

Dubai Women's College

Since its inception in 1989, Dubai Women's College (DWC) has seen more than 7,969 students graduate, 70% of whom are now employed in private sector institutions and governmental departments. Holding senior posts, these graduates are making an indelible mark on the Dubai landscape by changing the prevalent thinking about UAE career women and raising the perception and expectations about UAE globally.

In the last two decades DWC enrolment has risen from 146 to 2,375 students and provides world-class education for over 2,000 undergraduates a year, offering courses in business, information technology, health sciences, applied communication and education.

Objective: Using Cutting Edge Technology For Continuous Improvement

In line with its motto, 'Practicing the Future' the college strives to enable its graduates to maximize their potential and help Dubai continue to emerge as a truly modern international city. DWC's relentless passion for doing everything better relies on implementing cutting edge technology and choosing the right partners to support this vision. All students are expected to use laptop computers during their daily activities to facilitate learning, communication and research. On campus students have access to the latest instructional and multimedia technology and equipment.

Being part of 16 colleges in The Higher Colleges of Technology group (HCT), the implementation of a powerful Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) was seen as a pivotal driver to produce higher-achieving students through inter-college collaboration while also overcoming the cultural issues of segregated learning.

HCT was established in 1988 and is the largest institution of higher learning in the United Arab Emirates with over 18,113 students. During the 2009 - 2010 academic year there were 11,769 female and 6,344 male students enrolled at 17 campuses and 92 programmes throughout the country. More than 30,000 UAE nationals are graduates of the institution.



كليات التقنية العليا
HIGHER COLLEGES OF TECHNOLOGY



كلية دبي للطالبات
DUBAI WOMEN'S COLLEGE
Practicing the Future

The Challenge:

Using cutting edge technology to enable its graduates to maximize their potential and help Dubai continue to emerge as a truly modern international city.

Enabling Extension Of Learning On Campus, Between Colleges, And Among Students

Proud of its rapid progress and success, DWC's policy is to continue to embrace new technology to support its ambitious educational aims. Every class at DWC is designed with hands-on technology in mind and with power and network connectivity supplied to every seat on campus, all students bring their laptop to lessons. This level of "always on" technology demands support from a robust, reliable and highly collaborative virtual learning environment (VLE). In 2001 HCT undertook a rigorous survey of available VLEs and chose the Blackboard Learn™ platform due to its reliability, ease of use and industry-leading support.

As well as being able to use Blackboard Learn on campus, students can connect from home. Furthermore, all students undertake a two month internship in industry as part of their course. During the internship students have course requirements that need to be completed at the end of the week. This work is completed entirely via Blackboard Learn. The students also blog about their experiences and challenges that they face - for many it will be their first exposure to industry and the blog offers a supportive environment where students can support each other during this vital part of their course.

"The college has evolved from 15 graduates in 1992 to over 620 in 2009 and this rapid growth reflects both the drive and passion of the staff and the thirst for knowledge of the students," comments Behjat Al Yousuf, Associate Director, Dubai Women's College. "HCT is the first institution in the Middle East to implement Enterprise Level teaching and Blackboard has enabled us to extend learning both on campus and between colleges as well as stimulate discussion among students."

For More Information

If you are interested to learn more on how Blackboard can help you and your organization increase the impact of education, please contact your account manager or visit us at www.blackboard.com

A Vital Part Of Dubai Women's College's Education Delivery Strategy

Certain faculties in the college have experienced a radical change in teaching methodology due to the rich learning solutions that Blackboard Learn includes. For example, the Health Sciences faculty welcomed the change when Blackboard was implemented, and have fully embraced Blackboard Learn's ability to enhance collaboration and virtual exchanges with global health institutions - all additional resources that enrich the day-to-day learning. The Blackboard Learn platform also formed the basis of the creation of a repository of knowledge within the college. Previous to its implementation, teachers would develop their own materials and, to some extent, reinvent the wheel. With the Blackboard Learn platform in place, the exchange of knowledge and experience has increased. Teachers now share teaching materials and resources which can be added over time, building a lasting and important resource pool that further enriches the learning experience of students.

Blackboard Learn has become a vital part of Dubai Women's College's education delivery strategy. Following a blended learning system means that the college can offer its students the best of both worlds: face-to-face teaching and online collaboration. This approach offers students life skills which they can take forward in their careers and which enables them to share the insight and experience with their fellow students in other HTC colleges, offering technology collaboration skills that are vital in modern working practices.

With a mission supported by the ELITE principles: Excellence, Leadership, Innovation, Technology, and Entrepreneurship, DWC has been recognized as being at the pinnacle of higher education in UAE.

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