



Al Quds Open University
2018-2017



# **Open Learning**

"A modern learning system that provides an educational opportunity for everyone with the will and ability to learn regardless of the age, location, time or socioeconomic circumstances".

It is a formal educational system that meets the learning environment and fulfills the students' needs for an open learning system. It meets the criteria of enrollment in accordance with the traditional learning systems which consist of schedules, lectures, home works, exams; etc., but goes beyond that in its innovation to rely on the self-learning and independency of the learner as an important skill in the twenty first century.

This system employs modern technology in the learning process especially the utilization of electronic learning tools that serve the learner and compliment the lectures. The Open Learning system is a contemporarylearningsystemthatexceeds the time and place limits, overcomes the social and cultural limitations, deals with the multi-tasking roles of both women and men and provides the opportunity for learning in a high quality environment and at a convenient cost.











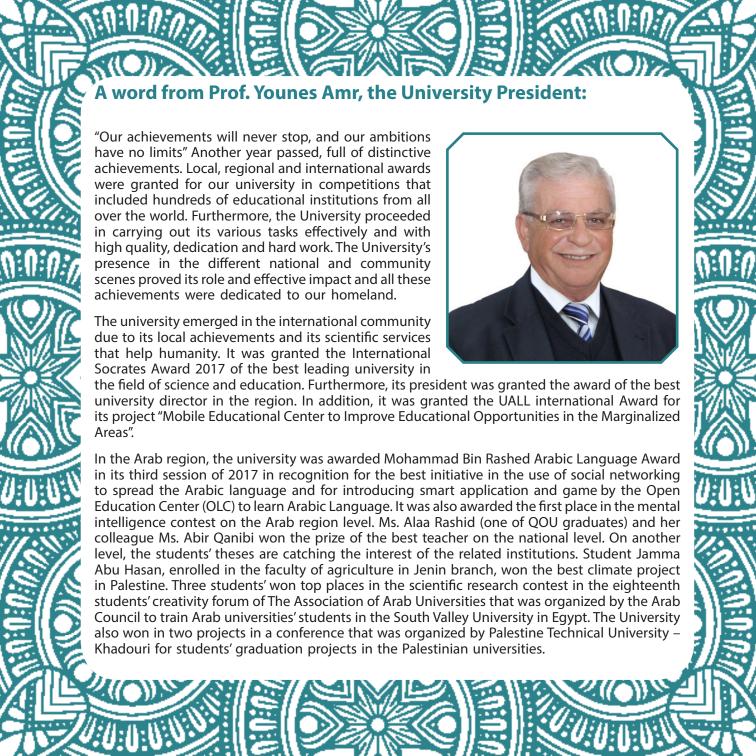
**Engineer Adnan Samara**The Chairman of the Board of Trustees

In one of his key statements, Eng. Samara says:

The University is the Palestinian homeland that was born out of suffering and need and soon blossomed to be an educational minaret across Palestine. Today, it is a pioneer in open learning and community service.

It welcomes all those who strive to pursue knowledge. Thus, it grew to become "a university in a homeland and a homeland in a university."





We are proud of our achievements in the scientific research as we intensified our efforts through making new partnerships with elite universities and holding held scientific conferences with the University of Jordan, Israa University, social service faculties associations in the Arab Universities Modern University for Business and Science, Arab University Center in Tunisia. The University organized the first international conference on "Smart Learning for Community Development", beside tens of workshops, seminars and specialized lectures and most importantly the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Information and Communication Technology days that focused on the role of technology in supporting people with disabilities. In addition, the university's scientific journals are acquiring the Arab Impact Factor, and its faculty members are participating actively in the regional and international scientific conferences.

We assure our people that the achievements of our university will never stop and we will continue the progress and the innovation. The University will maintain its status as one of the main pillars that help in building our state and as a minaret for virtue, awareness, illumination & knowledge.



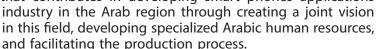
### **Certificates and Awards**

For the second year, QOU won ALECSO's award for mobile applications in June 2017. The application focused on Jerusalem city and was submitted by QOU. It was chosen as the best application in the field of culture on a national level.

In August 2016, the University won the first place on a national level in Palestine in the first phase of ALESCO contest. It was organized by Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization in the field of education.



ALECO Apps Award is an annual award for the best application in the Arab region in the fields of education, culture, science and educational games. This award is part of a project implemented by Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization that aims at providing a technical and organizational environment that contributes in developing smart phones applications





Al-Quds Open University won the International Socrates Award under the title "Best Regional University" for being one of the top and leading universities in the sphere of science and education around the world, which was held in March 2017 by the European Business Assembly (EBA), in London.



EBA also granted Prof. Younes Amr, the President of QOU, Medallion of the Manager of the Year across the region for his leadership, management skills and achievements, entitling QOU to use the title of "Best Regional University" and "Manager of the Year" for the next five years in its publications.. He also obtained a membership in EBA, which entitles him to benefit from exclusive rights to participate in all EBA initiatives and take advantage of VIP services.

In May 2017, Al-Quds Open University received the Mohammed Bin Rashid Award for Arabic Language in its third session of 2017. The University obtained the Award for developing the best initiative for using the social network to spread the Arabic language, and for developing smart applications and games for learning Arabic Language by the Open Learning Center (OLC).





Al-Quds Open University Journal for Administrative and Economic Research and Studies obtained the Arab Impact Factor (0.75). According to the ranking of the Impact Factor of scientific journals, the journal is ranked second among scientific journals specialized in the administrative and economic fields, and issued by Palestinian universities. It is also ranked fourth among the administrative and economic journals published in the Arab world.

The University's Journal for Educational and Psychological Research obtained the Arab Impact factor (0.45). In 2016, the University's Journal obtained the impact factor (0.25) in the field of Economic and Administrative Studies and Research.

The impact factor is an indication to the importance of scientific refereed journals within the field of its specialization; it measures the average annual number of citations of recent articles published in that journal. The Arab Impact factor is supervised by the Natural Sciences Publishing Institute (NSP) under the auspices of the Union of Arab Universities, in cooperation with some of the most prominent scientific and research institutions in the Arab world and beyond.

In April 2017, QOU won UALL International Award for its project "Mobile Educational Center to Improve Educational Opportunities in the Marginalized Areas". The project aims to increase the education opportunities for marginalized groups in Southern Hebron and Tubas, through equipping two vans, one for the south of Hebron area and the other for the Jordan Valley. Each van includes an equipped computer lab. The van travels in marginalized areas to offer education to children who live in areas that lack technological infrastructure.

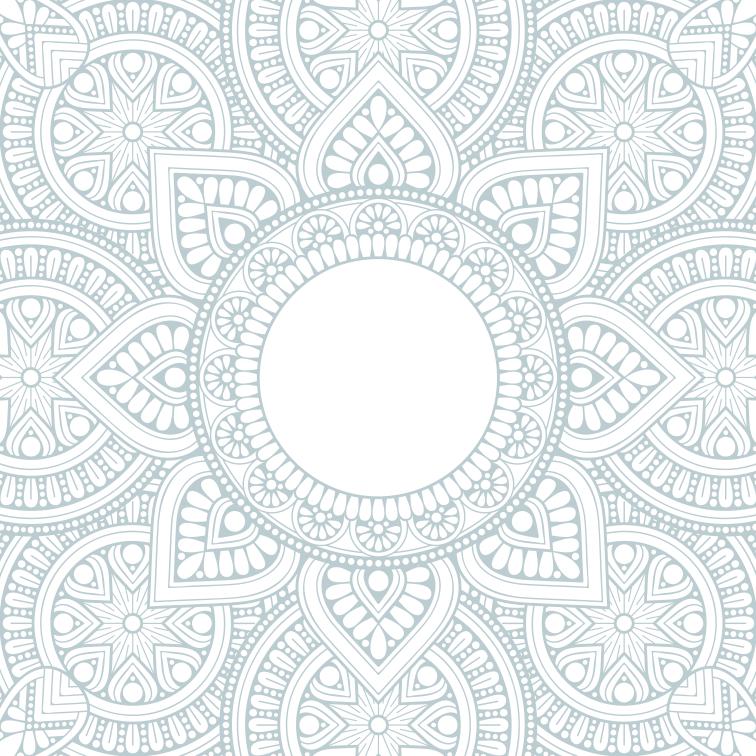




Al-Quds Open University graduate & a Primary School Teacher Hanan Al-Hroub won the best teacher in the World for changing lives through education from Varkey Foundation Charity in UK in March 2016. This award was granted for her educational initiative that promoted the slogan "no for violence", where playing techniques were used to achieve the slogan among students of first grade.

The University obtained BID Quality Award (Century International Gold Quality Era Award) in 2015, for the commitment of the University to high quality standards, leadership, technology advancement, and innovation. Thus, the University is placed within the top 50 pioneer institutions in the world in the field of open learning and higher education. The Award is a mark of excellence achieved by organizations, which in the philosophy of continuous improvement have become drivers of innovation. The award was given to QOU for its policies of continuous development of technology, quality, management, and leadership in the field of education in Palestine.







# **QOU Membership in the Arab and International Unions**





Federation of Universities of the Islamic World



**Asian Association of Open Universities** 



**Universities Association for Lifelong Learning** 



International Council for Open Distance Education



International Association of Universities



**Mediterranean Universities Union** 



**European University Continuing Education Network** 



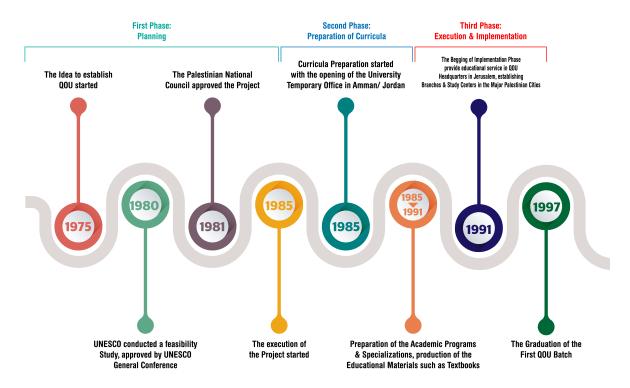
**EUMED Profesionals & Experts Consortium** 



Open Digital Space for the Mediterranean



# The Establishment of the University



### **Vision**

Achieving leadership, excellence and innovation in the field of open learning, community service, and scientific research, in addition to reinforcing its leading role in establishing a Palestinian society built on knowledge and science.

#### **Mission**

To prepare qualified graduates equipped with competencies that enable them to address the needs of their community, and compete in both local and regional labor markets. Furthermore, the University seeks to encourage students' innovative contribution in scientific research and human and technical capacity building through providing them with educational and training programs in accordance with the best practices of open and blended learning approach. Moreover, through the University's efforts to foster an educational environment that promotes scientific research in accordance with the latest standards of quality and excellence, and within a framework of exchange and co-operation with community institutions and experts.





- Continuous development of the graduates' qualifications, and enhancement of their competitiveness in both local and regional labor markets.
- Continuous improvement of the academic and training programs to match the requirements
  of the labor market and its developments, in accordance with the best practices of blended
  learning and the latest updates of science and technology.
- Enhancement and promotion of scientific research, innovation, and excellence, as well as support of intellectual freedom.
- Enhancement of cooperation and interaction with the community, and reinforcement of the social responsibility within the University operations.
- Diversification, improvement and increase of the university's financial resources, and the reinforcement of the efficiency and effectiveness of its financial management.
- Progressive improvement of the blended learning environment and the offered services for the students, to achieve high quality in teaching and learning.
- Progressive enhancement of the quantity and quality of academic and technical services to improve the process of teaching and learning.
- Fostering of an environment that promotes quality and excellence while building capacities of leadership and management at all units of the University.



### **Board of Trustees**

According to the University regulations, the Board of Trustees is vested with authority over the University, including all of its centers and other units. Members are appointed by the President of the State of Palestine. The members are chosen from the leading minds of the local community and its various sectors; they have enough competency and experience to lead and manage the University affairs according to its bylaws. The current president of the state of Palestine, Mahmoud Abbas, issued a decree in 2014 appointing the following 14 members for the current Board of Trustees at the University:



Eng. Adnan Samarah
Chairman of the Board of Trustees;
Chairman of the Higher Council
for Innovation and Excellence, the
President Consultant for Innovation
& Excellence Affairs



**Prof. Reyad Al-Khudary**Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees, member of Executive Committee at PLO and Head of PLO Department of Education, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Gaza University



**Prof. Abdul-Fattah Abu Shukor** Professor of Economics at An-Najah National University (Member)



Al-Khalil

Associate Professor / Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture & Veterinary Medicine/
An-Najah National University- (Member)

**Prof. Sulayman Sulaiman** 



**Dr. Abdullah Abdul-Mun'em**Former Deputy Minister for Higher
Education / Gaza - (Member)



**Dr. Aziz Shawabka** Lecturer of Physics at Birzeit University, (Member)



Prof. Hani Najem

Coordinator of International Bank
Project for Developing Higher
Education / Gaza - (Member)



**Dr. Husein Al-Aaraj**Minister of Local Government (Member)



**Mr. Azzam Shawwa**Governor of the Palestinian Monetary Authority (Member)



**Dr. Nuha Khoury**Vice President for Academic Affairs of Dar Al-Kalima University College for Arts & Culture – Bethlehem - (Member)



**Mr. Akram A. Jrab**Chief of the Managerial Board of AlQuds Bank (Member)



Mr. Hatem Abdul-Qader
Former Minister for Jerusalem Affairs;
Member of FATAH Revolutionary
Council; Official of Jerusalem File in
Fatah Party (Member)



**Mr. Yousef Dajani**Head of Administration Council at Jerusalem District Electricity Company (Member)



Prof. Younes Amr
President of Al-Quds Open University,
Member of FATAH Revolutionary
Council (Member)



**Dr. Eng. Yousef Sabbah**General Secretary of Board of Trustees



# **The University Council**

The University Council executes essential tasks at the University to ensure excellence and innovation in the field of open learning, community service, and scientific research.

The Council has different tasks such as, endorsing annual budget, exploring the necessity for establishing other campuses, endorsing enrollment polices, approving academic calendar, forming committees for designing curriculum and syllabuses, granting academic degrees, evaluating the work of QOU's branches, endorsing needed procedures for raising the quality of education, training, and scientific research, and many other important tasks.

The current members of the University Council are:



**Prof. Younes Amr**University President, Chairman of the Council



**Prof. Sameer Al-Najdi** Vice President for Academic Affairs



**Dr. Isam Khalil**Vice President for Financial Affairs



**Dr. Marwan Darweesh**Vice President for Administrative Affairs



**Prof. Jehad Al-Batsh**Vice President for Gaza Affairs



**Dr. Eng. Islam Amr**President Assistant for Technology &
Production Affairs/ Director of ICTC



**Dr. Eng. Imad Hodali**President Assistant for International
Relations Affairs



**Dr. Alaa Alshakhshir**President Assistant for Monitoring
Affairs



**Prof. Mohammed Shahin**President Assistant for Student Affairs /
General Secretary of the Council



**Dr. Faisal Omar**President Assistant for Branches
Affairs



**Dr. Hussein Hamayel**Acting director of Ramallah & Al-Bireh
Branch



**Prof. Jamal Ibraheem**Dean of Admission & Registration



**Prof. Yousef Thiab**Director of Nablus Branch



**Dr. Muhammad Abu Al-Jabin**Director of Gaza Branch



**Dr. Imad Nashwan**Director of Khan Younis Branch



**Dr. Salameh Salem**Director of Tulkarm Branch



**Dr. Rafat Jouda**Director of North Gaza Branch



**Mr. Abdulqadir Al-Darawish**Acting director of Hebron Branch



**Prof. Hamdi Abu Jarrad** Director of Al-Wusta Branch



**Dr. Nader Abu Khalaf** Director of Ezariyeh Study Center



**Dr. Sulaiman Al-Derawi** Director of Rafah Branch



**Dr. Ali Salah**Director of Bethlehem Branch



**Dr. Imad Nazzal**Director of Jenin Branch



**Dr. Jamal Rabah**Director of Qalqiliya Branch



**Dr. Bassem Shalash**Director of Salfeet Branch



**Dr. Suheil Abu Mayyaleh** Acting Director of Tubas Branch



**Dr. Jamal Bhis**Acting Director of Dora Branch



**Dr. Ratib Abu Rahmeh** Director of Jericho Branch



**Dr. Mohammed Al-Hroub**Director of Yatta Branch



**Ms. Sulafa Musallam**Public Relations Department Director



**Dr. Yousef Sabbah**Director of Quality Department / General
Secretary of Board of Trustees





# **Faculty of Technology and Applied Sciences**

The University established the Faculty of Technology and Applied Sciences in 1991 for its prominence, and for highlighting the social responsibility of the University to address all the needs of the local community from IT and its applied sciences to provide the Palestinian society with the accelerating pace of IT developments. The Faculty has qualified experienced staff and modern labs, in addition to a well-developed and comprehensive study plan that harmonize with the current requirements of the labor market.



The faculty offers four Bachelor programs as follows: Computer Information Systems; Information Technology and Communications; Science and Mathematics. The Faculty also offers a minor in Web Techniques. The faculty includes more than 100 full time faculty members and more than 100 part time faculty members; it graduates around 300 students each year.

### **Faculty of Agriculture**



The faculty was established in 1991 in order to fulfill the university's vision and mission that aim at preparing qualified human resources capable of developing the agricultural sector and meeting the needs of both regional and local communities from the sector through using advanced agricultural techniques, and maintaining high quality in all processes. Faculty of Agriculture grants B.A. degree in the following fields: Prevention & Plant Production, Rural Development.

# **Faculty of Social and Family Development**

The faculty of Social and Family Development is one of the core faculties at the University that was established simultaneously with the establishment of the university. It is considered the main channel to interact and communicate with the local society through the faculty's main four departments, Social Work, Local Community Development, Special Education and Childcare. The Faculty aims at equipping students with competencies to lead the developmental process of the local community with professionalism and innovation. Thus, the Faculty designed a comprehensive syllabus for all its academic programs to include modern theories



and the different platforms of field training. In addition, it consolidated relations with NGOs, civil society organizations and public institutions to provide distinctive training opportunities for the students to match theories with practice and to equip them with the latest developments of knowledge, as well as to provide them with the required professional skills in the field of community development.

## **Faculty of Administrative Sciences and Economics**

The Faculty of Administrative Sciences and Economics was established in 1992, it plays a central role in the Palestinian community and seeks to replenish shortages in different economic sectors by constantly introducing new specializations to harmonize with the emerging developments in the fields of Economics and Business Administration. Thus, the Faculty has vital specializations in Administrative Sciences & Economics such as Business Administration, Accounting, Finance, Marketing, Economics and Health Management. The Faculty focuses on updating the curriculum of these specializations



to be in accordance with the latest developments in the field. The faculty provides its various specializations across twenty branches and educational centers. The faculty staff have scientific contributions and featured theoretical and applied research that help in bridging the gap between theories and practice. The faculty staff also have distinctive community participations that help in achieving the sustainable administrative and economic development.

# **Faculty of Educational Sciences**

The Faculty of Educational Sciences was founded simultaneously with the establishment of the University in 1991. It aims at training and producing qualified teachers and counselors specialized in different disciplines. It grants B.A. degrees in Primary Education, Teaching Islamic Education, Teaching Social Studies, Special Education, Learning resources and Educational Technology. The Faculty also grants Diplomas in Education, Special Education, Educational and Psychological Counseling.



The Faculty follows the open learning method as the other QOU's faculties to facilitate education and make it

available for the various sectors of the community, following the latest developments in the field of Education and training teachers. The Faculty also emphasizes promoting scientific research and adopting unconventional teaching methods that involve technology and critical thinking.

# **Faculty of Arts**

The Faculty of Arts was established through a decision from the University Council in 2015 to include two departments that grant Bachelor degrees in the field of English Language and Literature; and Arabic Language and Literature. The Faculty also started to offer a Master's degree in Arabic Language and Literature in the academic year 2015-2016. The Faculty is always aiming to develop its academic programs. Thus, the faculty is currently seeking to add the French Language major to its academic programs to be soon taught at the University.

The faculty aims to prepare innovative and professional graduates in the offered disciplines to serve their community and its rising requirements. To fulfill the vision, the faculty is keen on providing qualified teaching staff, comprehensive syllabus, carefully chosen reading requirements and study materials. The Faculty is also concerned with the promotion of scientific research and conferences to enrich the intellectual and cultural capital of the society, as well as to increase the educational resources of the University and the cooperation with the other local, Arab and international faculties.

# **Faculty of Media**

The Faculty of Media was established in September 2014, after obtaining the accreditation from The Ministry of Education and Higher Education. The Faculty grants a B.A. degree in New Media, which is considered a new academic program in Palestine.

The New Media program is designed to prepare a journalist with comprehensive knowledge to coordinate and manage websites along with the other forms of media (visual, audio, and written). The major also prepares graduates to focus on the practical



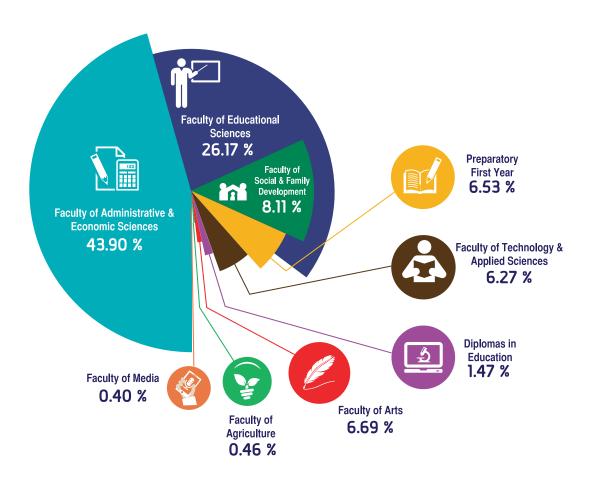
aspects of media and journalism along with the in-depth knowledge and theories. The program includes several topics in its study plan such as new media courses, smart phone applications, various courses in journalism, radio and television, in addition to courses on internet techniques and its applications.

## **Faculty of Graduate Studies**

The Faculty of Graduate Studies was established by the end of 2015. It offers two graduate programs: Arabic Language and Literature, and Psychological and Educational Counseling, and it is seeking to develop new specializations in accordance with the standards adopted by the Accreditation and Quality Assurance Commission.

# Percentage of Students Distribution in QOU Faculties

Numbers are according to the Second Semester of the Academic Year 2017/2018



# **Deanship of Admission, Registration and Examinations**

The Deanship of Admission, Registration & Examinations is responsible for the admission and following-up of students' affairs from the moment of their enrollment until their graduation. It is also responsible for the examinations and assignments in accordance with the rules and regulations of the University.

### **Available Majors**

The University provides two master degrees from the Faculty of Graduate Studies. In addition it includes seven faculties that provide Bachelor degree divided into two types of majors:

#### **First: Single major**

Faculty of Technology & Applied Sciences	Computer Information Systems     Information & Communication Technology     Mathematics	122 credit hours	Faculty of Educational Sciences	Primary Education Teaching Islamic Education Teaching Social Science Special Education Learning Resources and Educational Technology  123 credit hours
Faculty of Agriculture	Prevention & Plant Production     Rural Development	137 125 credit hours	Faculty of Media	New Media     credit hours
Faculty of Social and Family Development	Social Services     Local Community Development     Special Education     Childcare     Gender and Development Issues	<b>122</b> credit hours	Faculty of Arts	Arabic Language and Literature     English Language and Literature     credit hours
Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences	Business Administration     Economics     Accounting     Banking and Finance Sciences	123 credit hours	Graduate Studies	Arabic Language and Literature 36     Psychological and Educational Counseling credit hours

# **Second: Double major (Major/Minor)**

No.	Faculty	Specialization/Major	Minor Specialization	No. of Credit Hours
1.	Faculty of Tech- nology & Applied Sciences	Computer Information Systems	Information and Communication Technology, Mathematics, all specializations of Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences, Educa- tional Sciences, Information security, French Language	128
2.		Information & Com- munication Technol- ogy	Marketing, Web Technology, Business Administration, Information security, French Language	128
3.		Science	Computer Information System, Educational Sciences, Information security, French Language	129
4.		Mathematics	Computer Information system, Science, Information and Communication Technology, Educational Sciences, Economics, Accounting, Information Security, French Language	128
5.	Faculty of Social and Family Devel- opment	Social Services	All specializations of Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences, all specializations of Faculty of Technology & Applied Sciences (except Information and Communication Technology), all specializations of faculty of Arts, Educational Sciences	128
6.		Local Community Development	All specializations of Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences, all specializations of Faculty of Technology & Applied Sciences (except Information and Communication Technology), all specializations of Faculty of Arts, Educational Sciences	128
7.		Childcare	All specializations of Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences, all specializations of Faculty of Technology & Applied Sciences (except Information and communication technology), all specializations of Faculty of Arts, Educational Science	128

No.	Faculty	Specialization/Major	Minor Specialization	No. of Credit Hours
8.	Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences	Business Administration	All other specializations of Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences, Local Community Development, Computer Information System, English Language, Arabic Language, Mathematics.	129
9.		Economics	All other specializations of Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences, Local Community Development, Computer Information System, English Language, Arabic Language, Mathematics.	129
10.		Accounting	All other specializations of Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences, Local community Development, Computer Information System, English Language, Arabic Language, Mathematic.	129
11.		Banking and Financial Sciences	All other specializations of Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences, Local Community Development, Computer Information System, English Language, Arabic Language, Mathematics.	129
12.		Marketing	All other specializations of Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences, Local Community Development, Computer Information System, English Language, Arabic Language, Mathematics.	129
13.		Health Management	Computer information Systems, Web Technology, Mathematics, Local Community Development, Economics, Accounting, Marketing	130
14.	Faculty of Arts	Arabic Language and Literature	English Language and Literature, Educational Sciences, French Language	129
15.		English Language and Literature	Arabic Language and Literature, Educational Sciences	128
16.	Faculty of Educa- tional Sciences	Special Education	Science, Mathematics, Arabic Language Literature, English language & Literature	134

# **Master's Degree**

QOU grants Master's Degree in the following specializations:

Faculty of Graduate Studies:

- 1. Arabic Language and Syntax
- 2. Arabic Literature and Criticism
- 3. Psychological & Educational Counselling





# **Diplomas**

QOU grants Diplomas in the following fields:

- 1. Diploma in Education
- 2. Diploma in Special Education
- 3. Diploma in Psychological and Educational Counselling

# The Deanship of Students' Affairs

The Deanship of Students' Affairs technically supervises the student affairs' units at QOU Branches and Study Centers in accordance with the requirements of its assigned responsibilities. It provides integrated services to our students, and achieves a good level of adaptation, motivation and affiliation, while giving priority to the preventive and developmental role through advanced working mechanisms. It also supports the students educationally, socially and psychologically in line with the educational vision and ensuring convenient environment for the students in terms of the requirements of the comprehensive quality, as well as seeking to develop the talents of the students and promote their innovative skills to prepare them to become positive, giving and responsible citizens.

### Scholarships, loans and financial aid

#### **Internal scholarships**

- The ministry scholarship for the Palestinian university
- Honor scholarship
- Students with disabilities scholarship
- Martyrs' wives, sons and daughters scholarship
- Thalassemia and Hemophilia patients' scholarship
- Needy students' fund scholarship
- Scholarship for brothers/sisters enrolled in the university
- Scholarship for spouses enrolled in the university
- Scholarship for staff members' sons, daughters and wives.



#### **External scholarships**

- Qatar's Permanent Committee in Support of Jerusalem scholarship,
- United Holy Land Fund
- Humanity first organization scholarship
- "WAFA" for development and capacity building scholarship
- Paltel for community development scholarship
- Fakhoora program scholarship

### **Joint Scholarships**

• Rehabilitation of prisoners and ex-detainees scholarships

#### Students with disabilities care

The University provides all requirements to guarantee the well-being of the students with disabilities without discrimination. The University accepts students with disabilities based on the general criteria that applies to all students. The Students' Affairs Department in cooperation with the Registration Department supervise the student with disability to choose his specialization and provide him with supportive opinions.

The university provides series of facilities for the students with disabilities like scholarships, loans and specialized curricula that fulfill their needs. It also provides supervisors who read and write for them during the exams in addition to providing three computer labs for the blind that include



computers equipped with special programs for the blind (JAWS program), and Braille rulers to help the blind read texts on computer screen. The university is also working on equipping three new labs in Gaza branches, Al-Wusta and Nablus.

#### **Students Complaints and Suggestions Follow up**

The Deanship of Student Affairs is keen to provide a complaint / suggestion service in all fields of services whether academic, administrative, financial, or any other service. The student can submit the complaint/suggestion through the academic portal within a specific mechanism subjected to quality procedures. This service aims at monitoring and following -up on students complaints, working towards fulfilling the needs of students and solving their problems taking into consideration the best interest of students.

#### **Voluntary Work**

Al Quds Open University, in accordance with the decision of the University Council at its session No. (365) held on 14/06/2010, accredited (voluntary work) as a compulsory requirement to graduate students. Each student is required to accomplish a total of 50 hours of Community work, the accomplishment of these voluntary hours starts from the first semester until the graduation semester, The student will be granted the University degree only after completing the required Voluntary work hours beside the academic requirements. The achievement of these hours is a major graduation requirement.



The Deanship of Student Affairs supervises voluntary work through its sections at the University branches and centers. The voluntary work has two paths; providing the voluntary services in cooperation with civil society organizations or providing voluntary services and activities inside the university through participating in the conferences, seminars, festivals, blood donation campaigns, and olive harvest seasons. These activities can be implemented individually or collectively.

#### **Alumni Follow up**

The University is keen to provide follow-up services to its graduates during their studies and after graduation through its Alumni Affairs section at the Deanship of Student Affairs. This section aims at building bridges of trust and cooperation between University graduates and various professional sectors embodying the vision of the University and its social responsibility. It holds agreements and partnerships with the local community organizations to enhance its capability of assessing the needs of the labor market, as part of the process of linking its needs to the competencies of competitive graduates within evaluative measures for the students' performance.



# **Scientific Research Deanship**

The Deanship of Scientific Research was established in 2002 as a program titled the Scientific Research Program. Later in 2013, and with the development of the University departments and branches, the program was upgraded to become The Deanship of Scientific Research and Graduate Studies. In 2016, the two departments were separated to have a different deanship for each one.



The Deanship handles any matter related to scientific

research and its regulations. It has a long history of achievements and contributions for the distinguished academic staff, who enriched it with their research in different fields. It is highly supported by the Presidency of the University and The Board of Trustees for its major role in the development of the University and the local community. Thus, promoting scientific research is one of the core objectives of the strategic plan of the University in order to improve both performance and competencies among the academic staff, to develop a culture based on scientific research and knowledge, and to contribute to the social and economic developments in local communities as well as the regional ones.

The Deanship has different vital tasks at QOU such as creating a supportive and stimulating environment for researchers, developing scientific research through specialized units, centers, projects, and initiatives, financing research projects of the faculty staff and facilitating their field visits, and issuing five scientific internationally refereed and classified periodicals in the field of humanities, management, economics, technology, and open learning. These periodicals are refereed by independent, international editing boards that approve them following the scientific, regulated standards.

The Deanship also offers its services to faculty staff to referee and publish their papers and protect their intellectual property, along with patents, copyright, and trademarks. Furthermore, to encourage scientific research, the Deanship grants annual financial prizes and honorary awards to top researchers. It also seeks to encourage faculty staff to publish their papers in international refereed journals, and attend scientific conferences, workshops, and courses locally, regionally, and internationally.

The Deanship has a long and immense history of achievements, such as setting regulated models for the procedures concerning supporting scientific research, designing webpages for the University periodicals, developing a databank that includes research papers conducted by faculty staff, subscribing and contributing in international and local databases. The deanship also offers services to the local community through various projects that develop the targeted institutions and highlight the social responsibility of the University towards sustainable social development.

Thus, through carrying out all these services and activities, the Deanship of Scientific Research aims at implementing the strategy of QOU in promoting research and disseminating research culture at the university and in Palestine.







#### **Hebron Branch**

Hebron Branch was established at the same time as the University during 1991. The Branch started working in a modest rented building with (9) staff members and (153) students then it grew rapidly and became one of the most important academic institutions in Hebron governorate and moved to its new owned well-equipped premises that has more than 5000 students and (80) admin and academic staff members.



#### **Yatta Branch**

Yatta Branch is the only higher educational institution in the area. It was opened on 1/1/2001 as a Study Center where 223 students were enrolled. Due to the increased number of enrolled students, by the first semester of (2012/2013), the Center was upgraded into a fully independent Branch and rented a convenient building. The Branch of Yatta, is now looking forward to have its own permanent campus on a 7-donum area donated by Yatta Municipality. The first phase of construction has already started from charitable donations.



# **Al-Ezariyah Center**

Al-Ezariyah Services Center launched its academic services in 1991. The Center always seeks to access and serve the local community in Jerusalem and its suburbs. In the academic year 2016/2017, 320 students were enrolled in the center.

#### **Dura Branch**

Dura Branch was established in 1999 and currently includes 1477 students for the academic year 2016/2017. It is the sole higher education institution in the Governorate that provides services to more than (200,000) inhabitants in Dura and the nearby villages, Al Dahriyah, Arab al-Ramadin, Al-Samou', Al Fawwar camp. It is worth mentioning that more than 70% of the enrolled students are females.



#### **Bethlehem Branch**

Bethlehem Branch was established in 1991. The Branch started in small-rented premises before the University constructed a new building in Beit Jala in 2007 to meet the high demand and increasing number of enrolled students. With the increasing number of students at Bethlehem Branch, an additional floor was added to the building to accommodate the students.



#### Ramallah & Al-Bireh Branch

Ramallah and Al-Bireh Branch is the biggest branch of the university in the central region that serves more than (6000) students living in Ramallah and Al-Bireh and the nearby villages. It is one of the very first Branches of the University that was established in 1991.



### Jericho Branch

Jericho Branch is the sole higher education institution in Jericho Governorate and Jordan Valley area. It started with (99) students in 1997 but the number reached (921) students in 2016/2017 which reflects the importance of establishing this Branch and its ability to attract and encourage students to resume their higher education, especially women.



#### **Tulkarm Branch**

The Center was established in 1992 in a small rented building. In May 2001, the Branch moved to another building due to the increasing number of the enrolled students. Tulkarm Branch had a clear impact on the Governorate residents; it organizes conferences, workshops and seminars on different political, social, and academic fields within the social responsibility of QOU.



#### **Salfeet Branch**

Salfeet Branch launched its services in the academic year 1998/1999 as part of Nablus Branch before it developed into an independent Branch in 2004/2005. Salfeet Branch seeks to have its own premise; the Municipality of Salfeet donated five dunums to the University, in addition to \$50,000 as a contribution for the construction of a new Campus. By the year 2016/2017, the number of the students enrolled in the branch reached 1103.



#### **Nablus Branch**

Nablus Branch is considered a starting point for Open Education System in the northern part of the West Bank. The number of students in Nablus Branch increased by more than 5 times since its establishment as the Open Learning system was widely spread in Palestine. In partnership with local community, a committee was formulated to establish premises for Nablus Branch, to provide the best educational system and techniques. The 16,000-m<sup>2</sup> building consists of an Academic Building, an Administrative Building and a



Theatre. The number of students enrolled in the branch reached 7700 students by 2016/2017.

#### **Tubas Branch**

Tubas Branch was established in 2000; it started as an affiliated Center to Nablus Branch before it became an independent Branch in 2007. It is considered one of the most important academic national institutions which provides higher education services in the governorate.



### **Qalqilya Branch**

Qalqilia Branch launched its services in 1998. It started as a Center then was converted to a Branch to meet the needs of the increasing number of enrolled students. The Branch is considered the only higher education institution in the Governorate. By the beginning of the academic year 2016/2017, the new campus was opened. There is a big interaction with the local community through the students' training programs and through the courses organized by the Continuing Education Center.



### **Jenin Branch**

The first Study Center of QOU was established in Jenin in 1991 and was affiliated to Nablus Branch. In 1999/2000, the University Council decided to convert the Center to a Branch to serve more than 60 residential compounds in the governorate due to the increasing number of enrolled students. The University received seven dunums as donations from Qabatia Municipality and bought another 10 dunums to establish the campus.



### **Gaza Branch**

Gaza Branch was established in 1992 to serve the residents of Gaza Strip. The number of enrolled students reached (3066 students) during the academic year 2016/2017.



#### **North Gaza Branch**

North Gaza Branch was established in 2001 to serve North Gaza Governorate. The number of registered students reached (3600 students) during the academic year 2016/2017.



#### **Al-Wusta Branch**

Al-Wusta Branch was established in 2002. It serves nearly 250,000 students. The number of registered students reached (1510 students) during the academic year 2016/2017.



#### **Khan Younis Branch**

Khan Yunis Branch was established in 1999 to serve nearly 330,000 people. The Number of registered students for the academic year 2016/2017 reached (1439) students. The University established a new campus on a 15 dunums land, and commenced its academic activities in the new premises in 2013/2014.



### **Rafah Branch**

Rafah Branch is the first higher educational institution established in Rafah; it was officially opened in 2000 to serve the Governorate and the nearby areas. The Number of the enrolled students in the academic year 2016/2017 reached (2000) students.







# **Information & Communication Technology Center (ICTC)**

ICTC is the Center that is in charge of providing the different University Branches with the required communication and information technology services. The Center is also in charge of computerizing the University administrative, academic, financial and production functions. Furthermore, ICTC is also responsible for enhancing the e-learning environment and providing the needed infrastructure as well as connecting all branches with a central network and conducting the required training workshops for the staff members on using it. In addition to participating in serving the Palestinian community in the field of information and communication technology.



#### **ICTC Units:**

- Systems Engineering & Infrastructure Department
- Software Engineering Department
- Information & Networks Security Department
- Quality Assurance Department
- Training and Development Department
- E-Learning Technology & Technical Support Unit
- Information & Communication Technology Research Unit

#### **Accredited international certificates and academies:**

- Oracle Academy
- Red Had Training Partner
- Authorized Parametric Testing Center

- Authorized ETS TOEFL Testing Center
- Authorized Pearson Vue Testing Center
- Accredited ICDL Training and Testing Center
- Castle
- ICDL, Advanced ICDL, HP, XML, CISCO, COMPTIA, Microsoft, Oracle, Vmware Redhat



# **Continuing Education and Community Service Center**

The Continuing Education and Community Service Center was established in QOU in 1991 as one of the important centers that serves the Palestinian community and provides education opportunities for life to participate effectively in the development and improvement of Palestinian people and organizations through providing professional services in accordance with local and international quality criteria. It also provides consultancy services and implements developmental projects, the center has various local and international memberships like EUCEN and UALL.



#### **Media Production Center**

The Media Production Center was established after an agreement between Germany and the PLO in 1997. Following the agreement, The German Technical Cooperation Agency (GTZ) was responsible for the implementation of the project, while the University was responsible for providing space and cadre for the Center. Moreover, GTZ provided training for staff members in the Center. Later, the German DED institution supplied the center with equipment and training for producing educational multimedia material.



The Media Production Center (MPC) has many vital tasks at QOU; it provides the latest technical services (Filming, Montage, Sound, and Graphics) and media coverage for events and activities of

the University. Moreover, the Center produces educational multimedia material and broadcasts live stream of educational lectures. MPC has a vital role in the education of QOU's students as it produces visual and audible audio educational materials to assist lecturers in their teaching process.

### **Al-Quds Educational Channel**

Al-Ouds Educational Channel is considered the newest educational tool for OOU that was found in 2015, it aims at changing the pattern of local media and shedding light on the Palestinian heritage and other social, cultural and educational programs. The channel aims at providing a modern media that addresses address all community segments in line with digital media change that considers modern media without ignoring traditional media. Thus, Al-Quds Educational Channel aspires to enhance community culture in the fields of health, education, environment, sports, energy, tourism and hospitality. It also enhances the education pattern that is integrated with satellite broadcasting techniques and displays the social responsibility of the university through focusing on the roles of students and women in the Palestinian community. It also seeks to enhance cooperation with regional and international institutions.





**Al-Quds Educational Channel frequency:** 

(Nilesat 12645/ horizontal/ encoding rate: 6/5).

### **Open Learning Center**

The Open Learning Center (OLC) was founded in 2008, as an educational and technological center for developing and enhancing digital learning environment at Al-Quds Open University. OLC is seeking to improve technology enhanced learning, pedagogy, self-learning skills, cooperation and innovation within a framework of autonomy and accountability. Furthermore, OLC is aiming at providing innovative and engaging technology-enhanced learning environments to learners, according to the latest teaching methodologies and new trends in technology.



### **Scope of work**

- Developing the curriculum in the form of digital content and smart courses that meet the needs of the digital generation
- Developing open learning platforms and digital content publishing tools.
- Managing electronic and integrated courses offered to students through platforms and applications of learning management.
- Raising the competencies of students and teachers with the skills and tools of integrated digital learning.



#### **Measurement and Evaluation Center**

The Center is responsible for the assessment and evaluation processes, and the development of its tools and trainings. It plays a vital role in assessing and developing the academic programs and administrative departments under a framework of cooperation with different units at QOU. The Center always pursues to update its tools, strategies and means of evaluation in accordance with the highest standards of quality and on a basis that adopts the open learning method to best serve students and staff.

### **Scope of Work**

- Preparing a bank of questions for some of the university curricula.
- Implementing evaluation studies for all elements of the educational process in the University in order to improve it.
- Holding trainings to follow up the professional improvement of the faculty members in the field of measurement and evaluation
- Organizing study days, workshops and participating in conferences specialized in the evaluation process
- Establishing exchange and cooperation relations with similar institutions in the Palestinian, regional and international universities.
- Establishing an electronic database through which the centers studies and activities will be published
- Cooperating with the different departments in the University to enhance the center's work procedures in different fields

### **Future Studies and Opinion Polls Center**

The Future Studies and Opinion Polls center was in 2012 to fulfil the Palestinian need for future researches and reading and understanding developments. The center makes continuous efforts in cooperation with the local, regional and international institutions to achieve the University's objectives.

The future studies and opinion polls center is a national research institution that conducts researches related to future issues that interest the Palestinian community. it also conducts opinion



polls that participate in shaping strategic policies and decision-making.

# **Scope of Work**

The center works on providing readings on the Palestinian public opinion directions and its attitudes towards several political, economic or social issues. The center presents its findings to specialized parties and distributes them through using scientific tools objectively. It also seeks to help the researchers, academics and graduates in their studies through establishing relations with them.

#### Centers' units

- 1. Political studies unit
- 2. Social studies unit
- 3. Economic studies unit
- 4. Future studies and opinion polls

# **Adel Z'aiter Translation and Languages Center**

Adel Z'aiter Translation and Languages Center was established in May 2017. The idea behind establishing the Center emerged in response to the need of the University and the local community for a translation center that promotes high quality translation services and provides specialized workshops and seminars in this field to develop the competencies of translators.

The name of the Center is attributed to the Arab thinker and translator Adel Z'aiter, who contributed to the dissemination of knowledge and connected cultures through translating more than 35 books in politics, philosophy and other fields. Thus, the Center is inspired by the work of Adel Z'aiter and aims, through translation, at disseminating the latest developments in different fields of science and humanities across cultures. Moreover, the Center aims at reinforcing the role of the University in promoting scientific research and adding valuable knowledge to local, regional and international communities.



### **Scope of Work**

- Translating and proofreading any needed documents and materials for the University.
- Translating scientific research papers conducted by faculty staff to publish them in refereed journals and periodicals.
- Proofreading translated research papers and studies conducted by faculty staff to publish them in refereed journals and periodicals.
- Organizing workshops and seminars on translation issues in order to improve the capacities
  of students and translators.
- Developing the competencies of translators and students in the local community through organizing varied workshops and seminars that tackle different topics in the field of translation and interpretation.
- Building partnerships and coordinating with institutions and entities that work in similar fields to sign agreements and find possible means for cooperation.
- Developing the competencies of translators through offering workshops and training programs for interested individuals from the University and the local community.

# **The Agricultural Research Center**

The center is the forefront of the applied agricultural scientific research for Al-Quds Open University that was established in Jericho governorate to develop the agricultural sector in the irrigated and rainy areas, and to participate also in solving the problems that the Palestinian farmer faces in order to improve his standard of living and increase his income.

### **Scope of Work**

- 1. Applying the vision and mission of the university to serve the Palestinian community in political, social and economic aspects in cooperation with university centers, departments, faculties and branches.
- 2. Participating in dealing with the weaknesses in the applied agricultural scientific research in Palestine through developing the techniques of scientific cooperation and activating them among the universities and national research centers, and enhancing communication and networking between them in order to exchange scientific

knowledge and experiences to serve the agricultural sector.



- 3. Supporting the agricultural research programs in the university in cooperation with the faculty of agriculture and graduate studies through developing the training programs for the students of the faculty of agriculture in order to develop the graduates' quality, and provide graduate studies students with a scientific research incubator.
- 4. Working on scientific research MOUs among national, regional and international universities to achieve continuous development in the applied scientific research.

### **Business and Economic Research Center (BERC)**

The Business and Economic Research Center (BERC) is an applied research center that shall be based in Ramallah city and affiliated with Al-Quds Open University (QOU). The center shall be fully dedicated to producing sound, innovative policy research that aims at fostering business, economic, and socio-economic development in Palestine. The center will be located at one of the premises owned or rented by QOU in Ramallah city.

The center will be initially funded by grants from EU through ERASMOUS + program but later will be self-sustained through various research and training activities and consulting services conducted by the center itself. The center will



also be partially funded by interested donors, in addition to QOU budget, as QOU leadership has shown complete dedication to fund the activities of the center when needed.

One of the center's objectives is to grow through implementing research activities and provide consultancy services.



# **University Departments**

### **Public Relations Department**

The Public Relations Department is keen to inform internal and external audience on the University's objectives and activities and to enhance internal and external communication networks to reach wider audience. The department is one of the main departments at Al-Quds Open University. It tells the stories of the University and presents them to the public through various means of communication. The Department supports the vision of the University and its educational, intellectual and service objectives by providing useful information to the public. It also



supports the University's departments and administration in understanding; anticipating and managing various issues by defending the policies of the University that help it achieve its strategic goals. The Department works with the different bodies of the University in order to enhance the identity, mission and reputation of the University.

# **Media Department**

In recognition of the major role that Media plays to embody the University's scientific awareness and national mission, the Presidency of QOU took a decision to establish The Department of Media at the beginning of the academic year (2016/2017). The decision aimed at achieving professional, objective and reliable Media at QOU using modern techniques, channels and tools capable of transferring the content of the Media discourse of the University, through covering different University activities, and following up on its achievements and capabilities as well as students innovations.



The Media Department at QOU also works on developing informative brochures for its philosophy and educational patterns, in addition to disseminating publications of intellectual and scientific productions in the University. QOU on the scientific and Media competencies that abound in the University throughout the country, and in line with the overall strategic plan of the University, within an integral path that is consistent with the three functions of the University; academic, research and community service.

# **Quality Department**

A technical administrative unit that seeks to ensure and develop the Quality of the academic, administrative and computerized system processes. It also conducts training for the staff, on the principles and tools of Quality, in coordination and cooperation with different Administrative Units benefiting from national and international expertise.



# **Planning Department**

The Planning Department seeks to ensure high standards of professional performance, readiness and innovation in the field of planning and developmental programs, considering a framework of cooperation and coherence between the administrative and academic units of the University in the field of planning.

Furthermore, the Department, with its strategic planning policies, programs and projects designed to face challenges



and meet requirements, strives to contribute in the enhancement and development of the University.

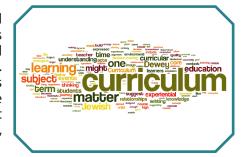
# **Human Resources Department**

The Human Resources Department is responsible for recruiting administrative and academic staff who will implement the mission of the University and realize its academic vision. The tasks of the department include the follow up and management of the University staff affairs such as attendance, annual leaves, salaries, promotions, health insurance, retirement, and any other related issues.



### **Curriculum and Courses Department**

Department of Curriculum and Textbooks is a vital administrative unit, affiliated to the Academic Affairs Department. It seeks to develop, prepare, evaluate, and print textbooks and educational materials for students. The department has direct communications with deans of faculties, deans of admission and registration, and the deans of students' affairs, in addition to direct contact with other units at the University and its various branches, including the University headquarters in Amman.



### **Libraries Department**

The department supervises the two main central libraries in the West Bank and Gaza administratively and technically, it supervise the work of minor libraries technically. The department provides information and resources in different ways in order to support the university courses and the needs of the academic and scientific research for faculty members and students and other segments of the Palestinian community in accordance with open learning system philosophy.



### **Purchasing and Procurement Department**

Purchasing and Procurement Department is responsible for providing and purchasing all the requirements and supplies of the University. The Department is also responsible for the process of printing textbooks and their purchase in accordance with the University's bylaws.



#### **International Relations Office**

International relations department aims to establish formal relations and partnerships with top universities, international governmental bodies, research centers and educational organizations. The Office of President Assistant for International Relations Affairs consolidates and establishes relations with delegations, universities and various types of international institutions as part of the aims of the University's strategic plan. Moreover, it aims at finding cooperation opportunities such as twin ship,



study visits, mobility/exchange programs, scholarships and agreements with other Universities, as well as memorandum of understanding on academic matter to develop the University and its academic programs, as well as to enhance the image and the position of QOU on local and international level.

# **Engineering and Construction Unit**

The Engineering and Construction Unit aims at implementing the university's policy related to establishing its educational and administrative buildings, and providing its needs according to the followed rules, systems and the signed agreements and MOUs with the donors for these projects. This will be achieved in full cooperation and coordination with related departments and specialized bodies in the University, through managing the tenders and contracts related to the university building's projects and preparing the needed plans for that.



### **Contact QOU**

### University Headquarters - Ramallah, Al-Ersal

Tel: 00 970 2 2964571/2/3/4 Fax: 00 970 2 2964570 E-mail: presidentoffice@qou.edu

# **University Headquarters - Hebron**

Tel: 00 970 2 2219321 Fax: 00 970 2 2225531 E-mail: presidentoffice@gou.edu

### **Vice President of Gaza Strip Affairs**

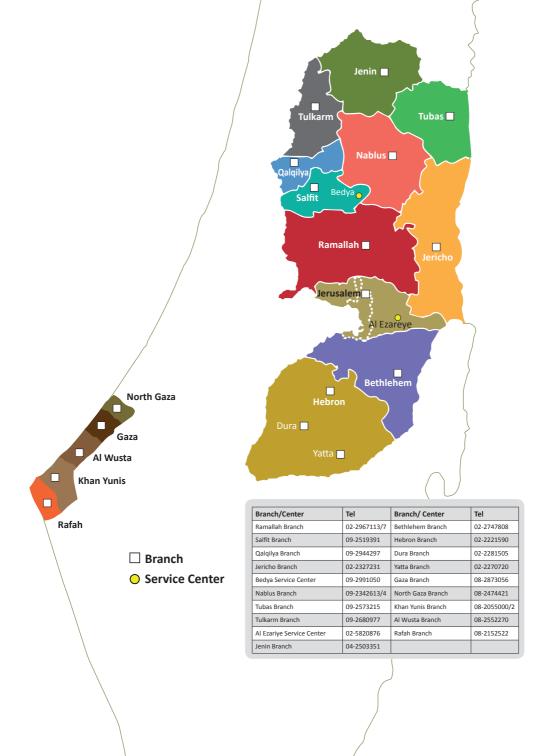
Tel: 08-2641701 , 08-2641702 , 08-2641703 Fax: 08-2641700 E-mail: gaza\_vp@qou.edu

#### **Amman Office**

Tel: 00 962 65522561 Fax: 00 96265513460 E-mail: amman@qou.edu

# **Public Relations Department**

Tel: 00 970 2 2964571 - Ext, 153 Fax: 00 970 22951623 E-mail: pub\_relations@gou.edu





**Al Quds Open University**