



Discover future-focused courses at Edufair

40 UNIVERSITIES FROM UAE AND ABROAD WILL GIVE STUDENTS ACCESS TO A WIDE RANGE OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

DUBAI
Gulf News Report

The countdown has begun for the eighth edition of the *Gulf News* Edufair taking place in Dubai this weekend. Edufair will bring together over 40 universities from the UAE and abroad, giving students access to a wide range of academic programmes, expert advice, and institutional offerings under one roof. It is designed to support students at every stage of their academic journey, whether they are starting university this September, or are still in high school.

Industry-aligned degrees
The focus of Edufair is on career-ready degrees that reflect current industry demands. Students can explore programmes that incorporate real-world skills, practical training and industry exposure, ensuring they are well-prepared for the workplace after graduation.

Among the universities leading this approach is Ajman University, which offers programmes in high-demand sectors. “Ajman University is among the first in the UAE to offer both Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Artificial Intelligence, reinforcing the nation’s position as a leader in this rapidly advancing field,” says **Dr Karim Seghir**, Chancellor of Ajman University.

In response to the global need for digital security expertise, Ajman University has expanded its offerings.



Virendra Saklani/Gulf News Archives

■ Edufair is designed to support students at every stage of their academic journey.

“To meet the urgent global demand for cybersecurity professionals, we have also introduced a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity, equipping graduates with the expertise against evolving threats,” says **Dr Seghir**.

Skills of the future

Curtin University Dubai, also participating at Edufair, offers insight into the skills shaping the global workforce.

“In the next five years, some of the most in-demand courses will be in fields such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, digital marketing, and sustainable engineering,” says **Professor Ammar Kaka**, Pro Vice Chancellor and President of Curtin University Dubai.

Curtin’s strategy focuses on

aligning academic curricula with industry requirements.

“Our close collaboration with global industry partners, regular curriculum reviews, and emphasis on real-world learning ensure that our graduates are equipped with relevant skills and are job-ready from day one,” says **Prof Kaka**.

New courses in focus

At this year’s Edufair, Heriot-Watt University Dubai will feature two new programmes that respond to the changing needs of professionals – an MBA with a specialisation in Professional Practice and a two-year Master of Architecture degree.

“Events like Edufair provide



a unique opportunity for meaningful conversations, whether with prospective students exploring their interests, parents seeking clarity on academic choices, or corporate professionals looking to upskill,” says **Saranya Rustagi**, Regional Director of Marketing, Recruitment, Admissions and Communications at Heriot-Watt University Dubai.



Entrance exam preparation

Edufair also caters to students preparing for university entrance exams.

“At Edufair, Ascentria will showcase how our focused training for India’s NEET, JEE, and board exams helps stu-

EVENT DETAILS

- **What:** Edufair Dubai 2025
- **When:** May 9-11
- **Where:** H Hotel on Shaikh Zayed Road in Dubai



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dents navigate the challenges of entrance exams while also offering valuable insights on higher education pathways and career growth,” says **Alka Malik**, Founder, Ascentria.

Select AI project from five specialised tracks

Meanwhile, Mentormind – participating at Edufair for the first time – is set to showcase its AIxplore programme, which teaches Python programming and allows students to select their own AI project from five specialised tracks: Medicine, law, business and entrepreneurship, data science, and sustainability.

Mentormind further enhances this AI learning with a strong foundation in university preparation. **Dr Kanchi Das**, Director and Founder, Mentormind, says, “We offer dedicated sessions on how students can use these projects to secure research opportunities and in-



ternships for their university applications,” says.

Helping professionals upskill to stand out

For working professionals, Edufair offers plenty of opportunities for reskilling and upskilling through specialised institutions.

“Professional certifications and internationally recognised degrees not only sharpen your skills but also show employers that you’re committed to growing and staying relevant,” says **Hanil Haridas**, Co-Founder and CEO, Westford, which will showcase a diverse range of undergraduate, postgraduate, and executive programmes at Edufair.



Seminars to shed light on future of education

One of the most anticipated segments of Edufair is the seminar series, offering real-world insights into shifting educational models and job market trends.

“We are seeing a strong shift toward AI-driven learning, hybrid education models, and industry-aligned curriculum development,” says **Sajesh Nambiar**, Head of Student Recruitment & Admissions, University of West London – RAK Branch Campus.

“These discussions will be crucial in helping students and parents understand what the future of education looks like and how to prepare for it,” he explained.



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