

Why AUS... here's what students have to say!



Dear Future AUSer,

Whether you are ready and set to join us next month, or you are still weighing your options, we are here for you! As the Academic Support Center (ASC) and First Year Experience (FYE), we believe in you and will do our very best to ensure that you get all the support you need!

We know that transitioning from high school to university can be daunting, which is why we asked some of our students this question:

Why AUS?

And here's what they had to say:

"One of the main reasons that brought me to AUS is the countless opportunities it provides in terms of both extracurriculars and academics. AUS is a super-reputed university in the UAE in terms of the majors and specializations they offer to their students. Additionally, AUS is also a great place to meet and network with people from diverse backgrounds, coming from all walks of life. Lastly, the extremely qualified and super-friendly professors/faculty and wonderful infrastructure are the cherry on the top!"

Bhavika Vohra

Accounting, School of Business Administration

"Looking back at my journey here at AUS, I found it full of great memories. There are so many of them I can't pick just one! A reason behind this is the welcoming energy shared by the students and faculty that constantly make you feel like AUS is your second home. This was the reason I chose AUS immediately after my first visit to the campus, and I will never forget all the knowledge, support and great memories that the AUS community shared with me through my years here at this university."



Rawan Rashid

Electrical Engineering, College of Engineering



Jawwad Sheikh

*Mechanical Engineering,
College of Engineering*

Kareena Menghrajani

*Finance,
School of Business Administration*

Siraj Mecci
Management,
School of Business Administration

We look forward to seeing you in 41 days. Hopefully by next year, you, too, will be able to share with incoming first years, “Why AUS”!

We’ll always be there for you,

The Academic Support Center

fye@aus.edu



For admissions inquiries, login to infodesk.aus.edu to submit your query

American University of Sharjah, University City, Sharjah, . PO Box 26666, United Arab Emirates, +971
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Why AUS... because we will be there for you!

Why AUS?

Did you know there are multiple departments/services that will be there for you throughout your time at AUS? You will never have to go through this journey alone, because we will always be there to support you and to help get you to that finish line. You can click [here](#) to see a list of some of our AUS resources!

On July 19, we shared with you what some of our students had to say when we asked them “Why AUS?”. Today, we would like to share what some of the different departments at AUS had to say when we asked them “Why AUS?”.

Rasha Tawfik

**Director
Academic Support Center**



“Why AUS, because the Academic Success Center (ASC) is here for you! Offering everything from Student Success Workshops, peer support, and first year transitioning, to probationary and targeted advising, the ASC will be able to offer help to students wanting to refine their study skills and perform at their best capacity and equally to those students seeking to discover their potential and succeed at AUS. The ASC is also here to provide help to any student in need of academic accommodations. As a team, the ASC is here to help you make the best of your AUS experience.”



Haifa Ismail

**Director of Student Engagement and Leadership
Office of Student Affairs**

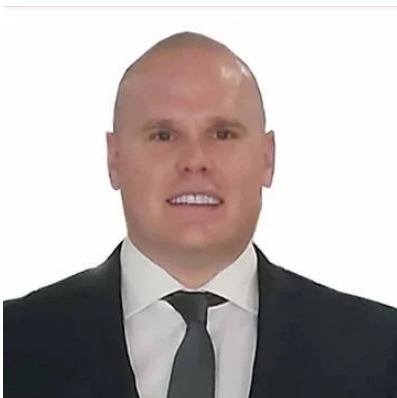
"Because Student Engagement and Leadership (SELD) is there for you! Make sure you take advantage of the diverse extracurricular programs and activities offered through SELD. Whether you want to start or join a club or organization, volunteer through Community Service and Outreach, get a part-time job on campus through On-Campus Student Employment or develop your leadership skills by joining the Student Leadership Program, the opportunities are endless! For any questions,, feel free to visit our offices located on the first floor of the Student Center or simply email us at seld@aus.edu."

Rebecca Hastie

**Information Literacy Librarian
AUS Library**



"Because the AUS Library is there for you! Yes, we have a great collection of books on our shelves (including some fantastic leisure reading) and plenty of study space but there's so much more to discover. Our collection also includes thousands of online articles, e-books, DVDs and CDs. We have computers, printers, IT support, media rooms, prayer rooms, presentation rooms, quiet and group spaces to support you through your AUS journey. Come in and meet our friendly librarians—we're ready to help you become a research whiz!"



Graeme Dobie

**Director of Student Athletics & Recreation
Office of Student Affairs**

"We believe some of the lessons you learn on the field or courts can help you in the classroom or boardroom. And we will be there to help guide you in your sports and fitness and journey. SARD is here to help you build good habits that will last your lifetime."



Colby Seay

**Director
International Exchange Office**

“AUS students are able to study abroad during their undergraduate program, and spend up to a year at another university across the globe. Studying abroad will likely be the most impactful, meaningful, transformative, and fun experience you will have at AUS! We have over 300 options to choose from, so yallah, where do you want to go?!”



Danielle Hyland

**University Counselor
University Counseling Services**

“Because the University Counseling Service is there for you! University can be an exciting but stressful experience. The University Counseling Service is here to help support your mental health and personal well-being through confidential conversations. As a team we have helped many AUS students with their personal obstacles they have faced in this phase of life.”

We look forward to seeing you in 34 days!

We'll always be there for you,
The Academic Support Center
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**27 questions that are most probably floating
through your mind!**

Dear Future AUSER,

Did you know that there are 27 days remaining until your first day at AUS? In celebration of that, here are 27 FAQs that you probably have...

1. What is orientation and do I have to attend?

Orientation is mandatory for all new students. The first event you attend at university is your orientation. No matter how much or how little you know about the campus, you should attend all the orientation sessions. This will give you a better idea of what will be expected of you as a university student, the campus layout, the facilities and the services offered. Most orientation leaders are senior students, and many first-year students feel more comfortable learning about the campus from fellow students. Make sure you ask a lot of questions! You can view the full Orientation schedule [here](#). Please make sure you [register](#) for orientation!

2. When is the first day of classes?

August 29. Click here to access the [Undergraduate Academic Calendar 2022-2023](#).

3. I am unsure of what to major in. What can I do?

Not sure about your major? Visit us at the **Academic Support Center (ASC)**. The Director of ASC is the Academic Advisor for Undeclared students. Undeclared students are students who have not yet decided on a major or met the conditions of admission into their major of choice. In addition, students considering other majors can consult with the Director. The ASC also offers the world-renowned Strong Interest Inventory to help students who are reconsidering their field of study. The Strong Interest Inventory is a questionnaire used to measure interest in various fields of study.

4. How will I know what courses to register for?

Don't worry - you will be assigned a Major Advisor by your college and they can help you identify the courses you will need to register for. If you are unsure what to major in, and

will be registered as “Undeclared”, you will need to contact the [Academic Support Center](#) for course advising.

5. Where can I get more information about living on campus?

Click [here](#) for more information provided by **Student Residential Life!**

6. Do you have a First-Year Student Survival Guide?

Click [here](#) to access our “How to Survive Your First Year at an American University in the MENA* Region” guide!

7. Can I work on campus while studying?

Yes, **On-Campus Student Employment (OSE)** promotes learning through hands-on experience outside the classroom and provides employment opportunities to students who want to work on campus. For more information and FAQs for on-campus student employment, click [here](#).

8. I would like to speak to juniors or seniors who are doing well on campus to get their perspectives on academics. How can I do that?

At the **Academic Support Center (ASC)**, there are Peer Advisors who are AUS students typically in their junior or senior year that have first-hand experience to advise fellow students. They can share strategies for success and connect students to AUS resources and opportunities. Click [here](#) to meet them and to learn more about how to book an appointment.

9. I don't live in the UAE and would like to go home during breaks. Where can I learn more about the holiday dates?

Click here to access the [Undergraduate Academic Calendar 2022-2023](#).

10. What can I eat on campus?

AUS campus restaurants and cafes offer a variety of dining options throughout the day and certain outlets provide home delivery (on campus) as well. Click [here](#) to learn more about the dining options at AUS.

11. How can I apply for financial aid or scholarships?

Click [here](#) for more information provided by the **Office of Financial Grants and Scholarships**.

12. Can I apply to study abroad during my time at AUS?

We encourage our students to take any opportunity that helps them grow and develop as global citizens. Did you know that you can spend up to two semesters taking courses outside of AUS? Click [here](#) for more information provided by the **International Exchange Office (IXO)**.

Hear from Colby Seay, Director of IXO, to learn more about international study options: "AUS students are able to study abroad during their undergraduate program, and spend up to a year at another university across the globe. Studying abroad will likely be the most impactful, meaningful, transformative and fun experience you will have at AUS! We have over 300 options to choose from, so yallah, where do you want to go?!"

13. Can I use the same study strategies that I used in high school at university?

At the **Academic Support Center (ASC)**, you can learn new student success strategies through the Student Success Workshops. Open to all students, interactive Student Success Workshops can help you master some of the most fundamental concepts for academic learning and lifelong success. For more information on Student Success Workshops, please click [here](#).

14. I had academic accommodations provided to me in school. Can I apply for academic accommodations at AUS?

Students who have a documented disability diagnosed by a qualified professional in the field may apply for academic accommodations through the **Academic Support Center (ASC)**. The deadline to apply for academic accommodations is the fifth week of the semester. For more information, please click [here](#). To book an appointment with an ASC advisor to discuss academic accommodations, please click [here](#).

15. I am worried about the different terminologies and abbreviations used on campus. How can I become more familiar with them?

The **Academic Support Center (ASC)** offers a wide range of [student success workshops](#) throughout the academic year. One of the workshops offered is called "The Lowdown on AUS Lingo". Join that workshop to find out all about AUS acronyms, what they mean and when to use them. For more information on when this workshop will be offered, please contact fye@aus.edu.

16. What are credit hours?

If this is your first time studying in an American system, you may not be sure of how credit hours work. Don't worry, it's quite simple. A course is measured by its credit hours. Each credit hour is the number of hours you are in class per week during a semester. If a course is three credits, it converts to three hours of class time per week for that course. This may differ slightly in the case of labs. Each degree plan has a certain number of credits you need to complete to graduate. The credits also help calculate your grade point average or GPA.

17. What is a normal first-year student course load?

First-year students are normally restricted to five courses per semester to allow time for their adjustment to the learning environment at AUS

18. I am worried about writing essays, especially at the college level. Do you have any services available at AUS that could help me with this?

Yes, the **AUS Writing Center** is dedicated to helping students become better writers. The Center offers one-on-one tutoring sessions by appointment or on a drop-in basis to students throughout the university. For more information about the Writing Center, please click [here](#).

19. I am worried about Math - I have always struggled with it. Do you have any services available that could help support me with my Math courses?

Yes, we do! The **Mathematics Learning Center (MLC)** offers free tutoring services to all AUS students. For more information about the Mathematics Learning Center, please click [here](#).

20. What happens if I get sick on campus - is there an on-campus nurse available?

University Health Services (UHS) at AUS is an outpatient center fully accredited by the UAE Ministry of Health and Prevention (MOHAP) and is committed to addressing all aspects of healthcare such as physical health, mental health, wellness and health education to all students, faculty members and staff of AUS. For more information on UHS, please click [here](#).

21. Do you have counseling services available on campus?

Yes, we do - **University Counseling Services (UCS)**. For more information on UCS, please click [here](#).

Hear from our University Counselor, Danielle Hyland, about what to expect from University Counseling Service:

"University can be an exciting but stressful experience. University Counseling Services is here to help support your mental health and personal well-being through confidential conversations. As a team we have helped many AUS students with their personal obstacles they have faced in this phase of life."

22. Does AUS have any sports teams?

The **Student Athletics and Recreational Department (SARD)** offers a range of competitive and recreational sports programs. For more information on Varsity teams, please click [here](#).

23. Are there any clubs and organizations available on campus?

To learn more about the clubs and organizations at AUS, please click [here](#).

24. Are there any official AUS social media accounts you recommend I follow?

For now, we recommend following these accounts: @wwwausedu (official AUS account), @ausfye (First Year Experience account), @asc.aus (Academic Support Center account), and @aus_osa (Office of Student Affairs account).

25. When will I be able to register for classes?

Please refer to the [Undergraduate Academic Calendar 2022-2023](#) for more information on registration dates. Another helpful document is the Fall 2022 Registration Guide - you can click [here](#) to access it.

26. What are some fun facts and statistics about AUS?

For some fun facts about AUS, click [here](#)!

27. If there's a question that I do not know the answer to and I have no idea who to ask - who do I go to?

We are aware that you are new to campus and that this is one of the biggest transitions you will be making throughout your life! We are excited and here for you. If at any point you face any challenges or are unsure about anything, let us know by emailing us at fye@aus.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!

If you have any more questions, feel free to reach out to us at fye@aus.edu.

See you in 27 days!

We'll always be there for you,

The Academic Support Center

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