

Shatt Al-Arab University



Times Higher Education
Impact Rankings

SDG

4 QUALITY
EDUCATION



THE IMPACT RANKING

4.2 Proportion of graduates with teaching qualification

4.2.1 - Number of graduates = 800

4.2.2 - Number of graduates who gained a qualification that entitled them to teach at primary school level= 610

4.3 Lifelong learning measures

4.3.1 Does your university as a body provide access to educational resources for those not studying at the university, e.g. computers, library, online courses, access to lectures, etc.?

Shatt Al-Arab University is actively engaged in promoting lifelong learning by providing educational resources and opportunities to individuals who are not formally enrolled as students. The university offers a wide range of public resources and initiatives to support community education and development, including:

- **Public Lectures and Free Community Courses:** Throughout the academic year, the university organizes a series of free educational events open to the public. For example:
 - *Course 1: “Be Proficient in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint)”* held from November 3–6, 2023, aimed at enhancing digital literacy.



- *Course 2: “The Benefits of Earning a CCNA Certification for Your Networking Career”* held from December 10–14, 2023, focused on the importance of network systems across various sectors.

These sessions are conducted on campus and equipped with the necessary learning tools and facilities. Participants receive certificates upon completion.



- Free Access to Digital Libraries: Shatt Al-Arab University provides full, unrestricted access to its digital library collections for the general public. These collections include e-books, academic papers, and interdisciplinary reports, accessible via the following link: <https://sa-uc.edu.iq/ar/Electronic-library>
- Learning and Development Center (LDC): The university's LDC offers free training programs and workshops tailored to graduates and other community members. Details about these ongoing opportunities are available at: <https://sa-uc.edu.iq/ar/continuing-education-unit>

These efforts demonstrate Shatt Al-Arab University's commitment to educational inclusivity, social responsibility, and continuous learning for all segments of society.

4.3.2 Does your university as a body host events at university that are open to the general public: public lectures, community educational events?

The general public are welcome to attend various events and educational programs organized by Shatt Al-Arab University, including public lectures and specialized community training initiatives.

One significant example of such outreach is the specialized legal training courses offered to graduates of law faculties and to legal and jurist consultants employed in government departments and institutions across the Basra Governorate. These courses are organized in cooperation with the Continuing Education Center at the University of Basra and aim to enhance the professional competencies of participants.

Key Features of the Program:

- Delivered by qualified faculty members from the university's Law Department.
- Conducted in the evening hours (3:00 PM to 5:00 PM) to accommodate working professionals.
- Accredited certificates are issued upon completion, which are recognized for professional promotion purposes.
- All participation fees are fully covered by Shatt Al-Arab University.

Recent Course Offerings:

No.	Course Title	Duration
1	State and Public Sector Employees Discipline Law No. 14 of 1991 (as amended)	Six days (April 20–25, 2024)
2	Drafting Government Contracts and Rules for Their Implementation	Six days (April 27–May 2, 2024)

These initiatives underscore Shatt Al-Arab University's commitment to community engagement, legal education, and the professional development of practitioners in the public sector.





Workshops and lectures: Workshops and Lectures: Shatt al-Arab Private University organized several workshops and lectures on topics such as healthy nutrition, physical activity, mental health, disease prevention, and drug control, intending to raise health awareness among students, faculty members, and staff. These activities included a symposium titled "autism spectrum disorder" in cooperation with Al Taqwa Association for Women and Children, delivered by psychotherapist Dr. Nedal Bader Sultan. She addressed what this disorder is, its definition, why it is called the spectrum, a brief history of it, in addition to the symptoms related to behavior, and the various complications associated with it. Also, what are the treatment modalities, such as behavioral, educational, family, pharmacological, dietary, etc.



Also, Shatt Al-Arab University held an awareness seminar entitled "The scourge of drugs and its harmful effects on the family and society" by MSc. Zahraa Kadim Farhood.

The symposium included a presentation on the impact of drugs on an individual's physical and psychological health and their impact on their productivity, family and community relationships, and their role in committing crimes, as well as the negative effects of drugs on social, psychological, economic, and legal aspects. The symposium also touched on the role of friends in a person's addiction, whether intentionally or unintentionally, and concluded with recommendations to warn against this scourge, in addition to preventive and therapeutic methods. The symposium witnessed purposeful interventions by the university president and staff, as well as interventions and questions from the attending students.

Second: Scientific Research in Public Health

Public Health Research: The Faculty encourages scientific research related to public health and well-being, which contributes to the development of effective health policies. Some of the published research papers of some of the faculty members are:

1. Impact of Demographic and Lifestyle Factors on Irritable Bowel Syndrome from Basra (Zahraa Saad Mansour, Dawood S. Mahdi , Ihsan Edan Alsaimary).
2. Legislative position on offences against people with special needs (a comparative study) (MSc. Sara Moayed Salim Abdul Qader Al-Sharida)
3. Secure patient authentication system in the healthcare system using symmetric cryptography.
4. A privacy-preserving system for secure data management in the healthcare system
5. A secure authentication system to preserve the privacy of electronic health records in the healthcare system (Msc. Naba Majid Hamed Abood Al-Sakr).



1. Supporting Educational Institutions in Economically Disadvantaged Areas:

Shatt Al-Arab University has extended its support to schools located in under-resourced villages. As part of this initiative, the university donated school desks to Hamdan Secondary School for Boys in the village of Abu Al-Khaseeb. This contribution reflects the university's commitment to social responsibility and educational equity, as documented in the accompanying photographs.



4.3.3 - Does your university as a body educational host events at university that are open to the general public: executive education programmes (this refers to short courses for people who are not attending the university; this specifically excludes courses like MBA) and/or vocational training?

1. Promoting Lifelong Learning Through Vocational Training Programs:

Shatt Al-Arab University is committed to enhancing both personal and professional development through continuous learning. To achieve this, the university has consistently organized a wide range of vocational training events at both national and international levels. These initiatives focus on fostering entrepreneurial skills and practical expertise across various disciplines, including information technology, computer science, engineering, healthcare, media, social sciences, and vocational education.

2. Workshop on 'Entrepreneurship in Vocational Education' (Ad-Hoc Initiative):

As part of its efforts to support youth entrepreneurship and innovation, the Unit of Rehabilitation, Employment, and Follow-up at Shatt Al-Arab University invited students to participate in the Iraq Competition 2024, which aims to promote small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The competition, held under the auspices of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, involves 38 universities from 15 Iraqi governorates and welcomes participants from all academic disciplines and educational levels, including recent graduates.

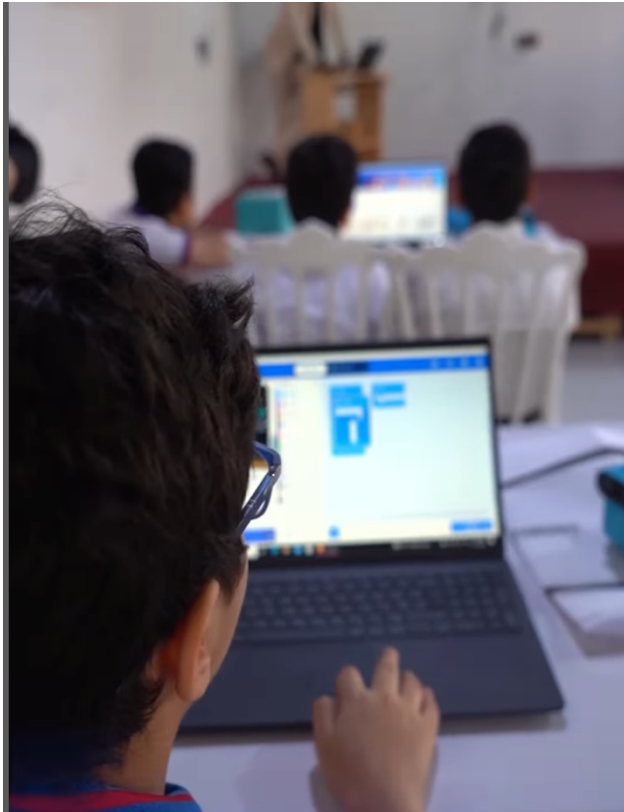
The primary objective of the competition is to identify the most promising and innovative project idea that can be realistically implemented and funded. The winning project will receive financial support to bring the idea to life, reinforcing the university's dedication to entrepreneurial empowerment and vocational advancement.



4.3.4 - Does your university as a body undertake educational outreach activities (e.g. tailored lectures or demonstrations) beyond campus, e.g. in local schools, in the community, including voluntary student-run schemes?

1. Providing development courses in robotics technology, Shatt al-Arab University helps to increase children's access to technical education. In order to build educational cadres, the Department of Computer Science offered foundational courses in robotics technology to 10–12-year-old primary school pupils as part of the university's yearly program for the academic year 2024–2025. This project falls under the university's support of the Basra Governorate's educational system, which helps to give kids access to advanced learning opportunities by utilizing the programming knowledge of cadres.





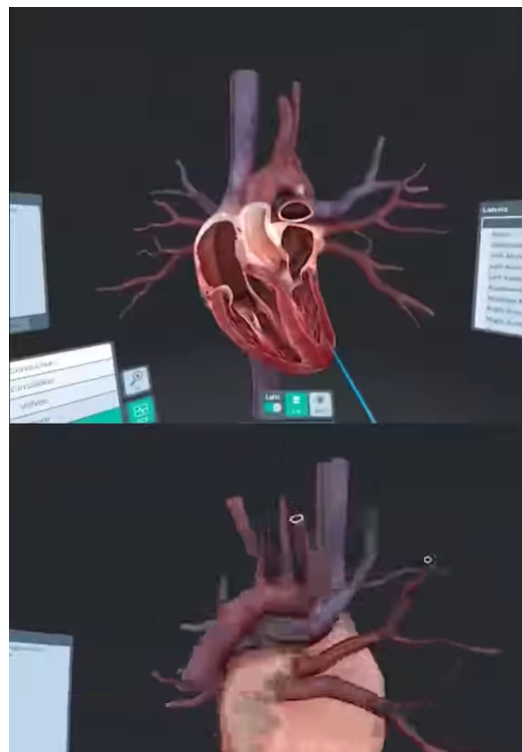
2. As part of its commitment to youth development and community engagement, Shatt Al-Arab University actively supports the Students Club Sports. This initiative reflects the university's dedication to fostering a well-rounded educational environment that promotes physical well-being, and teamwork. By providing financial, logistical, and institutional backing, the university enables the club to participate in various local and national athletic competitions.



3. The Student Activities Unit at the College of Science at Shatt al-Arab University, Department of Computer Science, in collaboration with the Department of Scientific Care and the Department of Astronomy and Meteorology, organized a scientific trip to the Science Camp (Robot Factory). The trip included an overview of the various devices and robots that were manufactured, as well as an introductory lecture on the factory's facilities, delivered by Dr. Nouris Aref. Participating in the trip were lecturer Fatima Nizar Hamza (Head of the Student Activities Unit), lecturer Muhammad Asaad, and a group of students from the Department of Computer Science.



4. The university, represented by the Department of Computer Science, also contributed to holding basic courses for primary school students aged 10-12 years to introduce students to and enhance their education in virtual reality education technology, which effectively contributes to supporting the educational sector in Basra Governorate.



5. Educational Awareness Activities (Lifelong Learning):

Shatt Al-Arab University places great importance on fostering scientific curiosity and engineering awareness among K–12 students as part of its commitment to lifelong learning and community engagement. The university actively supports student chapters that lead off-campus outreach initiatives, particularly those targeting school-aged learners.

A notable example is the initiative undertaken by the Department of Fuel and Energy Engineering Technology, which established dedicated outreach teams to engage with local schools. These teams deliver focused educational sessions on STEM subjects, including chemistry and engineering, with the goal of inspiring young minds and preparing future students to address technical challenges with creativity, integrity, environmental responsibility, and social awareness.



- **Volunteer Initiative in Celebration of International Education Day 2024 (Ad Hoc Activity):**

In recognition of International Education Day 2024, students from Shatt Al-Arab University—particularly those in the Department of Medical Instrumentation Engineering Technology—launched a volunteer initiative aimed at supporting underprivileged and underserved schools.

This effort was part of a broader commitment to the belief that quality education is fundamental to improving lives and achieving sustainable development. The initiative focused on distributing school supplies, encouraging both male and female students to pursue their basic education, and promoting a collaborative approach toward inclusive and sustainable learning environments



- **A Free Training Courses:** Shatt Al-Arab University provides a free training courses in multidisciplinary Inspired by its vision for integrating education with training. The main courses are shown below: -
- **IT and Computer Science**
 - a) Introduction to Computer Science: A self-paced, introductory computer science course from Shatt Al-Arab University covering core concepts like algorithms, C, JavaScript, Python, and web development.
 - b) Machine Learning with Python: A free course from Shatt Al-Arab University like weka data mining toolkit that teaches machine learning from linear models to deep learning.

- **Business and Management**

- a) Introduction to data analysis using excel: a free course covering essential skills like Excel and data visualization.
- b) Fundamentals of Marketing: A free course from that covers core marketing principles, budgeting, and advertising.

- **An industry**

- a) Electricity power plants: A free training course to learn the electrical power plant core concepts as a discipline.
- b) Concrete batching plants: A free training course that cover the concrete batching plant as an industrial facility that combines raw materials like cement, water, sand, gravel, and additives to manufacture concrete.
- c) A petrochemical plants: A free training course that covering the converting the main concepts oil and natural gas into chemical compounds known as petrochemicals, which include basic materials such as plastics.

- **Civil Engineering**

- a) Civil engineering survey training courses: A free training course which cover both traditional surveying methods and modern software applications, including hands-on experience with instruments like total stations and GPS.
- b) A civil engineering drawing training course: A free training course that cover fundamental concepts like orthographic and isometric projections, sketching, and using CAD software like AutoCAD to create 2D and 3D drawings.

- **Health and medicine**

a) Full screen blood test training courses: A free training course known as complete blood count (CBC), also called a full blood count (FBC), this course analyzes the different types of cells in the blood, including red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets. It is used to assess overall health, screen for conditions like anemia and infection, and monitor treatments.

- **Law and legal**

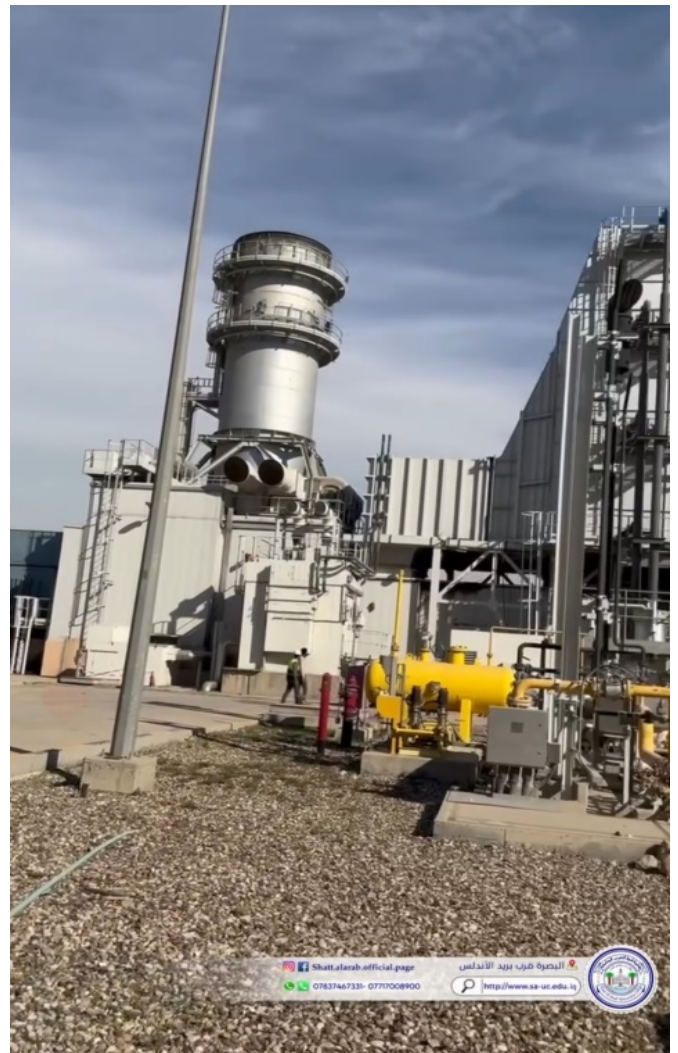
a) Law and legal training courses: A free training course on practical and short professional development courses. These courses are generalist or specialized, covering areas (i.e., corporate law, international regulations, or AI in law). These courses providing theoretical knowledge, practical skills for a legal career, or updates for experienced professionals.













5- Charitable Sports Activities: As part of its community engagement programs, Shatt Al-Arab University organizes charitable sports activities aimed at supporting low-income families and patients in need. These events, which include tournaments, marathons, and friendly matches, not only promote physical well-being and teamwork among participants but also serve as a platform to raise funds and provide direct assistance to vulnerable groups. By combining sports with social responsibility, the university fosters a culture of solidarity, compassion, and active citizenship among students, staff, and the wider community.





6) To preserve the **environmental sustainability** of Basra governorate, an exhibition titled " Innovations in Oil Extraction and Fuel Conversion for Environmental Sustainability" was conducted in by Shatt Al-Arab University College and held at **Basra Governorate Building** on 06/03/2025. This year, the exhibition was entirely **organized and presented by students**, under the **supervision of their professors**, showcasing various **setups and tools designed to meet sustainable environmental goals**. A talk titled "**Climate Change and its Effects on the Environment**" was also part of the exhibition.



4.3.5 - Does your university as a body have a policy that ensures that access to these activities is accessible to all, regardless of ethnicity, religion, disability, immigration status or gender?

“Quality, inclusive education is more than just a fundamental right—it is a ‘multiplier’ right that enables children and young people to access and realize their other human rights. Education has the transformative power to change lives and help individuals fulfill their aspirations. Its importance for children and youth cannot be overstated. When this right is denied, it profoundly impacts their lives and future opportunities.”

— Michelle Bachelet, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Geneva)

1. Goal:

Shatt Al-Arab University is deeply committed to cultivating a balanced, inclusive, and diverse academic environment—one that is accessible and welcoming to all students, staff, apprentices, visitors, and community members. The university strives to foster a culture where diversity is embraced, individual aspirations are supported, and flexibility is maintained to accommodate a wide range of goals and backgrounds.

2. Policy Statement:

Shatt Al-Arab University firmly upholds a policy of equal opportunity and non-discrimination, ensuring that no individual is treated unfairly or given preferential treatment on the basis of gender, age, disability, ethnicity, marital or civil partnership status, sexual orientation, religion, or belief.

3. Institutional Commitment:

The university takes its responsibility to provide a safe, transparent, and equitable environment seriously—an environment where all individuals are empowered to thrive. This commitment extends to students, faculty, apprentices, and all stakeholders. Recognizing that individuals may have unique needs related to culture, religion, or disability, Shatt Al-Arab University actively works to accommodate these needs wherever feasible.

This includes considerations such as:

- Access to specialized equipment,
- Flexibility in dress codes,
- Respect for designated prayer times.

Moreover, the university maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward all forms of discrimination and harassment, reinforcing its dedication to fairness, dignity, and respect for all.

Policy created (Year)=1993

Policy reviewed (Year)=2024

4.4 Proportion of first-generation students

4.4.3 - Number of students=4,716

4.4.1 - Number of students starting a degree=800

4.4.2 - Number of first-generation students starting a degree=610

What initiatives has the Training Unit within the Quality Assurance Department undertaken to support graduates in Basra Governorate, particularly regarding small business development?

The Training Unit within the Quality Assurance Department organized a workshop on Small Business Design and Management, attended by a number of graduates from colleges and institutes in Basra Governorate.

The workshop aimed to create employment opportunities for graduates by empowering them with the skills needed to establish and effectively manage small businesses.



How do the education quality indicators at Shatt Al-Arab University reflect progress toward SDG 4 targets, and what interventions are required to address areas showing underperformance?"

Education Quality

Indicators – Shatt Al-Arab Univ. 2024

Basic education



Low achievers in
Arabic in 2024

28.4 % of secondary
schools

+28.4 of
secondary schools
In 2024



Low achievers in
mathematics in
2024

32.1 % of secondary
schools

+32.1 of
secondary schools
In 2024



Low achievers in
science in 2024

91.8 % of children
aged 5 and o

91.8 % of
children
aged 5 over



Tertiary education



Tertiary educational
attainment in
2024

47.5 % of p opulation
aged 25 to

47.5 % of
the population
aged 3 over



Adult learning



Adult learning in
2024

11.9 % of p opulation
aged 25 to 64

11.9 % of
the population



Digital skills



Adults with at least
basic digital skills
in 2023

52.7 % of individuals
aged 16 to 74

+1.9 % ot
since 202020



This infographic titled “Education Quality Indicators – Shatt Al-Arab University 2024” presents a concise visualization of the institution's performance across five core domains aligned with UN Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4): Basic Education, Tertiary Education, Adult Learning, and Digital Skills.

In the Basic Education segment, the infographic shows concerning levels of low achievement in Arabic (28.4%) and Mathematics (32.1%) among secondary students, suggesting the need for curriculum review and enhanced teaching support. These figures indicate a regression in foundational literacy and numeracy.

Conversely, the university demonstrates a strong inclusion rate in science education (91.8% of relevant-aged students), reflecting positive efforts in STEM accessibility.

Tertiary Educational Attainment stands at 47.5% among adults aged 25–34, indicating consistent progress in higher education enrollment and graduation rates, which supports economic mobility and workforce development.

Adult Learning Participation is at 11.9%, a moderate level that reflects emerging interest in lifelong education but reveals potential for further outreach to underserved demographics.

The Digital Skills metric reports that 52.7% of adults aged 16–74 possess basic digital competencies—a figure that remains suboptimal given global digitalization trends, necessitating enhanced digital literacy initiatives.

Overall, while Shatt Al-Arab University exhibits notable achievements in tertiary education and science participation, there remains a clear opportunity to strengthen outcomes in literacy, numeracy, and digital empowerment to align fully with SDG 4 benchmarks by 2030.