



Awards Arab World 2025

Teaching and Learning Strategy of the Year

Institution Name	Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport
Submission title or project name	Creativity in Action: turning classrooms into imaginative spaces
Nominee / key personnel	Professor Mohamed Khedr; Professor Nahla Belal
URL	
Submission	<p>At the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, we believe that creativity is fundamental in today's AI era. Our Creativity in Action policy seeks to create imaginative, playful and interdisciplinary classrooms.</p> <p>Key to this are four initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Riddle games: At the campus-wide level, students solve cleverly constructed riddles as part of a school-wide investigation, learning lateral thinking, collaboration, risk-taking and creativity in an engaging way, that is high in fun and low in pressure.• Interdisciplinary discussion sessions: Students from various majors work as collaborative groups to design innovative, real-world projects involving interdisciplinary work that rubs up against creative problem-solving.• Minor in AI for all: Students from all programmes are invited to participate in using AI as a problem-solver to address and innovate in their own discipline.• Stand outside the crowd: Students use various creative means (such as video, podcast and social media) to explain concepts that encourage self-expression and connections with both academic and real-world communities.



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Institution Name	Alamein International University
Submission title or project name	From strategy to impact: AIU's approach to learning innovation
Nominee / key personnel	
URL	
Submission	<p>Alamein International University (AIU) prioritises innovative, inclusive and relevant teaching and learning through student-centred approaches, faculty development, technology integration and partnerships. AIU proactively trained instructors in modern pedagogy before establishing the Center for Teaching Innovation (CTI), which now systematically monitors teaching practices. An annual teaching innovation award recognises teaching innovation, and active learning implementation will influence teaching loads. Technology is central, with Microsoft Teams and Canvas LMS supporting blended and online learning, alongside tools such as gamification and VR labs. AIU is a regional Coursera for Campus lighthouse partner, fully integrating MOOCs into degree programmes, with more than 6,000 students participating. AIU's Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) model embeds internships and industry projects, guided by stakeholder committees and the University Center for Career Development (UCCD). Student success and inclusion are supported by advising, scholarships, mental health services and flexible learning options. AIU fosters a thriving academic culture, preparing graduates for the global landscape.</p>



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Teaching and Learning Strategy of the Year

Institution Name	University of Al-Qadisiyah
Submission title or project name	Integrated teaching innovation strategy at the University of Al-Qadisiyah
Nominee / key personnel	Professor Rahi Al-Yasiri
URL	
Submission	<p>Under the leadership of Professor Rahi Al-Yasiri, supported by the curriculum innovation team, the University of Al-Qadisiyah has implemented a distinctive teaching and learning strategy that champions innovation, digital integration and student engagement. The initiative features blended learning, flipped classrooms and interactive virtual labs powered by learning platforms such as Moodle and Google Classroom. Faculty received ongoing training, while students contributed to content development through structured feedback. The university introduced peer-led learning models and launched a Teaching Excellence Award to reward outstanding pedagogical practices. Performance dashboards and mobile-compatible resources ensured inclusive, data-driven and accessible learning. This strategic shift boosted student satisfaction, retention and academic outcomes across multiple faculties. This university-wide strategy is now part of the institution's long-term development plan and is being shared regionally as a replicable model for modern, inclusive and future-ready education.</p>



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Institution Name	Arab American University
Submission title or project name	Bridging competence and curriculum: AAUP's digital transformation through outcome-based learning
Nominee / key personnel	Dr Sami Sadder (assistant vice-president for planning, development and quality affairs)
URL	
Submission	<p>The Arab American University (AAUP) implements an outcome-based education (OBE) teaching and learning strategy to align academic programmes with market needs and international standards. Each programme defines its programme learning outcomes (PLOs) and develops a curriculum and course structure based on Bloom's taxonomy. Tools such as the "Syllabus Builder" and "Exam Builder" support the design, assessment and validation of course learning outcomes (CLOs). Complemented by inclusive teaching methods and standardised assessment policies, this integrated approach ensures continuous curriculum improvement, promotes active student engagement and enhances academic quality. Data-driven evaluations help track student progression and support evidence-based curriculum and teaching refinements.</p>



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Teaching and Learning Strategy of the Year

Institution Name	University of Basrah
Submission title or project name	Renewing the university education system through the flipped classroom: an innovative educational strategy at the University of Basrah within the Bologna Process
Nominee / key personnel	Dr Auday Basheer Essa Al-Mayyah; Dr Sarmad Ghazi Al-Shawi
URL	http://elc.uobasrah.edu.iq
Submission	<p>The University of Basrah has launched a pioneering initiative to modernise higher education by integrating the flipped classroom strategy with Europe's Bologna Process. This innovative model replaces traditional lectures with pre-recorded digital content, enabling classroom time to focus on interactive, application-based learning. Hosted on advanced e-learning platforms, including OER and MOOC systems, the initiative enhances student engagement, critical thinking and independent learning. By aligning with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), the strategy ensures structured, outcomes-based education. More than 700 faculty members were trained in collaboration with UNESCO and the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF). The initiative has already improved academic performance and fostered a learner-centred culture across multiple colleges. This approach represents a transformative shift in Arab university education, combining educational technology, global standards and pedagogical innovation to prepare students for the digital and competitive labour market.</p>



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Teaching and Learning Strategy of the Year

Institution Name	Al-Quds University
Submission title or project name	FlipQuds – community-engaged flipped learning
Nominee / key personnel	Ahmed Nada
URL	
Submission	<p>FlipQuds is a hybrid learning model developed at Al-Quds University that integrates flipped classroom methods with community-based experiential learning. Spearheaded by the Career Development Center and Academic Affairs, the strategy allows students to learn theoretical concepts through digital content and then apply them in real-world settings such as legal clinics, schools, women's shelters or youth centres. With more than 400 students enrolled annually across disciplines, the model blends academic rigour with civic responsibility, improving both learning outcomes and community impact. FlipQuds reflects a shift from passive to active, purpose-driven education.</p>



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Institution Name	Abu Dhabi University
Submission title or project name	Empowered by design: transforming teaching and learning through faculty-driven Center for Faculty Development and Learning Innovation, Abu Dhabi University (ADU)
Nominee / key personnel	Dr Sreethi Nair; Dr Mohamed Fteiha; Dr Gary Williams; Dr Rania Al Dweik; Dr Ghassan Aouad; Dr Hamad Ebrahim Ali Odhabi; Dr Barry O'Mahony; Stephen D'Cunha; Merlyn Kulapurath
URL	
Submission	<p>At Abu Dhabi University, we develop teaching excellence as a culture of growth. Central to our 2024-29 strategy is the belief that empowering educators empowers graduates. This year, more than 30 professional development sessions were delivered through the Center for Faculty Development and Learning Innovation, with 190 faculty attending more than five sessions. Topics included inclusive teaching, student well-being and AI-enhanced assessment. Faculty also engaged in certification programmes and were supported by monthly Teaching and Learning Tips. A digital PD system enables faculty to register, provide feedback and access certificates. Since January 2024, 29 faculty have earned Advance HE Fellowships, reflecting our alignment with UAE education priorities. We also launched a research centre, as well as a pedagogy journal, and hosted a teaching conference attracting 200-plus global participants. Students feel the difference – 85 per cent of faculty applied new strategies, and 83 per cent reported improved student engagement. This is not just progress – it's a purposeful transformation reaching beyond our campus.</p>



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Teaching and Learning Strategy of the Year

Institution Name	Nile University
Submission title or project name	NU teaching and learning strategy
Nominee / key personnel	Hanan Elrefaii (director for teaching and learning and digital education centre)
URL	
Submission	<p>Nile University's teaching and learning strategy is built on four foundational pillars: research; learning; entrepreneurship and innovation; and community impact. All four are fully integrated into the curriculum through research-informed learning, competency-based education and project-based learning, aligning education with real-world needs. The Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) leads this transformation by offering year-round capacity-building workshops on topics such as research methods, innovation, tech tools and personal development – doubling its offerings in two years and reaching more than 230 faculty members in 2023-24. The centre also collaborates with departments such as IT, the library and the IP Office to enhance teaching resources and foster innovation. NU's Undergraduate Research Forum (UGRF) showcases impactful, research-based student projects that serve community needs. A forthcoming Innovation in Teaching Awards ceremony will further celebrate faculty excellence. Through this strategic, tech-driven and community-focused approach, NU is setting a new standard for transformative education in the region.</p>