

الجامعة الأهلية  
AHLIA UNIVERSITY  
BAHRAIN



**STUDY ABROAD &  
EXCHANGE GUIDE**

**Your  
global  
future  
begins  
here**

[www.ahlia.edu.bh](http://www.ahlia.edu.bh)



## AHLIA UNIVERSITY

Ahlia University was inaugurated in 2001 as the first private university licensed by the Government of Bahrain. Today, AU ranks amongst the top 50 best universities in the Arab region, as recognised by QS World University Rankings 2020.

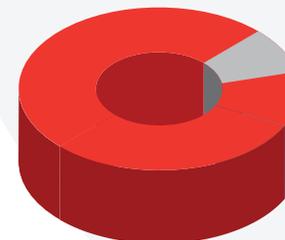
Right from the start, the founders of Ahlia University articulated their vision of a distinctive institution offering the highest quality education to a multi-cultural and diverse student body.

Our campus is located in the heart of Manama, the capital city of Bahrain, with plenty of shops, banks, eateries, and international food franchises located nearby. There are several embassies and diplomatic missions located just a short walk away from Ahlia's campus.

Located in the GOSI Complex, our modern campus is equipped with many lecture halls, computer labs, an engineering lab, interior design labs, audio-visual studios, seminar halls, a theatre hall, in addition to a medical clinic. The library offers students a comprehensive collection of more than 10,000 books and provides them with a calm place to study. With over 45 online databases, it also offers students more than 2,500,000 e-journal papers and articles, and 50,000 e-books covering a wide variety of subjects and disciplines. Plenty of shops, restaurants, and cafes are located throughout the campus, ensuring all of our students' needs are met.

With so much to offer, Ahlia University gives students throughout the world the opportunity to receive a technologically sophisticated and highly distinctive liberal arts education from a truly productive and challenging university in the Arabian Gulf.

95%



**95% OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS  
AT AHLIA FOUND OUR CAMPUS  
INCREDIBLY WELCOMING**



## ABOUT BAHRAIN

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With a multi-cultural society, low cost of living, excellent education facilities, and high-quality healthcare, Bahrain is an attractive destination for international students and expatriates. This is evident by the many international expat surveys in which Bahrain has consistently ranked amongst the top 10 best countries in the World for expatriate quality of life.

The Kingdom is a holiday destination on your doorstep, boasting an archipelago of 33 natural islands, a cosmopolitan capital city, an attractive liberal lifestyle, and a rich history and culture: from the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the capital of the ancient Dilmun civilisation, dating back to 2300 BC, at the Bahrain Fort, to one of the most modern Formula One racetracks in the world at the Bahrain International Circuit.

At sea, you can sail, dolphin watch, fish, scuba dive, or kite surf. On land, there are gyms, horse riding stables, and sports clubs, including rugby, tennis, soccer, cricket, and basketball clubs.

AU welcomes students from all parts of the world with our first-class educational facilities! With a warm and sunny climate, hundreds of cafes and restaurants, fantastic shopping centres, and some of the friendliest people in the world, Bahrain welcomes you too!

Come and see for yourself how AU can help you realize your global ambitions.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The 2019 Expat Insider Survey conducted by Internations ranked Bahrain as 7th in the World for best expat quality of life.



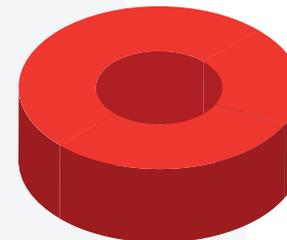
## LIFE IN BAHRAIN

Upon arriving in Bahrain, the university welcomes all international students with a 'meet & greet' service. As such, a representative of the university will be available to receive you at the airport.

You will also be happy to find that Bahrain has a lot to offer when it comes to accommodation options. Whether you are looking to live in a skyscraper or rent a villa in an expat compound away from the hustle and bustle of the city, the choice is plentiful and the choice is yours. Prices are also very reasonable. A fully furnished apartment with two bedrooms and bathrooms can range from 300-750BD, while a studio apartment, for a single person, may cost as little as 200BD.

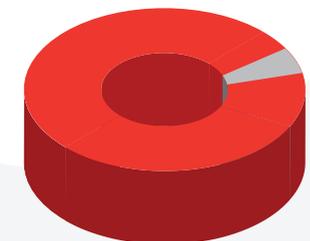
International students will also be able to enjoy a comfortable lifestyle without spending very much. Eating out, grocery shopping, internet, and phone services in Bahrain can all be relatively cheap, so students can expect monthly living expenses from 150-250BD.

100%

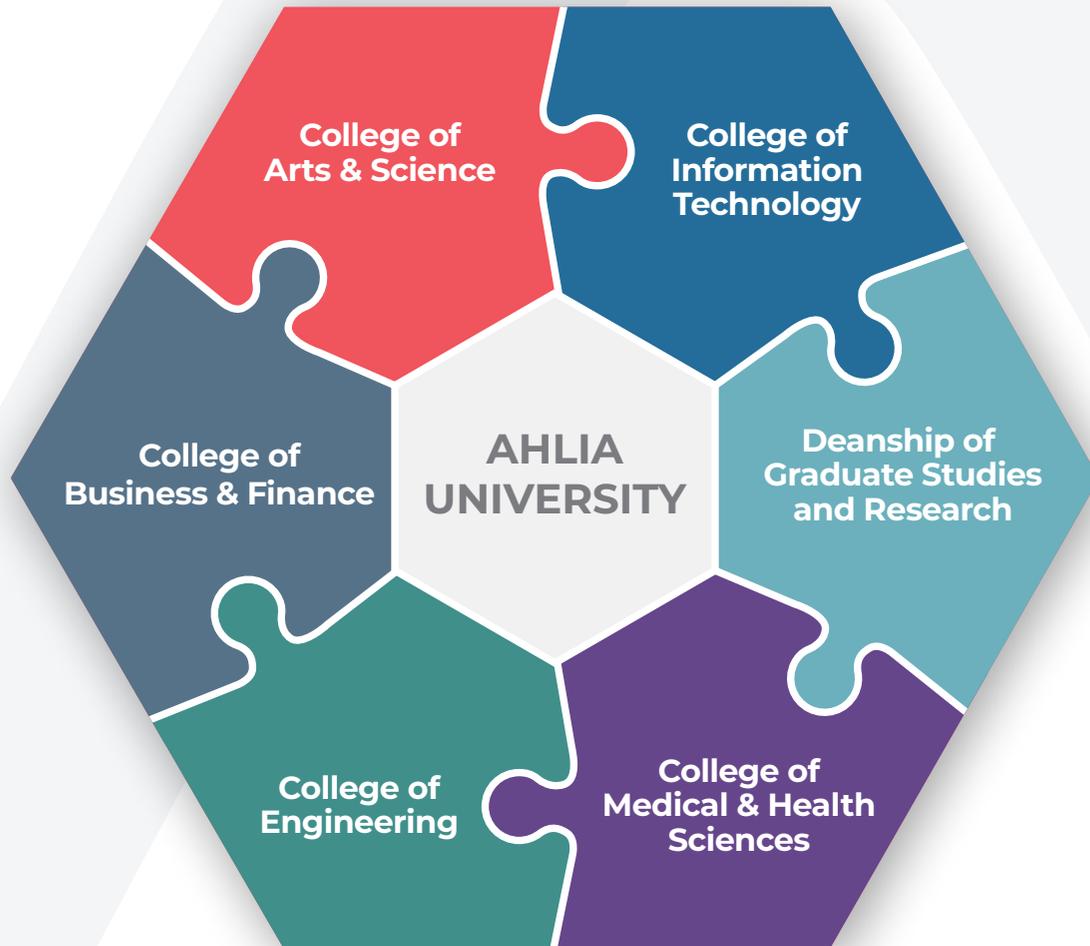


**100% OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS  
FOUND ACCOMMODATION IN JUST  
UNDER 72 HOURS**

99%



**99% OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS  
WERE SATISFIED WITH THE  
AIRPORT MEET & GREET SERVICE**



## OUR COLLEGES AND PROGRAMMES

### COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE

- Bachelor's Degree in Interior Design (BSID)
- Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communication & Public Relations (BSMCPR)
- Master's Degree in Mass Communication & Public Relations (MMCP)

### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & FINANCE

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting & Finance (BSAF)
- Bachelor's Degree in Banking & Finance (BSBF)
- Bachelor's Degree in Economics & Finance (BSEF)
- Bachelor's Degree in Management Information Systems (BSMIS)
- Bachelor's Degree in Management & Marketing (BSMM)
- Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA)

### COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

- Bachelor's Degree in Computer & Communication Engineering (BSCCE)
- Bachelor's Degree in Mobile & Network Engineering (BSMNE)

### COLLEGE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Bachelor's Degree in Multimedia Systems (BSMS)
- Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology (BSIT)
- Master's Degree in Information Technology & Computer Science (MITCS)

### COLLEGE OF MEDICAL & HEALTH SCIENCES

- Bachelor's Degree in Physiotherapy (BSPT)



## INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS & PROGRAMMES

Ahlia University has established valuable partnerships with American, British, European, and Middle Eastern universities all over the world. Throughout the years, we have welcomed students from a number of reputable international partners.

### BRUNEL UNIVERSITY LONDON

Our strategic partnership with Brunel University London has culminated in a highly successful and unique programme with dual pathways in Business and Information Systems and Computing.



The Brunel Ph.D Without Residence programme represents a unique opportunity for students, who are unable to spend three years in the United Kingdom, to be awarded a Ph.D by a UK university with an international reputation. This programme has thrived since it was introduced in 2009, and, to date, over 50 students have obtained their Ph.D through this programme.

### THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Our partnership with The George Washington University has produced more than 100 leaders equipped with specialised skills at the cutting edge of Engineering Management.



Ahlia University offers a Master's Degree in Engineering Management, in collaboration with the Engineering Management and Systems Engineering (EMSE) Off-Campus Programme Office of The George Washington University in the United States. This master's programme was designed to develop leaders for technically-oriented organisations and prepare them for the future.





**KEY FACTS ABOUT AHLIA UNIVERSITY**

**1st**  
**Private University**  
**in Bahrain**  
(Licensed in 2001)

Over   
**1,500**  
 domestic and  
 international  
**students**

  
**Alumni of**  
 over  
**4,700**

  
**staff to**  
**student**  
 ratio of  
**1:13**

Over   
**30**  
 student  
**nationalities**

**Top**  
**50**  
**ranking**  
in the Arab World according to  
**QS 2020**

**Membership**



**Accreditation**



# TOP 5 REASONS TO STUDY AT AU

## 1 HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION

Ahlia University boasts a rating of 5 stars for teaching and learning in the QS Stars rating by the QS World University Rankings. Our programmes in the Colleges of IT and Engineering incorporate a wide range of international professional certifications as an integrated component. The entire track of Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) and Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP) are on offer. Additionally, the entire track of Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE) courses is embedded into our BSCCE programme. Further certifications include Oracle-based courses, Microsoft-based Dot NET courses, and ICDL courses.

Our programmes in the College of Business and Finance are mapped with the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM), the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), among others. Students can receive exemptions for a number of ACCA and CIMA papers upon successful completion of select courses. Additionally,



## 2 AN AMAZING LOCATION

Blue skies, beaches, beautiful landscapes, every type of sport, a Formula One racing circuit, an open and diverse culture, great shopping centres, the most breathtaking sunsets, and a location central to Asia and Europe. What more could you ask for?



## 3 OUR STUDENT DIVERSITY

At AU we believe that all students, regardless of colour, race, religion, and physical or learning disability, have the right to the best education we can provide. Our student body comprises over 30 nationalities. At AU, we work hard to ensure that all our students are treated equally and with respect.

## 4 OUR INTERNATIONAL CULTURE

Our faculty members are from 25 different countries and possess credentials from some of the best universities in the world, ensuring we continue to work with our students to prepare them for the global market.



## 5 THE AHLIA FAMILY

Ahlia means 'family' in the Arabic language. At AU, the ties between faculty, students, and our administrative staff have been described by many as caring and familial. We look after our students and staff, and work tirelessly to ensure that, whatever your involvement with AU, we will make your experience the best it can be.

## STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS

### EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

If your institution has a partnership or formal agreement with Ahlia University, you may be eligible to study at Ahlia University for up to one full academic year. No tuition fees are applicable, and you would pay tuition fees only to your home institution. Credits earned whilst studying at Ahlia University may be transferred back to your home institution towards your degree.

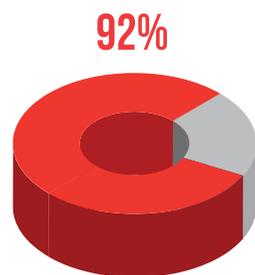
### STUDY ABROAD

If your institution does not have any formal agreements with Ahlia University, you may still apply to study at Ahlia University as a visiting student. A visiting student can spend up to one full academic year at Ahlia University and would pay tuition fees directly to Ahlia University. Credits earned whilst studying at Ahlia University may be transferred back to your home institution towards your degree.

### SHORT-TERM STUDY ABROAD

Ahlia offers an exciting 5-day 'Entrepreneurs Across Borders' programme that is carefully designed to engage, inspire, and challenge students to challenge themselves. The 5-day programme includes a number of cultural tours and site visits that will support students' informal learning and allow them to socialize, relax, and reflect on their experiences. The cultural tours allow students to learn more about Bahrain; its history, people, and culture, and inspire them to consider it as a launchpad for their future startup!

Ahlia University offers international students and partner institutions the opportunity to engage in other customised short-term study abroad programmes that range from 1 week to 2 months.



**92% OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS  
WOULD RECOMMEND  
AHLIA TO THEIR FRIENDS**

## FAQs

### DO I NEED TO SPEAK ARABIC?

Not really, although learning a few Arabic words would be helpful. English is the main business language of Bahrain, and it is commonly spoken outside work, in all retail stores and services.

### HOW SAFE IS BAHRAIN?

Bahrain is very safe. The crime rate is very low and violent crime is rare.

### DO WOMEN HAVE TO FOLLOW A DRESS CODE?

No. Women can dress as they wish, although it is polite to dress modestly in public.

### IS BAHRAIN A CONSERVATIVE PLACE?

Bahrain is known in the Gulf for being open and tolerant. Bahraini men and women socialize at local cafes and restaurants, expatriates mix with Bahraini nationals across all social settings, and people from all over the Gulf come here to relax.

### SHOULD I BE AWARE OF ANY FOOD AND BEVERAGE RESTRICTIONS?

Although Muslim Bahrainis generally do not eat pork or drink alcohol, many supermarkets sell pork, and alcohol can be purchased from licensed stores, hotels, and restaurants. However, drinking alcohol and engaging in drunken behaviour in public (outdoor spaces etc.) is prohibited.

### JUST HOW HOT DOES IT GET?

Although the average temperature during summer is 37-40°C, most outdoor locations have shade, and buildings are climate controlled. Temperatures are milder between October and May, averaging between 21 - 27°C.

### CAN I PLAY SPORT?

Sport is a major cultural pastime in Bahrain, with facilities for diving, golf, horse-riding, rugby, tennis, sailing, soccer, cricket, and basketball located all around the island. Private resorts and clubs have beaches and pools for swimming.





MAP OF  
THE ARABIAN PENINSULA

## STAY IN TOUCH

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