

INTERNATIONAL STUDY TOUR FAQ

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (DUBAI/ABU DHABI)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Destination:

Dubai and Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Faculty Lead:

Prof. Shankar Subramani
(subramanis@macewan.ca)

Course code and name:

INTB-255 Doing Business Internationally -
Study Tour to UAE

Course credits:

3 credits

Availability expectations:

- Pre-departure program on campus:
March 9, 16 & 23, 2024 – 9 a.m.
to 4 p.m.
- Travel period: **April 20 to April 28, 2024**
(9 days / 8 nights). Of course, a student
may choose to extend their stay at the
destination before or after the official
dates of the tour at their own expense.

Key administrative dates:

- Enrollment dates: **January 2 –
February 15, 2024.**
- Full payment (tuition fees and tour cost):
No later than January 31 if the student
is enrolled before this date. The full cost
will be due **immediately if the student is
enrolled in February.**
- Given the nature of the study tours,
which involve pre-payments to local
service providers several months
before departure, all *payments are
non-refundable.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

1. Why take part in a Business Study Tour?

Part of MacEwan's *Teaching Greatness* strategic vision is to ensure that our graduates are versatile, future-ready and culturally aware. Study tours provide our students with unique opportunities to develop their global mindset and ability to operate in unfamiliar or complex settings. While the tours differ in length, destination and cost, they all offer carefully crafted programs and affordable opportunities to experience first-hand what it means to do business internationally. Past destinations included Austria, Belgium, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Japan, Morocco and South Korea.

Besides the unique learning experiences they provide, these tours count as three-credit courses that could be taken more than once to explore different destinations. The objective has always been to diversify the destinations from one year to another so that a student could possibly enroll in at least one tour every year throughout their journey at MacEwan. While these tours are primarily designed for business students, they are open to non-business students who are interested in exploring the world.

2. What makes Dubai and Abu Dhabi a great destination for a Study Tour?

United Arab Emirates (UAE) is a modern country with a rich history and heritage. It is a perfect example of a global village featuring a melting pot of cultures and traditions with citizens from over 90 nationalities. Known globally as a safe environment for living and tourism, the UAE is an advanced commercial hub and a prime destination for shopping. We will visit two cities – Dubai and Abu Dhabi. The city of Dubai is a cutting-edge R&D cradle with many preeminent research hubs. The most up-to-date resources, technology, laboratories and minds are all found there. This includes the Dubai Science Park, Mohammed bin Rashid Aerospace Hub, AstroLabs, which is part of the Google for Entrepreneurs partner network, In5, DIFC Fintech Hive, Dubai Future Foundation, British Moorfields Eye Hospital and American Johns Hopkins Hospital. Such exposure will greatly enrich our students' knowledge and experiences. Abu Dhabi is the capital of the UAE, with diverse landscapes ranging from coastal islands filled with world-famous attractions and beaches to uninterrupted desert scenery.

In addition to business visits, this tour will provide the participants with an immersive cultural experience through visits to memorable places such as the Old Dubai City, Museum of the Future, Burj Khalifa (tallest building in the world), IMG World of Adventure, Desert Safari, Dubai Frame, Miracle Garden, Abu Dhabi City, Sheik Zayed Mosque, Presidential Palace and Ferrari World.

3. Who can participate?

- Both business and non-business students can apply regardless of their areas of study. Priority will be given to business students who meet the requirements on a first-come, first-served basis. Non-business students will be placed on a waitlist and will be invited to enrol if spots are still available after the deadline.
- Must be in good academic standing (GPA of 2.0 or higher).
- Must have completed 24 MacEwan University or post-secondary transfer credits. Students could participate after completing just two terms of study at MacEwan.
- Students who have already taken a study tour course must have a 75% or higher in their professionalism/contribution component on previous study tours to be eligible for another tour.

4. I have taken a study tour course before, am I allowed to take it more than once?

A student can take the INTB-255 course more than once to travel to different destinations. Please confirm with a program advisor whether you are allowed to use it as a credit course toward your program of study.

5. I am a non-business MacEwan student, can I join a tour that is organized by the School of Business?

All MacEwan students, including those enrolled in non-business programs, are welcome to enroll in business study tours. However, priority will be given to business students.

Non-business students will be placed on a waitlist. Please confirm with a program advisor that this course can be used as a credit course toward your program of study.

6. What is the cost of the tour to UAE?

- INTB-255 is a 3-credit course, and tuition fees apply accordingly.
- The cost of the tour to UAE is \$2,500.

7. Do I need to purchase an insurance?

Yes, if you are not already covered under an insurance policy. Please note that your SAMU insurance may not be sufficient. You are encouraged to double-check with the insurer and make sure you have proper health and trip cancellation coverage.

8. What is included in the price?

- Accommodation and breakfast in 4-star hotels on a twin-sharing basis.
- Visits to cultural and tourist attractions.
- Local guide and ground transportation to programmed activities.
- Visits to local businesses, organizations and universities.
- Meals when included explicitly in the program.

9. What is not included?

- Course tuition fees.
- Airfare.
- Travel insurance.
- Visa fees and vaccination fees (when applicable).
- Anything that is not included explicitly in the program.

10. When should I buy my flight tickets?

Like any other course, a study tour may be cancelled (with full reimbursement) by the School of Business. For instance, this may be the case if the number of students enrolled by the closing date is insufficient to go ahead with the tour. **It is recommended that you do not buy your tickets before the final decision is made when the enrollment period ends on February 15, 2024.** You will receive a confirmation email from the faculty leader of your tour in due time.

11. How do I enroll in this study tour course?

This special course/tour is open for registration until February 15, 2024. If you are ready to enroll, please contact an academic advisor (business@macewan.ca), and they will add you to the tour if you meet the requirements.

Please note the number of spots is limited, and enrollments will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Your seat is only confirmed when you pay the fees. Late applications will be placed on a waitlist.

12. What if I have a question that is not covered in this list?

For general questions about this course's program and conditions, please contact the tour's faculty leader: **Professor Shankar Subramani** (subramanis@macewan.ca).

13. What does the Study Tour's schedule look like?

Below is a **tentative** schedule to give you a preliminary idea about what to expect. Please note this is **subject to changes** as we confirm details and availability with local partners and service providers.

DAY	ACTIVITY
Saturday, April 20, 2024	Shuttle Dubai International Airport to the hotel at a specific time only (or arrive at a different time at your own expense) Check-in after 3 p.m. Evening: Canal cruise with Welcome Dinner
Sunday, April 21, 2024	Old Dubai City Tour – Boat ride The Gold, Textile and Spice souk/markets Museum of the Future Burj Khalifa (tallest building) 124th floor
Monday, April 22, 2024	Full day of Business Meetings Evening: IMG World of Adventure – Dubai
Tuesday, April 23, 2024	Full day of Business Meetings/University Visits Evening: 5-star Desert Safari
Wednesday, April 24, 2024	Full day of Business Meetings Evening: Dubai Frame and La Perle show by Dragone
Thursday, April 25, 2024	Full day of Business Meetings Evening: Miracle Garden
Friday, April 26, 2024	Group transfer to Abu Dhabi Full day of Business Meetings/University Visits Evening: Tour of Abu Dhabi City & Sheik Zayed Mosque
Saturday, April 27, 2024	Presidential Palace & Ferrari World
Sunday, April 28, 2024	Group transfer to Dubai Airport at specified time only (or stay extra days at your own expense if you prefer)