

WELCOME TO  
**Sultan Sharif  
Ali Islamic  
University**





## RECTOR'S MESSAGE



بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

السَّلَامُ عَلَیْكُمْ اَللّٰهُ وَرَحْمَةُ اَللّٰهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Established in 2007, Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali – better known as UNISSA – is a “pure Islamic University” that offers a variety of academic programmes across disciplines which are based on the Qur’an and the Sunnah. UNISSA upholds Islamic values and beliefs through educating and developing the *ummah* of this blessed land of Brunei Darussalam and beyond by striving to produce highly qualified Muslim scholars and intellectuals. Not only does this support Brunei Darussalam’s aim of becoming a *Zikir* nation, it also fulfils the University’s responsibility as a unique Centre of Learning in preparing our young Muslims with the confidence they discover in themselves, in their Islamic faith, as well as their academic fields, in order to become the kind of future leaders who will make a difference in our modern world.

As a second state university of Brunei Darussalam, UNISSA has developed a unique curriculum for a holistic education which integrates Islamic values into its conventional programmes. As such, all UNISSA programmes have been accredited by the Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council (BDNAC), Ministry of Education of Brunei Darussalam. UNISSA continuously strives to improve its academic quality by ensuring these programmes and courses meet international standards and current needs. Through strategic, bilateral relations with other international universities, particularly those offering Islamic studies, UNISSA hopes to attain the same kind of international recognition as many others worldwide.

Throughout the years since its establishment, UNISSA has seen a vast increase in its enrolment for both local and international students, demonstrating the fact that the University is becoming a top choice for those wishing to continue their studies in various academic fields which has Islam at its core. With the provision of these academic opportunities, UNISSA shows its commitment in educating and serving its mostly Muslim nation of any age.

In terms of academic staff quality, a number of international experts and academics from 15 countries constitutes 45% of the academic staff at UNISSA and are ready to serve you in your academic development. With the recent introduction of the new Academic Staff Scheme of Service for Higher Education Institutions, UNISSA is optimistic that this scheme will encourage more international scholars to serve at UNISSA and thus, continue improving its teaching and research with the university's own local academics in order to provide high quality education to its students.

With that, this Prospectus is meant to provide you with comprehensive information about UNISSA's facilities, academic programs, admission requirements and procedures, academic financial regulations, student services, campus life and so on in order to allow you to have a glimpse of the academic opportunities available at UNISSA.

In choosing to become a student at UNISSA, we are keen to have you on board for your educational journey. We at UNISSA are committed to fostering your spiritual growth and to support you on your pursuit for academic excellence. We look forward to the opportunity to welcome you to UNISSA and to serve and provide you with the best academic experience possible.

**DR HAJI NORARFAN BIN HAJI ZAINAL**

Rector

Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University  
Brunei Darussalam





جامعة السلطان الشريف علي الإسلامية  
UNIVERSITI ISLAM SULTAN SHARIF ALI  
SULTAN SHARIF ALI ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY





# UNISSA's PHILOSOPHY

## MOTTO

﴿وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَيَعْلَمَ اللَّهُ﴾

Observe your duty to Allah, and it is Allah that teaches you.

(Surah al-Baqarah: 282)

## VISION

To be a progressive and dynamic International Islamic university based on al-Qur'an and al-Sunnah.

## MISSION

To be an international university which offers various programmes of study, research and human development using holistic methods and up-to-date technology in accordance with global development in order to produce pious, spiritually high and valuable graduates as well as to contribute to the development of the community and the country.

## AIMS

The University was founded as a centre of scholarly excellence to sustain and support the country in upholding Islam, as stated in the Constitution of Brunei Darussalam, and to protect the creed of *Ahlu al-Sunnah wa al-Jama'ah* and Shafi'i Mazhab aiming to strengthen the religious commitment and solidarity of the ummah.

## OBJECTIVES

- To deliver well-designed tertiary programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels founded in Islam, as part of a comprehensive educational system to produce *'ulama* (Muslim scholars) and other human resources who are spiritually, well-balanced, professional, knowledgeable, respectful and pious;
- To enhance teaching-learning processes skills, and their effectiveness thereof;
- To apply modern technology in the delivery of educational programmes, research, and publications;
- To promote ongoing study and research as well as delivering consultation and experts services to the external environment within the context of Islam;
- To give meaningful input to the country's philosophy 'Malay Islamic Monarchy' in the context of Islam as the main pillar of this philosophy;
- To assist in the development of a knowledgeable, respectful, and pious nation, which are founded on the teachings of *Ahlu al-Sunnah wa al-Jama'ah* with emphasis on Shafi'i Mazhab;
- To enrich Islamic knowledge, heritage, and references, as well as spreading them to benefit the community; and
- To establish the importance and significance of Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali by realising its potential as a Centre of Islamic *da'awah* in Brunei Darussalam as well as in the Asia Pacific region and the world at large.





# The Establishment of UNISSA

*UNISSA was named after the third Sultan of Brunei, Sultan Sharif Ali who reigned from 1425M - 1432M.*

*In a series of Titahs (royal addresses), His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddin, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Negara Brunei Darussalam expressed his desire, either directly or indirectly, that an Islamic university be established in Brunei Darussalam:*

**03 Sya'ban 1425H / 18 September 2004M**

16<sup>th</sup> Convocation of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD):

His Majesty suggests that, in addition to UBD, which has reached its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its establishment, now is the right time to establish another university in the country.

**14 Muharram 1426H / 23 February 2005M**

Brunei Darussalam's 21<sup>st</sup> National Day:

His Majesty stresses on the importance of strengthening religious education system at elementary level; while religious education system should produce 'ulama (Muslim scholars) and intellectuals at higher level.

**02 Sya'ban 1426H / 06 September 2005M**

17<sup>th</sup> Convocation of UBD:

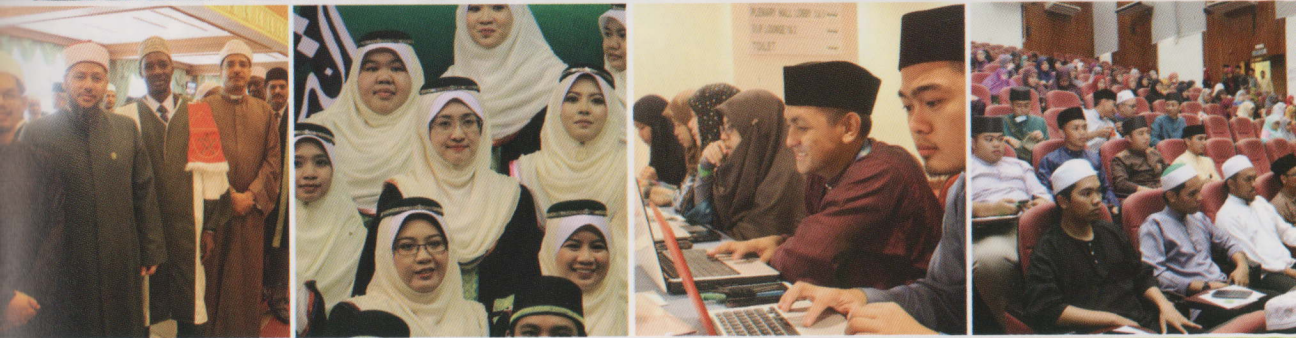
His Majesty states that the second university which he has suggested previously must be an Islamic university, since the country has a strong base for this, and which should fulfill the nation's needs.

**11 Sya'ban 1427H / 04 September 2006M**

18<sup>th</sup> Convocation of UBD:

His Majesty emphasises that the second university will be a pure Islamic higher educational institution to be our landmark in the world and in the hereafter.



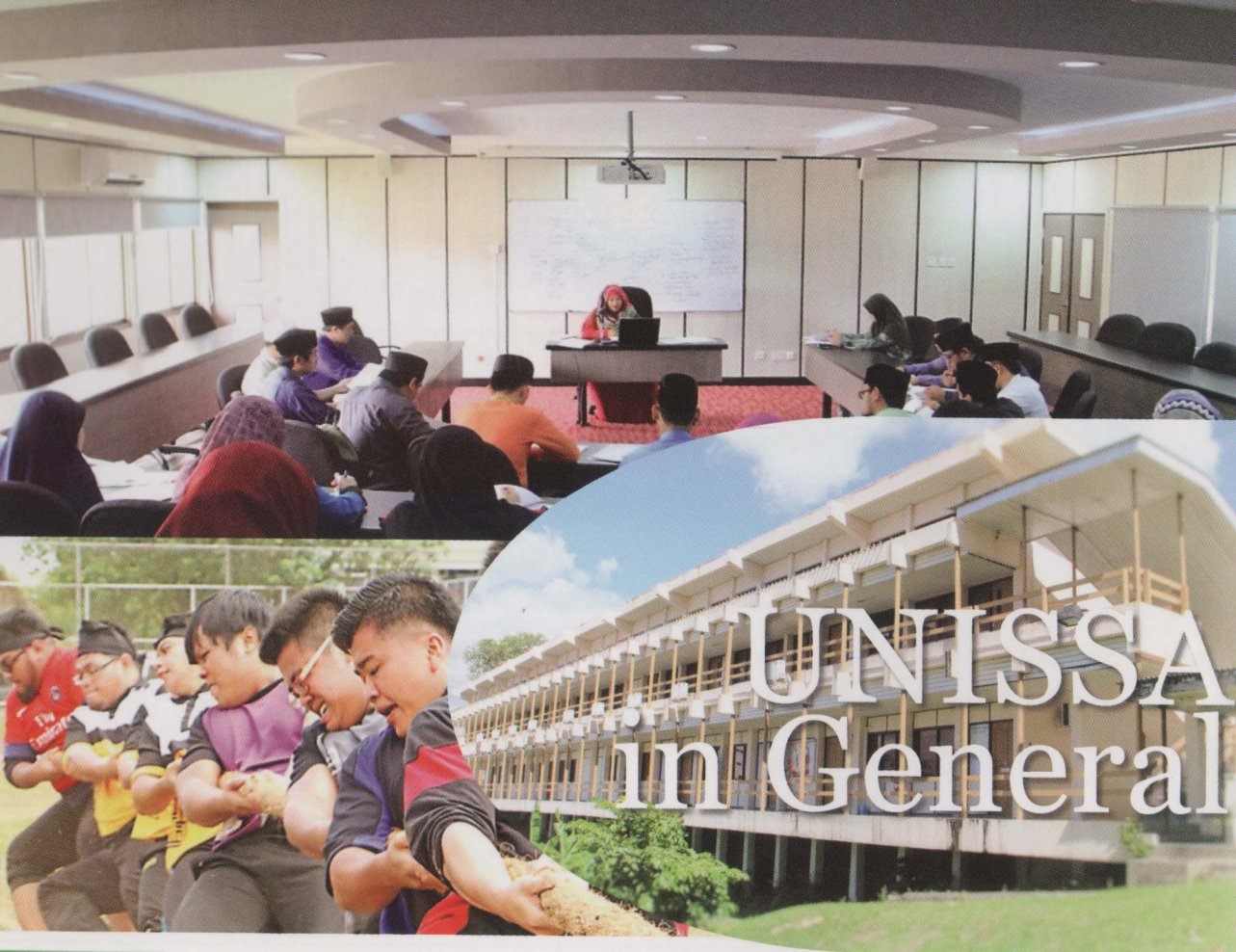


On 11 Zulhijjah 1427H / 01 January 2007M Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) was established by the consent and announcement made by His Majesty Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassan al-Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddin, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Negara Brunei Darussalam.

UNISSA was named after the third Sultan of Brunei, Sultan Sharif Ali who reigned from 1425M - 1432M. Sultan Sharif Ali was a very pious ruler and was therefore nicknamed "Sultan Berkat" (Blessed Sultan). Sultan Sharif Ali was the direct descendant of the Prophet *Sallallahu 'Alaihi Wasallam* through his grandson Sayyidina Hassan *Radiallahu 'anhu*. Sultan Sharif Ali was the first ruler to build a mosque and fortified the defense of Brunei by ordering his people to build a stone fortress. He governed Brunei according to Islamic principles and his reign was popular and highly respected.







## QUALITY EDUCATION

UNISSA offers well-designed tertiary programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels as part of a comprehensive educational system to produce *‘ulama* (Muslim scholars) and other human resources who are high-spirited, well-balanced, professional, knowledgeable, respectful, and pious.

In addition to its core programmes, UNISSA offers additional courses which aims to provide students with a competitive edge and useful competencies so that they will thrive in any environment whilst at the same time portraying the virtues of a devout Muslim. These courses are:

- ◆ al-Qur’an;
- ◆ Malay Islamic Monarchy;

- ◆ Islamic Virtues;
- ◆ Arabic Language;
- ◆ Co-Curriculum;
- ◆ Information and Communication Technology;
- ◆ Entrepreneurship; and
- ◆ Industrial Training

In order to strengthen students’ proficiency in Arabic language, UNISSA conducts Arabic Language Intensive Programme course for pre-university STPUB school leavers in March every year for a period of two (2) months prior to joining UNISSA’s undergraduate programmes in July/August.





## SERVICES AND FACILITIES

*At present UNISSA is located on a temporary campus, which, nevertheless, provides all the amenities a university needs. These include :*

**Library**

**Gymnasium**

**Surau (small mosque)**

**Football Field**

**Computer Laboratories**

**Student Residential Colleges**



*“ At present the university library has a collection of more than 80,000 books as well as as some multi-media kits. Three-quarter of these items are in Arabic.”*



Library ▶





Football Field ▲



Gymnasium ▲



Moot Court ▲



▲ Temporary Prayer Room

\*Main Surau currently under major upgrading.



▲ Student Residential Colleges



▲ Computer Lab





Auditorium Hall ▲

## Services and Facilities



Senate Meeting Room ▶

Jubilee Hall ▼



Administration Meeting Room ▼





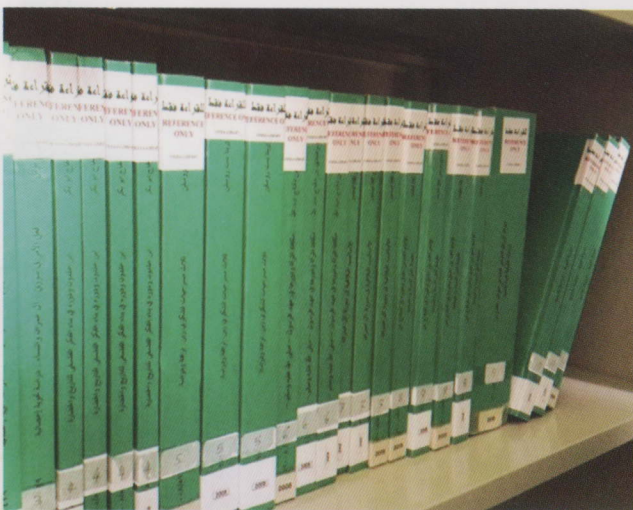
# STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMME

Bachelor degree students who have obtained CGPA 3.50 and above throughout the first two (2) years of study are given an opportunity to study abroad for a year (2 semesters) at any of UNISSA's partner universities in the Middle East, United Kingdom, or Malaysia.

This programme aims to give students a great opportunity to experience studying abroad under different education systems, ways of life, and cultures. Apart from that, it also aims to nurture the students into becoming global citizens while sustaining the values of a good Muslim.



# ACADEMIC EXERCISE



An Academic Exercise course is offered in the final year of study. It is an opportunity for bachelor degree students to conduct research under the supervision of a faculty academic staff in their respective fields of study.

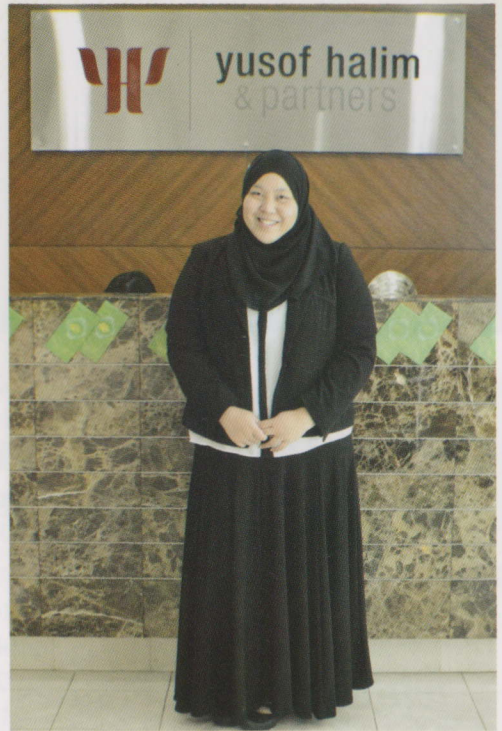
Apart from engaging these students in the processes of intellectual inquiry, problem solving, and creative thinking, the course aims to enhance intellectual exchange and collaboration between undergraduates, faculty, and the organisation where they do their industrial training.



## INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

Industrial Training course is conducted in the third year of study to provide undergraduate students with work experience of day-to-day operations at selected organisations so that they understand the practical-work processes and gain valuable insights into the aspirations, needs, and views of the organisation they are attached to.

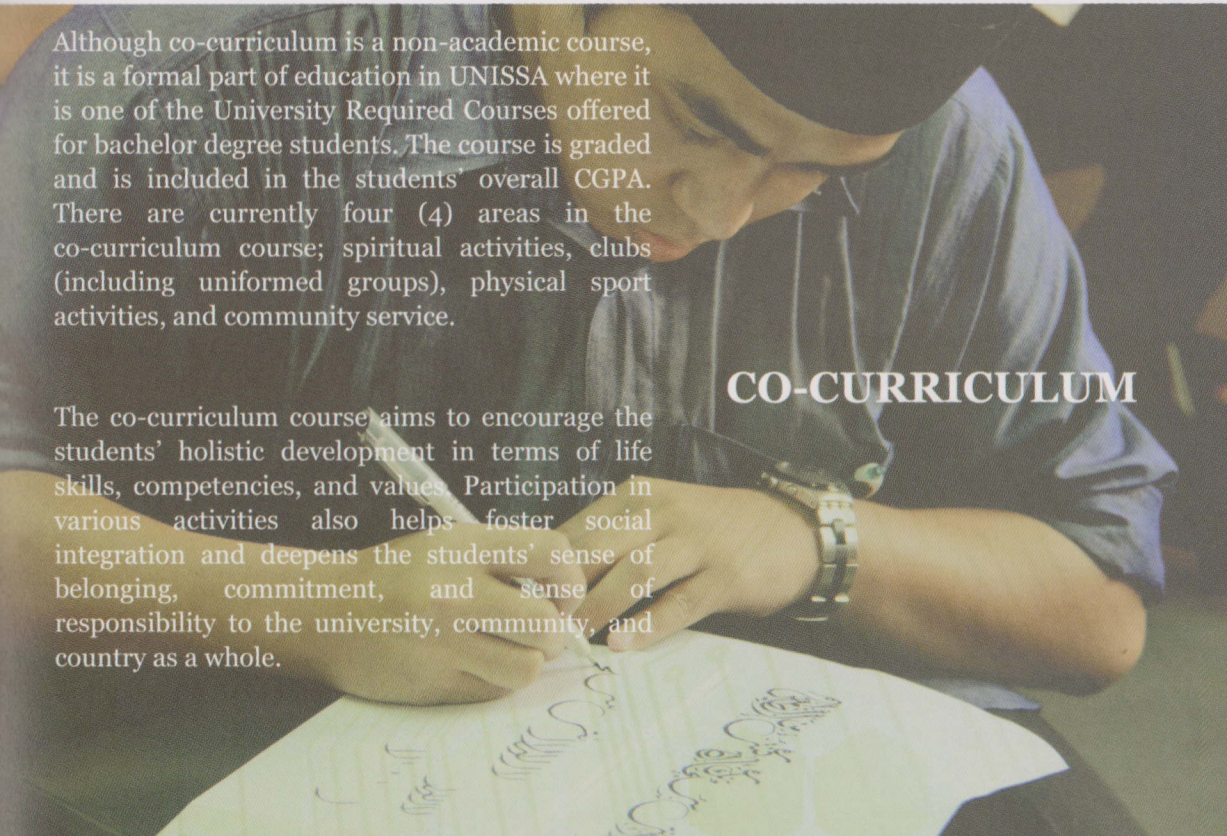
The duration of the attachment is nine (9) weeks and usually commences after Second Semester Final Examination period. However, for Bachelor of Science in Islamic Finance and Bachelor of Business Management programmes, the duration of the attachment is 22 weeks.



Although co-curriculum is a non-academic course, it is a formal part of education in UNISSA where it is one of the University Required Courses offered for bachelor degree students. The course is graded and is included in the students' overall CGPA. There are currently four (4) areas in the co-curriculum course; spiritual activities, clubs (including uniformed groups), physical sport activities, and community service.

The co-curriculum course aims to encourage the students' holistic development in terms of life skills, competencies, and values. Participation in various activities also helps foster social integration and deepens the students' sense of belonging, commitment, and sense of responsibility to the university, community, and country as a whole.

## CO-CURRICULUM







Universitas Islam Sultan Agung (UNISSULA), Semarang Indonesia on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2016.



Kolej Universiti Insaniah (KUIN), Malaysia on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU) WITH OTHER UNIVERSITIES

*UNISSA had signed MoU with other universities for cooperation in research, student and staff exchange and other cooperation that benefit both parties. The universities are:*

- University of Brunei Darussalam, Brunei Darussalam (UBD);
- The Markfield Institute of Higher Education, United Kingdom (MIHE);
- International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM);
- Al-Azhar University, Egypt;
- Cairo University, Egypt;
- University of Technology, Malaysia (UTM);
- Islamic Science University of Malaysia (USIM)
- Darussalam Institute of Islamic Studies, Gontor Indonesia (ISID);
- University of Yarmouk, Jordan;
- Al-Maktoum College of Higher Education, United Kingdom;
- Sultan Idris Education University, Malaysia (UPSI);
- University of Malaya, Malaysia (UM);
- Institute Agama Islam Negeri (IAIN) Sultan Amai Gorontalo, Indonesia;

University Of Malaysia (UIM) on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015.



MoU with Universiti Darussalam Gontor (UNIDA) on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015.







University of Sharjah (UOS), United Arab Emirates on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016.



Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI), Jeddah on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University, Jakarta, Indonesia;  
 Gadjah Mada University (UGM), Indonesia;  
 University of Science (USM), Malaysia;  
 Sultan Zainal Abidin University (UniSZA), Malaysia;  
 University Putra Malaysia (UPM), Malaysia;  
 MARA University of Technology (UiTM), Malaysia;  
 Prince of Songkla University (PSU), Thailand;  
 Fatoni University, Thailand;  
 University of Jordan (UJ), Jordan;  
 World Islamic Sciences and Education University, Jordan;  
 Al al-Bayt University, Jordan;  
 University of Selangor (UNISEL), Malaysia;  
 Daffodil International University (DIU), Bangladesh;  
 Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI), Jeddah;  
 Universiti Islam Malaysia (UIM);  
 Universiti Syarif Kasim, Riau (UIN SUSKA), Indonesia;

- Kolej Universiti Islam Sultan Azlan Shah (KUIS), Malaysia;
- Kolej Universiti Islam Perlis (KUIPs), Malaysia;
- Institut Agama Islam Negeri (IAIN) Sultan Maulana Hassanuddin BANTEN, Indonesia;
- Institut Agama Islam (IAIN) PADANG Sidimpuan, Sumatra Indonesia;
- Sekolah Tinggi Agama Islam Negeri (STAIN) KUDUS Central Java, Indonesia;
- University of Darussalam Gontor, Indonesia;
- Kolej Universiti Islam Selangor (KUIS), Malaysia;
- University of Sharjah (UOS), United Arab Emirates;
- Muhammadiyah University of Metro (MUM), Lampung Indonesia;
- Universitas Islam Bandung (UNISBA), Indonesia;
- Kolej Universiti Insaniah (KUIN), Malaysia;
- Universitas Islam Sultan Agung (UNISSULA), Semarang Indonesia;
- Universitas Islam Nahdlatul Ulama, Indonesia.

World Islamic Sciences and Education University, Amman Jordan on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014.



University Fatoni, Pattani Campus Thailand on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014.





## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

### RECTOR

Dr Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal

### DEPUTY RECTOR

Dr Haji Mohammed Hussain bin Pehin Penyurat Haji Ahmad

### ASSISTANT RECTOR

Dr Arman bin Haji Asmad

### REGISTRAR

Hajah Surianah binti Haji Alias (Acting)

### BURSAR

Haji Abdullah bin Haji Ismail (Acting)

### DEPUTY REGISTRAR (ACADEMIC)

Hayattuddin bin Haji Moksini (Acting)

## PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

### Dean of Faculty of Usuluddin

Dr Lilly Suzana binti Haji Shamsu

### Dean of Faculty of Shariah and Law

Dr Hajah Mas Nooraini binti Haji Mohiddin

### Dean of Faculty of Arabic Language and Islamic Civilisation

Dr Siti Sara binti Haji Ahmad

### Dean of Faculty of Economics and Islamic Finance

Dr Abdul Nasir bin Haji Abdul Rani

### Director of Centre for the Promotion of Knowledge and Languages

Pengiran Dr Haji Saiful Bahrin bin Pengiran Haji Kula

### Director of Centre for Postgraduate Studies

Dr Hajah Rasinah binti Haji Ahim

### Director of Mazhab Shafi'i Research Centre

Dr Azme bin Haji Matali

### Director of Centre for Research and Publication

Dr Hajah Rose binti Abdullah

### Director of Centre for Public and International Relations

Awang Haji Sammali bin Haji Adam

### Director of Centre for Technology and Multimedia

Dr Adam bin Haji Jait

### Dean of Students

Awang Supri bin Haji Sudin



# FACULTIES and CENTRES

*UNISSA  
comprises of  
four (4)  
faculties  
and six (6)  
centres.*

## Faculties

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Faculty of Usuluddin

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Faculty of Shariah and Law

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Faculty of Arabic Language and Islamic Civilisation

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Faculty of Economics and Islamic Finance

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## Centres

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Centre for the Promotion of Knowledge and Languages

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Centre for Postgraduate Studies

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Mazhab Shafi'i Research Centre

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Centre for Research and Publication

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Centre for Public and International Relations

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Centre for Technology and Multimedia

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# FACULTY OF USULUDDIN



*The Faculty of Usuluddin aims to produce 'ulama (scholars) who promote righteous values gained from knowledge and have expertise in the area of Tafsir, Hadith, Aqidah and Da'wah.*

## VISION

To become a distinguished centre of knowledge, belief system and faith, based on The Holy Qur'an, the Prophetic traditions and the principles of *Ahlu al-Sunnah wa al-Jama'ah*.

## MISSION

To introduce authentic academic programmes and produce highly qualified graduates from a variety of disciplines to serve Islam and the Muslim community in Brunei Darussalam and the Muslim world.

## OBJECTIVES

1

To protect the purity of Islamic doctrines and to defend any deviational and inclinations trends.

2

To produce Muslim intellectuals and specialists in the disciplines of Usuluddin and its sciences.

3

To maximise the study of classical and contemporary Islamic sources in textual form or media in order to defend any destructives or criticisms from the non-Muslims/orientalists.

4

Striving to increase the number of scholars combining knowledge (*'ilm*) with action (*'amal*) and faith (*al-'aqidah*) with practice (*suluk*) in Brunei society in particular and Islamic societies in general.

5

To produce Muslim preachers that have strong foundations of the al-Qur'an and Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad *Sallallahu 'Alaihi Wasallam*.



## Programmes offered by the Faculty

### Bachelor Degree:

Bachelor of Usuluddin (Tafsir and Hadith)  
Bachelor of Usuluddin ('Aqidah and Da'wah)

### Master Degree:

Master of Usuluddin (Coursework and Dissertation)  
Master of Usuluddin (Research)

### Doctoral Degree:

Doctor of Philosophy in Usuluddin (Research)

## BACHELOR OF USULUDDIN (TAFSIR AND HADITH)

This four (4) year programme is designed to produce competent graduates who are well versed in the discipline of Tafsir and Hadith. This programme includes the following courses:

- i. Science of al-Hadith (*'Ulum al-Hadith*),
- ii. Methodology of Exegetes (*Manahij al-Mufassirin*),
- iii. Science of Impugment and Validation (*'Ilm al-Jarh wa al-Ta'dil*),
- iv. Principles of Takhrij and its Rules (*Usul al-Takhrij wa Qawa'iduhu*),
- v. Methodology of Narrators of Hadith (*Manahij al-Muhaddithin*), and
- vi. Thematic Exegesis (*al-Tafsir al-Maudu'i*).

## BACHELOR OF USULUDDIN ('AQIDAH AND DA'WAH)

This four (4) year programme is designed to produce competent graduates who are well versed in the discipline of 'Aqidah and Da'wah. This programme includes the following courses:

- i. Introduction to Da'wah (*al-Madkhal ila al-Da'wah*),
- ii. The Islamic Sects (*al-Firqah al-Islamiyyah*),
- iii. The Islamic World Today (*Hadir al-'Alam al-Islami*),
- iv. Islamic Philosophy (*al-Falsafah al-Islamiyyah*),
- v. Contemporary Ideological Trends (*Tayarat Fikriyyah Mu'asirah*), and
- vi. Oratory (*Fann al-Khatabah*).

### Notes:

Students from both programmes are required to participate in Industrial Training course arranged by the Faculty in their third year of study. The training usually commences after Second Semester Final Examination period.

Third year students are also required to conduct a research project (*Baht al-Takharruj*) in their selected area of study and submit a written report, in Arabic, in the second semester of their final year.



## MASTER OF USULUDDIN (COURSEWORK AND DISSERTATION)

This two (2) year programme aims to enhance and strengthen students' knowledge in Islamic studies particularly in the major area of Usuluddin, namely The Holy Qur'an, the sunnah, Islamic *da'wah*, and comparative religions.

A total of six (6) courses are offered which include three (3) mandatory courses:

- i. Studies in Books of Religion (*Dirasaat fi Kutub al-Adyan*),
- ii. Miraculous Knowledge in the Qur'an (*al-I'jaz al-Ilmy fi al-Qur'an al-Karim*), and Studies in the Hadith Books (*Dirasaat fi Kutub al-Sunnah*).

These courses are offered in the first year of study and students are required to pass the mandatory courses before they are allowed to continue with their studies in the second year.

Upon completion of the coursework, they are required to write a dissertation, in Arabic, on an approved topic under the supervision of an academic staff member appointed by the Faculty. The master degree will only be conferred after the student has successfully fulfilled all the requirements as prescribed in the Postgraduate Regulations of UNISSA.

## MASTER OF USULUDDIN (RESEARCH)

The Faculty also offers a master degree programme by research. This programme is only offered to applicants who are exceptionally qualified to undertake research in Arabic, English, and Malay languages. Applicants are required to submit their research proposal to be assessed by the Postgraduate Studies Committee.

In line with the University's aim to produce qualified and competitive Muslim scholars, the Faculty welcomes qualified applicants to apply to this programme in any selected area of studies. Applicants are expected to have a good background in research methodology and also fluent in the language selected for their research. As part of the evaluation process, candidates may be required to sit and pass a special examination as prescribed by Postgraduate Regulations as well as to engage with particular units of study or prescribed readings at the Faculty's discretion.





## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN USULUDDIN (RESEARCH)

The Faculty offers a doctoral programme in the area of Usuluddin. This programme aims to encourage qualified candidates in the field of Usuluddin to conduct research projects in their area of interest. Applicants are required to submit their research proposal to be assessed by the Faculty before any final decision can be made by the Postgraduate Studies Committee.

Applicants are expected to have a good background in research methodology and fluent in the language selected for their research. As part of the evaluation process, they may be required to sit and pass a special examination together with oral examination to be conducted by the Faculty and fulfil necessary requirements as prescribed by Postgraduate Regulations of UNISSA. Successful applicants will be supervised by academic staff member appointed by the Faculty.

