



SORBONNE
UNIVERSITY
ABU DHABI



Bachelor in
**PHILOSOPHY
AND SOCIOLOGY**
**CONCENTRATION IN POLITICAL
STUDIES**

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Overview

The Bachelor in Philosophy and Sociology – Concentration in Political Studies, is an exclusive three-year dual degree, taught in French, that offers students the opportunity to work in a wide range of fields. Students are awarded two Bachelor degrees by Sorbonne Université in Paris: one Bachelor degree in Philosophy and one Bachelor degree in Sociology. This distinctive three-year programme, delivered by world-renowned academics, combines the analytical depth of Philosophy with the empirical tools of Sociology, providing students with a strong academic foundation and applied understanding to address complex societal and political issues.

The programme includes an interdisciplinary Concentration in Political Studies, with courses in Political Science, International Relations, Political Philosophy, Theories of Justice, Economics, Geopolitics, Public Policy, Interethnic Relations, Social Structures in the Gulf Countries, Contemporary History and Communication. It enables students to gain a thorough and rigorous understanding of Politics, Ethics and Social Phenomena through the perspective of Philosophy and the Social Sciences.

Graduates develop the critical thinking, research skills, and multilingual competencies to become leaders in the knowledge-based economy, as thinkers and problem-solvers. They succeed in careers in Public Administration, International Organisations, Governmental Agencies, Diplomacy, Strategy, Psychology, Education, Media, Communication, Consulting, Human Resources and Research.

The curriculum also offers access to numerous postgraduate programmes (masters) worldwide, in a variety of fields, including International Relations, Public Policy, Diplomacy, Law, Human Resources, Communication, Journalism, Psychology, Business Administration, Sociology and Philosophy.



What makes this programme unique?

Integration of philosophy and sociology

The Philosophy curriculum emphasises epistemological questions regarding the conditions of scientific objectivity and the ways in which the social sciences differ from the natural sciences. It explores moral and political issues, including classical topics such as justice, freedom and equality, and the theory of action (rational choice theory). It also emphasises theory of knowledge, metaphysics, and political philosophy. It develops analytical and critical thinking, as well as research, argumentation and assessment skills, and allows students to question the theoretical foundations of key philosophical issues in the contemporary world, with a special focus on the challenges of environmental change and the development of artificial intelligence and the new technologies. The Sociology curriculum emphasises the link between sociological theory and empirical research. Students learn the qualitative and quantitative methodologies of the social sciences and work on social contemporary phenomena such as social stratification, migration, urbanisation, health sociology, socio-cultural inequalities and the question of tolerance, and the socio-political changes in the context of the globalised world.

A unique concentration in Political Studies

This Double Bachelor provides students with a deep and comprehensive understanding of the functioning of contemporary societies. The concentration in Political Studies is meant to give to the two main disciplines – philosophy and sociology – their proper articulation, with interdisciplinary courses from other departments completing this rigorous and thorough exposure to the field of politics. The concentration in Political Studies prepares students for a variety of career opportunities as leaders in such domains as International Organisations, Governmental Agencies and Public Administration, Diplomacy and Strategy.

Academic excellence and Sorbonne prestige

Students benefit from the rich heritage of the French academic tradition and the prestigious legacy of Sorbonne Université in France. The curriculum combines rigorous intellectual training with innovative, discussion-based teaching. Students develop critical thinking, reasoning, and research skills that are relevant to public and private institutions and adaptable to global contexts.

World-class faculty and personalised support

Courses are delivered by distinguished professors and researchers with global academic credentials, whose expertise brings cutting-edge scholarship into the classroom. A strong culture of debate, independent thought, and problem-solving is fostered, with personalised tutoring available to support each student's academic and professional growth.

Multilingual and multicultural advantage

Taught in French, the programme also offers the opportunity to learn or perfect another language (Arabic, English, German, Italian, Chinese, or Spanish) enhancing graduates' global employability and cultural adaptability.

Applied learning with global relevance

Through interactive teaching, case studies, and research projects, students bridge theory and practice, developing skills in reasoning, argumentation, and evidence-based analysis that are highly valued in today's job market.

Commitment to sustainability and responsible innovation

Aligned with SUAD's strategic priorities, the programme addresses urgent global challenges, including environmental change, socio-cultural inequality, and the ethical implications of new technologies. Students graduate with the analytical and ethical skills to design informed, sustainable, and socially responsible solutions.



Programme *highlights*

- A dual degree and not simply a double major: students are awarded two bachelor degrees, one in philosophy and one in sociology, with a concentration in political studies
- Academic prestige of an internationally recognised Sorbonne-issued dual degree
- Innovative interdisciplinary teachings of philosophy and sociology with a concentration in political studies
- Rigorous development of advanced critical thinking and applicable skills to pressing global issues
- Multilingual and multicultural proficiency for both local and global impact
- Career versatility in public policy, diplomacy, strategy, research, consultancy and beyond
- Wide-ranging support from SUAD's first-rate Career Centre
- Personalised tutoring within small, interactive class settings



Programme structure

Year 1

Course name

Core Courses

- Fundamental Philosophical Concepts
- Foundations of Reasoning and Critical Thinking
- Theory of Knowledge
- Introduction to Ethics
- Foundations of Social Theory
- Applied Sociology (Family Structures)
- Qualitative Methods of Sociology
- Statistics

Concentration in Political Studies

- Sociology of Migrations and Inter-Ethnic Relations (Tolerance)
- Political Science
- Introduction to Economics
- History of the Contemporary World
- Communication

Year 2

Course name

Core Courses

- Philosophy in the Ancient World
- History of Philosophy
- Philosophy of Environment
- Philosophy and Ethics of Artificial Intelligence
- Philosophy of Mind
- Philosophy of Art
- Quantitative Methods of Sociology
- Art and Society
- Economic Sociology

Concentration in Political Studies

- Political Sociology
- Geopolitics and International Relations
- International Relations
- Communication

Year 3

Course name

Core Courses

- Modern Philosophy
- Contemporary Philosophy
- Thinking Science and Technology
- Comparative Philosophy Between the East and West
- Social Stratification, Equality and Inequality
- Introduction to the Social Sciences and Anthropology
- Rational Choice Theory
- Health Sociology

Concentration in Political Studies

- Political Philosophy
- Public Policy
- Theories of Justice
- Social Structures of Gulf Countries
- Contemporary History

Assessment & graduation requirements

Course sessions are primarily assessed through in-class individual and group assignments, including presentations, case study analyses and group exercises. Attendance at all classes is mandatory, and students are expected to be punctual and adhere to university regulations at all times.



Testimonials

“ Since graduating from the double bachelor in Philosophy and Sociology in 2025, I have joined KPMG Lower Gulf as a Digital Transformation Consultant, where I contribute to public sector engagements focused on service design, policy transformation, and citizen experience.

Najla Almatrooshi

“ After I graduated in 2016, I worked at the French Embassy to the UAE before joining the prestigious Graduate Institute of Geneva (with Master in International Affairs), while interning at UNESCO in Paris and at the Centre for Security Sector Governance in Geneva. I am currently working in Geneva as a Junior Consultant in International Security.

Sabrina Manseur

“ I graduated in Sociology and Philosophy in 2013. After having obtained a Master's degree in Organisational Communication at the University of Montreal (Canada) in 2015, I worked as a Marketing and Sales Manager for a Start-up in the coffee market. I now work for PageGroup France (Page Personnel) in the recruitment sector as a Retail & Restauration Department Manager.

Stevan Brodin

“ Graduated in Philosophy and Sociology in 2017. Subsequently, I studied an MSc in International Relations at the London School of Economics and an MSc at University College London (with Distinction). I have completed my PhD in Sociology at Sciences Po Paris in 2025.

Bernardino León-Reyes

“ My studies in Philosophy and Sociology at SUAD led me to pursue graduate studies at Harvard University, where I will begin a Master's in Middle Eastern Studies in Fall 2026, focusing on the political economy of the Gulf and its transition to a post-oil knowledge economy.

Alreem Alghafri

Career prospects

The degree prepares students for careers in governmental and non-governmental organisations, polling agencies, market research and statistics companies, diplomatic services, journalism, advertising and communication, secondary and higher education, research, consulting, as well as human resources.

Graduates also have access to a wide range of Master's programmes globally, including in International Relations, Public Policy, Diplomacy, Law, Human Resources, Communication, Journalism, Psychology, Business Administration, Sociology, and Philosophy. They may also continue their studies at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi by applying to the Master in Social Research and Data Analysis for Global Societies.

Example roles

Business, Consulting & Human Resources

- Market Research / Data Analyst
- Behavioural Insights Consultant
- Business Analyst
- HR Consultant / Recruitment Specialist
- CSR or Strategic Marketing Analyst
- Business Development Director
- In-House Ethicist / Philosopher

Non-Profit, NGOs & Social Services

- Human Rights Advocate / Coordinator
- Community Development Officer
- Charity Fundraiser
- Social Services Coordinator / Manager
- Mental Health or Youth Counsellor

Media, Publishing & Communications

- Journalist or Media Researcher
- Communications Officer
- Technical / Editorial Writer
- Web Content Manager
- Commissioning Editor
- PR or Public Affairs Specialist
- Production Assistant
- Copyeditor / Proofreader
- Publishing Rights Manager
- Academic Digital Publishing Specialist
- Multimedia Development Specialist
- Scriptwriter
- Film and Video Editor
- Freelance Writer / Editor

Public Services, International Affairs & Diplomacy

- Foreign Affairs Officer
- Intelligence Analyst
- Mediator
- Public Policy Adviser
- International Development Coordinator
- Policy and Government Relations Officer
- International Aid / Development Coordinator
- Political Risk, Security, Human Rights, or Climate Change Analyst

Education, Research & Libraries

- Professor, Teacher, Lecturer
- Academic Adviser
- Social Researcher
- Librarian, Archives or Digital Collections Librarian
- Adult and Community Education Specialist
- University Registrar / Librarian / Archivist





What can I do with a major in Philosophy and Sociology?

Where do graduates work?

Private Sector

- Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi - UAE
- Emirates Stallions Group (ESG) - UAE
- HSBC - UAE
- KPMG - UAE
- IPSOS - France
- Michael Page - Belgium
- Taaleem - UAE

Public Sector & International Organisations

- Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) - UAE
- Dubai Culture & Arts Authority - UAE
- French Embassy - UAE
- Louvre Abu Dhabi - UAE
- Ministry of Presidential Affairs - UAE

Further Study Options

Students are well-prepared for advanced studies across disciplines. Areas of specialisation may include:

Humanities

- Philosophy: Aesthetics, Epistemology, Ethics, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Law
- Sociology: Applied Sociological Research
- Museum Studies and History of Art
- Psychology
- Archival Science and Records Management

Professional Programmes

- Law School (LLM in the UK, US or elsewhere)
- Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Communication, International Relations & Diplomacy
- Environment, Politics & Globalisation
- Peace and Conflict Studies
- Public Policy and Management

Where do SUAD graduates go?

Graduates from the Philosophy and Sociology programme have continued their studies at leading institutions worldwide, including:

- Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi (UAE)
- Sorbonne Université (France)
- Sciences Po Paris (France)
- Graduate Institute Geneva (Switzerland)
- University of Lausanne (Switzerland)
- King's College London (UK)
- London School of Economics (UK)
- University College London (UCL) (UK)
- University of Copenhagen (Denmark)
- University of Montréal (Canada)
- University of Otago (New Zealand)
- Al Akhawayn University (Morocco)
- University of Kent Brussels School of International Studies (Belgium)
- ENSSIB (France) – National School for Archival Science and Records Management



Career Centre support

SUAD's Career Centre supports students throughout their programme offering one-on-one career advising, CV / cover letter clinics, internship placement assistance, and employer connections through the JobTeaser online platform.



Admission prospects

Admission to the Bachelor in Philosophy and Sociology is assessed on academic merit and potential for success in the programme.

General application requirements

- Minimum average of 12 out of 20 for French General Baccalaureate or equivalent for the francophone curriculum.
- **UAE Ministry of Education curriculum:**
 - General stream: Minimum average of 80%
 - Advanced stream: Minimum average of 75%
- **Other high school systems:** High school certificate equivalent to the UAE Ministry of Education high school, with a minimum average of 80% or equivalent.

French language proficiency:

- **French Aptitude Certificate at B2 level:** DELF, DALF, SELFEE, TCF (valid 2 years)
- **TEF** (valid 2 years)
- **SUAD University Diploma (DU) French Language** for non-French speakers
- **French Baccalaureate** graduates are exempt

Foundation year pathway:

Students not meeting the required French Aptitude Certificate or students applying with a minimum average of 12 out of 20 for French professional or technical Baccalaureate will be admitted conditionally in the programme, and enrolled in the foundation year in intensive French provided they meet the above academic criteria.

Upon its successful completion, they will be admitted into the Bachelor's degree programme.

Other education systems:

Conditions apply to other foreign curricula in accordance with the admission policy set by Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi. Contact Student Recruitment at: admissions@sorbonne.ae for more details.

Equal opportunity:

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi welcomes applications from students of all nationalities and backgrounds, regardless of country of origin, income, gender, religion, or physical condition.

Tuition Fees

(Including admin. fees - over 3 years)

AED 215,100 (approximately US\$ 58,615)

Up to 100% scholarship available for this programme!**

To learn more

Click:

<https://www.sorbonne.ae/fees-and-scholarships/scholarships/>

or Scan:



**Terms and Conditions apply

Why Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi?

In today's fast-paced and globalised world, education and communication play a pivotal role in shaping progressive and dynamic societies. The French education system is renowned for cultivating rigorous inquiry and, debate skills – essential qualities for developing future innovators and leaders.

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is a globally recognised institution that bridges civilisations, offering a multicultural environment that fosters tolerance, curiosity, harmony, and cultural awareness - vital qualities for success in the modern economy. Students benefit from internationally acclaimed faculty, state-of-the-art facilities, and globally recognised degrees, all of which equip them with the tools necessary for a successful and impactful career.

This degree is awarded by Sorbonne Université and accredited by the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation. Furthermore, this programme is accredited by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA).





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