



Habib University  
shaping futures



# FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

**@HABIB**

A Smooth Transition from  
High School to Habib University  
for a Successful Career





The background of the page features a purple-to-white gradient. In the top right corner, there is a circular logo for Habib University, which includes a stylized building and the university's name in Arabic and English.

# WELCOME TO THE BEGINNING OF A NEW JOURNEY!

Enrolling at university is an exciting and important phase of your life as you take the leap from a structured high school environment to a more open and diverse university learning environment. Just the thought of being at university can be daunting. The diverse learning landscape, opportunities, expectations, and criteria for success require you to develop new skills and ways of working in order to be successful.

We are glad that you are considering Habib University (HU) as your destination for higher education. We care for our students and have developed an exciting **First Year Experience (FYE)**, not only to welcome you into the HU community but also to ensure that your transition from high school to university is **exciting, enlightening and enriching** from day one.

This brochure highlights a thoughtfully designed FYE, which will start even before you officially join HU. Read it and note down the important dates so that you can become part of the exciting process of embarking on your journey at HU.









# BEFORE YOUR SEMESTER STARTS

Higher education is a vibrant landscape and we want to help you explore it even before classes begin! In this section, you will discover the exciting onboarding initiatives we have lined up for you before your first year commences.



# ASK THE ADVISOR

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You're probably asking yourself questions such as "what program do I choose?" "What courses should I select?" "How will the HU experience help me in shaping my career?" "What are credit hours?" And wondering where the answers are going to come from.

You need not worry because as soon as you receive your admission offer, you will be introduced to your First Year Academic Advisor at the Office of Academic Performance. Your Academic Advisor will be available to have a conversation with you and your parents/guardians during weekly meetings which you can sign up for.

These optional meetings will be held every Friday between 2 pm and 5 pm. You may meet in-person or have a Zoom meeting, and book an appointment by writing to the Advisor at [oapadvisor.2029@habib.edu.pk](mailto:oapadvisor.2029@habib.edu.pk)







## WELCOME MEETINGS WITH YOUR FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE TEAM - FOR STUDENTS

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Jump right into university life by attending Welcome Meetings scheduled for you by the First Year Experience team! Like adventurers going on a voyage to the stars, utilize these meetings to equip yourselves with a road map for the exciting activities we have lined up for you before your 1st semester begins.

## WELCOME MEETINGS FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

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The First Year Experience team is excited to welcome parents and guardians to Habib University.

Pioneering a student centric approach in academia, Habib University has remained devoted to its mission of curating an intellectually stimulating undergraduate student experience. Our world class faculty, and a campus designed to reflect the most innovative 21st century pedagogies, are both tools that play an important role on this journey. To access information about the ways in which we support student success, please feel free to contact us for booking a meeting before the start of your student's first semester.

# SUMMER ACADEMY: U-START, LAUNCHING YOUR UNIVERSITY ADVENTURE

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The Habib University Summer Academy is designed to help new students prepare for university. The program offers an introduction to university life, allowing you to connect with future classmates, faculty and staff, and immerse yourself in the vibrant campus community. The Summer Academy also supports your academic transition into college. Through the program, you will develop important skills, such as university level reading, writing, and communication.

AHSS students will also have a chance to develop preliminary research skills, while DSSE students will get a head start on skills like programming fundamentals. The Summer Academy will also help you navigate the tools and systems that will shape your daily university life.

The Summer Academy will take place from 23<sup>rd</sup> June to 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2025.



The Summer Program at Habib University was an incredible and enriching experience. It was the perfect introduction to university life, filled with knowledge, inspiration, and new connections I'll always cherish.

**Rayyan Aamir Alvi**, *Class of 2028*

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# ONBOARDING DAYS

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As your first day of classes approaches, a new set of questions will arise in your mind, such as “How will I get my ID card?” “What will my official email address be?” “Will transport be available?” Once again, you do not need to worry about such questions.

Our onboarding days will help you find answers to all these questions. The Office of Academic Performance, in collaboration with student support services will help you in your logistical onboarding, completing all the formalities, and becoming an official member of the Habib community.

Onboarding days will be organized in January–February and June–July. Specific dates will be communicated to you.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER COURSE ENROLLMENT ADVISING

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The opportunity to explore multidisciplinary curricula is a vibrant feature of a liberal arts education, and this journey begins right from the 1st semester.

To help you understand your exciting intellectual experience at Habib University and navigate the process of selecting your courses, and understanding your four-year degree pathway, the First Year Experience team will conduct interactive workshops before your semester begins, ensuring that registering for your semester 1 classes is a hassle-free activity for you.







# NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION: ZERO WEEK 2025

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Your journey at Habib University will begin with a New Student Orientation Zero Week.

The Zero Week will be an opportunity for you to prepare for a smooth transition into university. From discussions on crucial university policies and processes, learning more about your degree programs and academic Minors, interactions with faculty and university leadership, to vibrant community building activities, the Zero Week will feature initiatives, participation in which will set the stage for your success at college.

The Zero Week will start with a Welcome Evening, on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2025, where you and your parents/guardians will be invited to celebrate your wonderful milestone of entering higher education, and engage with the university President and other community stakeholders.



The staff and everyone involved in NSO were so very welcoming and kind and always there to answer any queries/concerns or just to have a chat with and it definitely made me feel much more comfortable on campus and made me more sure that choosing this institute was the right choice for me.

**Maryam Ali Asghar, Class of 2027**

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## DURING FIRST YEAR

Being a student centric institution, setting the stage for our lions' success is the cornerstone of Habib's mission. To help you optimize your higher education experience, various First Year Experience initiatives are implemented once your classes begin. In this section, you will gain insights into the holistic events and activities planned for you during your first two semesters on campus.



# FIRST YEAR FUNDAMENTALS

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During your Freshman Year Fall semester, you will be enrolled in a course called First Year Fundamentals featuring a series of interesting workshops, informative lectures, and fun community building events, the course will help you learn some essential skills, engage with faculty, and take part in healthy competitions with your own classmates and other cohorts too!

Through the course, you will develop skills for university success such as time management, academic planning, teamwork, conflict resolution, problem solving, maintaining academic integrity, etc. Moreover, First Year Fundamentals will provide opportunities for discussing essential avenues impacting student experience e.g. mental health, and your physical and social wellbeing.

Let's see what our students have to say about First Year Fundamentals!



I feel these workshops serve as a great way to allow the freshmen batch to familiarize themselves with the skills needed for university. This in turn starts making students more confident when approaching workload in university

**Student, Class of 2025**

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## DESIGN YOUR HABIB EXPERIENCE

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# LEARNING COMMUNITIES

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At the start of the academic year, all first-year students will be divided and grouped into Learning Communities (LC). Your LC will consist of other students from your major, with whom you will study most of your first semester courses.

In addition to providing a system of support and comradery and a ready-made study group (aka your fellow LC members), each LC will be assigned a senior student mentor who will act as a guide for your -first year. Your mentor will be a student from the same major program as you and will help you in the following areas:

- Learn about various aspects of Habib University including policies, processes, values, norms, etc.
- Get involved and engaged in various campus activities
- Keep your motivation level high during your new learning journey
- Help you bond you with the campus community
- Assist you in resolving your academic and other problems

Let's see what our students have to say about Learning Communities!



I felt more confident in classes as I had the help of a senior and had a friend to approach with my queries and I felt motivated to do well in courses as my mentor was well accomplished academically

**Student, Class of 2025**

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# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

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At Habib University, we believe in fostering a thriving community, connecting you to various activities and allowing you to showcase your unique talents. Engage with a diverse range of programs and activities organized by the Office of Student Life, the Student Council, Clubs, Chapters and various committees; where you can immerse yourself in the HU community and demonstrate your skills.

Experience a vibrant start to your journey at Habib University with our exciting Week of Welcome (WoW) which features:



**Cultural Night:** Celebrate the rich tapestry of Pakistan's cultures, traditions, music and cuisines, offering a colourful mosaic of diversity.



**Sports Day:** An action-packed evening fuelling the spirit of competition with thrilling showcase of skill, determination, and the unbreakable bond that sports create.



**Musical Night** with the HU Band, and South Asian Performances: Discover the power of music as a form of expression. Be part of witnessing talent through our student bands performing western instruments and also witness soulful performances through South Asian instruments featuring Sitar, Tabla, Violin, and melodious vocals.



**Club Fair:** This vibrant event is your gateway to a diverse array of student led clubs, each offering a unique experience and a chance to explore new interests. Whether you're into art, science, theatre, sports, or service, there's a club waiting for you.





**WoW Carnival:** An annual extravaganza packed with delicious food, lively music, thrilling rides, and laughter—an energetic kick-off to the academic year and a warm welcome to our new Habib Lions!

### Get Involved and Connect!

Join us at these exciting events to connect with the HU community and explore the various dimensions of our vibrant campus life. Whether it's sports, music, culture, or technology, there's something for everyone at Habib University!



## ENSURING YOUR PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WELLBEING

The Office of Health and Wellness encourages a healthy campus environment by empowering and helping the HU Community make positive and informed lifestyle choices. The office offers a range of services including wellness and stress management workshops, counseling services, sports centers, and other recreational facilities, including two gyms and a beautiful swimming pool. The Office of Health and Wellness will facilitate you in keeping yourselves physically and mentally healthy and fit. Exciting programs on learning to swim, prioritizing fitness, and team sports will help you keep active and energized. Mental Health Counselors and wellness peers will help you manage your stress levels and anxiety so that you are able to focus on your studies.

# YOUR FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE INSIDE THE CLASSROOM - EXPLORE AN INTELLECTUALLY STIMULATING ACADEMIC JOURNEY

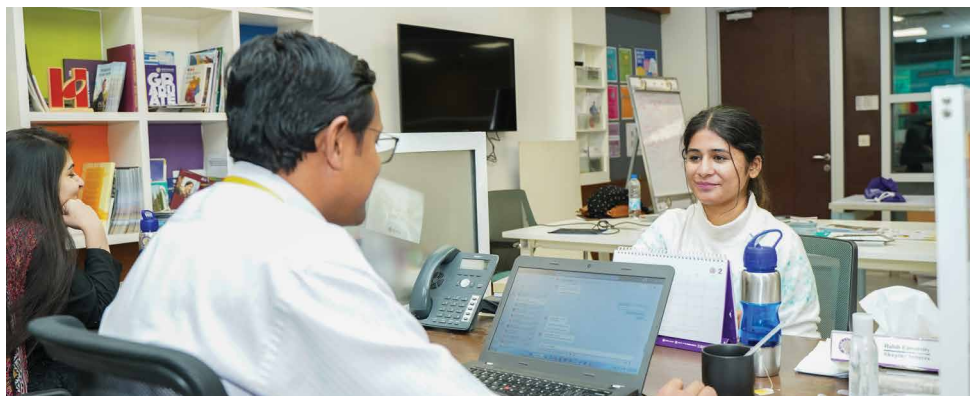
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Liberal arts curricula hold the transformative power to change lives. A profound vehicle for truth, justice, and critical thought, the undergraduate degree grounded in liberal arts perspectives helps students create real impact in their own communities, and the world.

As you enter university, an integral component of your First Year Experience will witness you as intellectually motivated students, excited to explore the Habib University classroom. With your powerful voice as a young leader, you will benefit from opportunities to present your vision as part of course discussions, and lead academic projects centered on solving the most complex challenges of our time.

From Rhetoric and Communication, to Algorithmic Problem Solving, Ideation and Processes, to Critical Inquiry of the Humanities, and Development and Social Change, your first semester will feature classes that will expand the horizons of your knowledge, and strengthen your confidence in your intellectual prowess.





## ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND HELP

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You may find some of your courses challenging, and may need help enhancing some of your academic skills. To ensure that you successfully complete your first year at HU with a strong academic base, a number of on-campus resources will be available to you. These include:

- The Writing Centre to help you enhance your writing skills
- The EHSAS Center where Peer Tutors will be available to help you with various courses focused on mathematics, programming, etc.
- First Year Advisors to help you navigate your academic journey
- Faculty Advisors to help you diversify your portfolio at Habib
- Faculty Office Hours which provide opportunities to meet your instructors in order to acquire additional help

## START CRAFTING YOUR CAREER PLAN

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You will also receive career advice and training from semester 1 to help you start thinking about and planning for your future.

Our Office of Career Services will help you to reflect on your experience and start building your career plan. The Office will assist you in gaining industry experience, alumni advice, and support for skill building.

This is just a glimpse of the plan designed to make you successful at HU. Your success is the central focus at Habib University. Looking forward to making your transition as smooth and effective as possible. Welcome to Habib University!

# Snapshots

## OF THE HABIB UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE



Our students progress with leaps and bounds upon gaining international academic exposure via the summer abroad programs



Peer tutors at the EHSAS Center support students' academic success via regular tutoring sessions



Wellness peers regularly check in with the student body to offer support and encouragement for the university journey



Holistic pedagogies offer students hands on experience where they apply theoretical concepts to practical projects.



The cafeteria is a favorite student spot where you can bond with our community of lions over nutritious meals



The Habib University library is a treasure trove of scholarship



Vibrant sporting events contribute to an enriching student life experience at Habib University



Our cutting edge gym is a key element of Habib's health and fitness facilities



Career counseling services help students envision their future goals and aspirations





Our convocation is the most important milestone in every HU lion's life



Summer semesters abroad are a great way for students to explore the world!



A glimpse of Habib's trans-disciplinary offerings with students enhancing their grasp on South Asian music instruments



Group based projects help students learn teamwork, communication, and other important interpersonal skills at Habib



A look into students applying conceptual learnings to produce real world products and services



The Playground offers various opportunities for students to engage with Design Thinking, an innovative problem solving approach



Our degree programs create platforms where students can become highly skilled in their chosen craft



Presentation based projects complement student learning inside the classroom



Habib University provides modern and up to date equipment and apparatuses for students to optimize their learning experience



The swimming pool is another sought after offering at Habib which contributes to health and fitness support on campus



Teamwork makes the dream work at Habib University!



Regular academic advising helps students succeed at university









## Habib University

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