

BUID: THE UAE'S PIONEER IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) EDUCATION

At a time when Artificial Intelligence was merely a buzzword in academic circles, the British University in Dubai (BUID) was already laying the groundwork for what would become the UAE's most robust and forward-looking AI education ecosystem. In 2004, BUID made history by launching the first MSc in Information Technology in the UAE, in academic association with the world-renowned University of Edinburgh. Over the years, the programme evolved in both scope and title to reflect emerging trends in the field. In 2010, it was renamed MSc in Informatics (Knowledge & Data Management) and later updated in 2024 to MSc in Informatics. Although the title changed, the curriculum consistently included cutting-edge content in areas such as Machine Learning and Intelligent Systems—placing BUID decades ahead of the mainstream AI wave. Today, this very programme has evolved and gained official recognition by the UAE Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) as the MSc in Artificial Intelligence, aligning its title with its pioneering content.

THE UAE'S FIRST - BSc IN AI

In 2012, BUID's momentum surged again as it secured accreditation for the UAE's first Bachelor of Science with a concentration in Artificial Intelligence, a programme so advanced that when it was officially offered in 2018, it was the only undergraduate AI degree in the entire country. This was not just a programme, it was another national milestone.



LEADING IN DOCTORAL AI EDUCATION

BUID's leadership did not stop there. In 2014, we proudly introduced the UAE's first PhD in Computer Science, a programme designed with a strong emphasis on Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, Data Science, and beyond. Since then, over 50 candidates have earned their PhDs from BUID, with more than 50% specialising in AI. These graduates now serve as leaders, innovators, and strategists shaping the AI landscape across academia, government, and industry.

Our Growing AI Alumni Network

200+ MSc graduates	50+ PhD graduates	100+ BSc AI graduates
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GLOBAL RESEARCH RECOGNITION

BUID’s academic excellence in Computer Science is not limited to the classroom. BUID has demonstrated significant research achievements in Computer Science, with a substantial output of 698 SCOPUS indexed documents. This includes 326 conference papers, 230 articles, 78 book chapters, 33 editorials, and 21 review papers. This robust research activity underscores BUID's dedication to contributing to the global landscape of Computer Science through its scholarly work and academic endeavours. Therefore, several of our faculty members are listed among the world’s top researchers in Computer Science, driving impactful research in machine learning, neural networks, natural language processing, and ethical AI.

INTERNATIONAL RANKING RECOGNITION

BUID consistently demonstrates a high level of academic excellence in Computer Science, reflected in its strong national, regional, and global subject rankings. For example, according to the research-based ranking (SCImago), in the UAE, BUID stands impressively at 4th among 24 institutions in the Computer Science discipline. Regionally, BUID showcases significant academic competitiveness, ranking 19th out of 363 institutions in Arab countries and 29th among 585 across the broader Middle East. Globally, its position at 607th out of 3,244 Computer Science institutions.. These comprehensive results collectively highlight BUID’s distinguished academic performance, encompassing not only its robust research capabilities but also its well-established reputation and educational strength in AI, cybersecurity, data science, and related fields.

REGION	RANK	TOTAL INSTITUTIONS
United Arab Emirates	4th	24
ARAB COUNTRIES	19th	363
Middle East	29th	585
World	607th	3244

THE ROAD AHEAD: CONTINUING TO LEAD

As we move forward, BUID is committed to staying at the forefront of AI education, building more bridges between academia and industry, expanding our research partnerships, and developing the next generation of AI leaders who will redefine what is possible in the UAE and the region.