (or university requirements) typically refer to a set of foundational, interdisciplinary courses that all students — regardless of their major — are required to complete as part of their undergraduate degree. These are designed to ensure a well-rounded education and often focus on skills like university and professional skills, critical thinking, ethics, and national identity. According to the requirement of UQU, there are a series of courses concerned with Islamic culture. These courses are delivered by *Da'wa* 'Islamic Call' and Islamic Culture department and *Qira'at* 'Quranic Recitations' department in the College of *Da'wa* and Fundamentals of Religion. On the other hand, internationalization is a key focus of undergraduate education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. As such, two compulsory English language courses are included in the first and second levels of study. All English courses are delivered by the English Language Centre. In addition, the general education courses include one elective, selected from a diverse set of subjects such as entrepreneurship, digital technology, communication, cultural diversity, and life skills.

All general courses are delivered online and follow standardized descriptions that are applied uniformly across all academic programs. The instructors for these courses are assigned by the university and come from various departments. As such, the DA does not have the authority to modify their specifications to align with specific discipline. However, some of these general courses contribute directly or indirectly to the Architecture and Planning Program — such as Design Thinking, Introduction to Artificial Intelligence, and Digital Technology — by supporting the development of relevant skills and knowledge in architecture.

General Courses

Year	Level	Course Code	Course Name	Credits
1	1	IND1101	Design Thinking	2
1	1	QR1101	The Holy Quran Tajweed	2
1	2	CUR1101	University Skills	0
1	2	QR2102	The Holy Quran Memorization 1	2
2	3	AI2001	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence	2
2	3	QR2103	The Holy Quran Memorization 2	2
2	4	ICC1201	Values and Ethics	2
2	4	QR3104	Completion of the Holy Quran	2
3	5	x	General Elective	2
4	7	ICC4202	The Family in Islam	2
4	8	BUS1099	Professional Development Skills	2

General Electives

3	5	THM3191	Introduction to the Tourism and Hospitality Industry	2
3	5	BUS1098	Entrepreneurship and Innovation	2
3	5	FIN3703	Personal Financial Planning Skills	2
3	5	ECO4312	E-Commerce	2
3	5	CS2001	Digital Technology	2
3	5	PSY3127	Life Skills	2
3	5	SPED1102	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	2
3	5	HIS4315	Heritage and Cultural Diversity	2
3	5	ARS1601	Writing and Public Speaking	2
3	5	HP3009	Community Health	2



Summary of General Course Descriptions

Design Thinking

This course introduces students to the methodology of design thinking as a problem-solving tool that fosters creativity and innovation. Students will learn to integrate modern technologies, including artificial intelligence, into the design process through user-centered research, ideation, prototyping, and iterative testing. The course emphasizes developing practical and valuable solutions across various academic and professional disciplines.

The Holy Quran Tajweed

This course provides a theoretical and practical study of Tajweed rules. Students will apply these rules through the recitation of Surahs Al-Baqarah and Aal-Imran, enhancing their understanding and mastery of Quranic pronunciation and intonation.

University Skills

The course equips students with essential academic and personal development skills required for success in a university environment. Topics include time management, learning strategies, information processing, research skills, effective communication, academic writing, critical thinking, and adaptation to university life.

The Holy Quran Memorization 1

This course focuses on the memorization of Surah Al-Kahf with the application of Tajweed rules. Students will also study the meanings of unfamiliar Quranic vocabulary within the Surah to enhance comprehension and retention.

Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

Students are introduced to the foundational concepts of artificial intelligence, including its history, development, and key technologies. The course explores various applications of AI in real-world contexts, along with discussions on ethical considerations and contemporary challenges in the field.

The Holy Quran Memorization 2

This course continues the memorization and recitation of selected Quranic chapters from Surah An-Nisa to Surah An-Nas. It emphasizes proper application of Tajweed rules and interpretation of unfamiliar vocabulary.



Values and Ethics

This course presents the foundations of values and ethics in Islam, highlighting their significance and the moral example of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Students explore practical ethical applications that contribute to the betterment and stability of society.

Completion of the Holy Quran

This course involves comprehensive recitation of the entire Quran, emphasizing correct application of Tajweed rules and understanding of difficult vocabulary, thus completing the student's formal Quranic study.

General Elective

This elective course allows students to explore a broad range of interdisciplinary topics that enrich their knowledge and personal development. Elective topics may include tourism, innovation, communication, culture, technology, or health.

(The summary of each course is provided below)

The Family in Islam

The course examines the Islamic perspective on family, including its concept, significance, and objectives. Students will explore the prophetic models of family life and Islamic approaches to conflict resolution within familial contexts.

Professional Development Skills

This course aims to prepare students for the transition into the workforce by developing essential employability skills. Topics include career planning, CV writing, job search strategies, interview techniques, teamwork, communication, and workplace ethics.



Summary of General Elective Courses

Introduction to the Tourism and Hospitality Industry

The course highlights the economic and cultural significance of tourism, particularly within the context of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. It covers key sectors such as hospitality, events, transportation, and culinary diversity, emphasizing tourism's role in national development.

Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Students are introduced to core concepts in entrepreneurship and innovation. The course covers idea generation, business modeling, market analysis, funding sources, and digital marketing, supported by case studies and project-based learning.

Personal Financial Planning Skills

This course provides students with the foundational knowledge and skills to manage their personal finances effectively. Topics include budgeting, income and expense management, financial goal setting, investment tools, and risk management strategies.

E-Commerce

This course examines the economic dimensions of e-commerce, including its impact on local and global markets. Students will analyze business models, consumer behavior, regulatory frameworks, and the role of e-commerce in driving economic growth and innovation.

Digital Technology

Students explore emerging digital technologies and their transformative impact across industries. Topics include artificial intelligence, 5G networks, augmented and virtual reality, and advanced manufacturing technologies, along with their societal implications.

Life Skills

This course develops students' personal, psychological, and social skills to enhance their self-awareness and decision-making. Topics include stress management, self-confidence, intellectual security, goal-setting, and improving quality of life.



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The course introduces students to the principles of interacting respectfully with individuals from diverse racial, geographical, religious, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Emphasis is placed on fostering inclusive and equitable environments.

Heritage and Cultural Diversity

Students explore Saudi Arabia's tangible and intangible cultural heritage, including folk arts, oral traditions, crafts, and social customs. The course also addresses the impact of geography on cultural expression and the importance of heritage preservation.

Writing and Public Speaking

This course develops students' functional communication skills. It focuses on proper written expression, public speaking techniques, and the principles of debate and rhetoric through applied practice and critical evaluation.

Community Health

The course introduces key concepts in public and global health. Students will examine health determinants, disease prevention strategies, and health promotion methods using data analysis and communication tools for improving community well-being.

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