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Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS): Pursuing excellence in security science education and research

Prof. Abdelrahman Ibrahim Alshaer, Ph.D

Vice President (Administrative Affairs), NAUSS

Prof. Ali Bin Fayez Al jehni, Ph.D

Vice President (Academic Affairs), NAUSS

Naif Arab University for Security Sciences
P.O Box: 6830, Riyadh 11452, KSA

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Introductory Article

Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS) is under the leadership of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Naif bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Interior Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. His Royal Highness is the Chairman of the Supreme Council at NAUSS. It is a unique educational institution in the Arab world and is located in Riyadh, the capital of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

NAUSS specializes in providing advanced education and training in various fields of security science and criminal justice at postgraduate level in the form of diplomas, master's degrees and doctoral programs. The medium of instruction is Arabic and students come from all over the Arab world to enhance their academic and professional skills.

Naif Arab University for Security Sciences is the only academic institution directly serving the Council

Email : a.bakdash@nauss.edu.sa

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Production and hosting by NAUSS

of Arab Interior Ministers (CAIM), and its programs are offered in accordance with the directions and advice of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers and the Arab League.

In striving to fight and prevent crime in all its forms, the university aims to serve all Arab nations in providing expert academic studies and training to its security forces. NAUSS has established strong relations with many educational and security related institutions regionally and internationally – including the United Nations and Interpol; the university continuously holds security conferences, workshops, seminars and exhibitions to spread awareness about security and develop the skills and knowledge of those working in various fields of crime investigation, prosecution, prevention and control.

History

NAUSS was established in 1978 and was initially named as “The Arab Centre for Security Studies and Training” (ACSST). It was established through cooperation between Arab Public Security chiefs, and the Council of Arab Interior Ministers to meet the growing training needs of Arab security personnel.

In 1997, the Council of Arab Interior Ministers, recognizing the excellent academic progress and achievements of the ACSST under the leadership and support of His Royal Highness Prince Naif bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Second Deputy Prime Minister and Interior

Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors at NAUSS, upgraded the ACSST to the status of an academy and named it as the “Naif Arab Academy for Security Sciences”.

The Naif Arab Academy for Security Sciences (NAASS) excelled in providing academic and professional education, training and expert guidance to the Arab security apparatus. NAASS developed its various departments into separate colleges awarding postgraduate level qualifications in various disciplines of security sciences. In recognition of its academic achievements, NAASS was granted official university status by the Council of Arab Interior Ministers in 2004. The name given to the university was Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS).

Aims

- To provide specialist postgraduate education in security and justice related fields producing expert Arab academics and professionals able to effectively face new and changing security challenges.
- To introduce and promote the subject of Islamic Criminal Legislation and its comprehensive principles, systems, and applications for the purpose of peace, security and justice in Arab society.
- To provide enhanced levels of professional training to Arab security personnel and prepare them to be expert trainers possessing the most up-to-date knowledge and skills in their respective fields.
- To encourage and support academic research in fighting, preventing and controlling crime.
- To strengthen relations between NAUSS, Arab and international institutions and security organizations for the purpose of exchanging security experts and sharing knowledge and efforts against crime and terrorism.

Academic Infrastructure of the University

The University's ethos centers on striving to achieve security in all areas of life through education and research. This fundamental objective of NAUSS is reflected in the breadth and depth of subjects taught at the University.

Since its inception in 1979, NAUSS has made remarkable academic progress and has undergone tremendous institutional expansion. At present, NAUSS has seven colleges and three postgraduate studies and research centers with a faculty of high academic and professional competency. These institutions have acquired a wealth of

experience in delivering academic programs and training courses in various branches of criminal justice, forensic science, strategic studies, information security and administrative sciences.

The University comprises the following colleges and centers:

College of Forensic Sciences

The College of Forensic Sciences provides two master's degree programs specializing in forensic toxicology and forensic DNA analysis. In addition to these programs, the College also offers training courses in different areas of forensic science along with undergraduate and postgraduate diplomas. This wide choice of courses serves to develop forensic experts involved in crime investigation at both practical and academic levels. Preparations are underway to launch PhD programs in Forensic DNA analysis and Forensic Toxicology within the next two years.

College of Criminal Justice

The College offers PhD and Master's degree programs that are studied over a period of three academic years. It also offers one year higher diplomas. The College accepts students with B.Sc and Master's degrees that conform to its admission rules. It has two departments:

- Department of Sharia and Law
- Department of Security Studies

College of Social and Administrative Sciences

The College offers PhD and Master's degree programs that are studied over a period of three academic years. It also offers a one year higher diploma. The college accepts students from various security, military, media, educational, and social sectors. It has four departments:

- Department of Social Sciences
- Department of Psychological Sciences
- Department of Administrative Sciences
- Department of Media Security

College of Strategic Sciences

The College offers PhD and Master's degree programs within its three academic departments:

- Department of Strategic Studies
- Department of Human Security
- Department of Regional and International Studies

It aims to be at the forefront of research into fighting crime in these specialist areas. In addition, the academic staff at



the College possess invaluable practical experience in both the military and security sectors; this adds to the successful implementation and development of academic research as well as preparing students to practically apply their knowledge in the future.

College of Languages and Translation

The College offers a Master's degree in Translation for security purposes and a Higher Diploma in a number of Eastern and European languages. The College curriculum focuses its programs on security, legal, and judicial terminology to aid security personnel in their work. Activities include an annual program devoted to the teaching of Arabic to non-Arab foreign dignitaries, diplomats and other high ranking officials working in Saudi Arabia. The College has three departments:

- Department of Eastern Languages
- Department of European Languages
- Department of Translation and Interpretation

College of Computer and Information Security

The College offers a Master's Degree in Network Security and a Master's Degree in Information Security. These 3-year in-depth programs educate and train IT professionals working in business and security from all over the Arab world. These programs enable students to effectively fight information technology crimes and build solutions to successfully protect vital government institutions and private businesses using the latest knowledge and technologies.

College of Training

The College of Training provides modern training programs in all fields of security sciences. Programs take the form of training courses, symposiums, workshops and security exhibitions. The College identifies training and development needs and designs and delivers suitable programs to fulfill those needs. The College provides training to various governmental departments and private companies, and is at the forefront of cooperation in security related fields. The work of the College is part of the continuous aim of NAUSS to develop the skills, knowledge, and experience of security personnel.

Security Studies and Research Center

The Security Studies and Research Center at NAUSS

produces, strengthens, and develops academic and applied research in all areas of security sciences and makes it widely available. The Center coordinates between the Council of Arab Interior Ministers, different regional and international governments, academic institutions, security based organizations and experts to achieve its objectives; the Center has long-established and successful relations with the above organizations and academic bodies. The Studies and Research Center makes research papers and publications available all over the world, and security experts are invited to discuss and debate research through symposiums and conferences.

Crisis Management and Senior Leadership Training Center

This center is devoted to the study of crisis management and the training of security leaders to enable security sectors to effectively deal with various types of potential crises. It provides leaders with the skills and knowledge to deal with crises according to the most up-to-date criteria and strategies. The Center offers administrative and technical consultation and advice to decision makers in Arab countries in matters and topics related to current problems and in anticipating future events.

Information Technology Center

The Information Technology Center identifies strategic managerial, operational, and academic activities at NAUSS and designs and develops the latest information systems enabling the most effective gathering, storing, use, protection, and distribution of related information. In addition, the Center provides assistance to staff and students in statistic-based research and training in the use of the latest information technologies - and more specifically, in modern education technologies. The Center has a direct link to the university library helping to facilitate and update research. The Center provides an information portal in Arabic, English, and French containing details about NAUSS, its activities, news, and academic information in the form of an online e-library. It also contains external links to international organizations with which NAUSS has strong relations - such as the Arab League and the United Nations. It also contains online services for student applicants, current students, administrative and academic staff.

Department of International Cooperation

The Department of International Cooperation at Naif



Arab University for Security Sciences occupies a central place in the work and ethos of the University. Since the establishment of this unique institute of learning and training over 30 years ago, countless international academic activities have been carried out that have provided Arab security personnel with the most up-to-date knowledge and experience to investigate, prevent and control crime and terrorism.

These activities take many forms such as academic conferences, seminars and symposiums, training programs and workshops, exhibitions, publishing and distributing of books, theses, journals and articles, official visits, and the signing of memorandums of understanding and mutual cooperation.

The Department of International Cooperation plays a fundamental role in facilitating participation for academic staff in national, regional and international events which are related to peace, security and justice. International cooperation and active participation in international academic events are essential tools in actualizing the aim of the University and give greater scope and depth to its work and research. NAUSS has attended over 700 international conferences discussing all types of security related issues. NAUSS has published over 560 academic works in security sciences, which are made available internationally, and has signed approximately 139 memorandums of understanding and cooperation with regional and international academic organizations and institutions.

NAUSS international activities aim to gather knowledge and experience from all around the world in cooperation with regional and international governments, academic institutions, security organizations and associations.

Enhancing cooperation and contact with the United Nations and its related bodies is a fundamental part of these activities: the University is one of the 13 centers around the world that collectively form the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program Network (PNI).

NAUSS is regularly invited to attend meetings held by the UN, and the university also hosts regional UN meetings related to security, crime and terrorism. The University is also a member of Interpol. Regional cooperation in the Middle East is based upon following and carrying out the directives of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers (CAIM) which meets annually to assess important needs of the Arab security apparatus.

The CAIM provides regional governments with security strategies helping to manage and develop the

state of security in their respective countries. NAUSS, the academic organ of the Council, aims to fulfill the necessary academic research and training to materialize these strategies. NAUSS greatly values the knowledge, experience, and expertise of all regional and international security personnel and strives to benefit in the international fight against crime in all its forms.

University Students

Since the inception of this university, students have been at the center of the academic and educational process. Naif Arab University for Security Sciences is committed to preparing a generation of security specialists that successfully investigate, prosecute, and prevent crime.

In order to produce highly competent security scientists and professionals, NAUSS strives to create the most appropriate learning environment for the students and provide every possible facility enabling them to exceed in knowledge and skill. The core aim of comprehensive and well-designed curricula at every level of education and training is to develop among the students the spirit of command, innovation, and excellence to enhance security, peace, and justice in the Arab world.

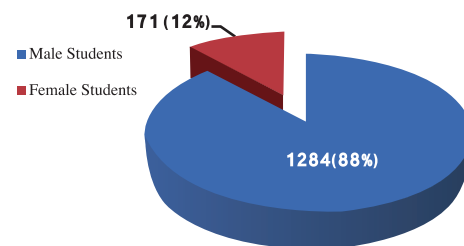


Figure 1- Total number of students enrolled in various colleges at the University during the academic year 2013-2014.

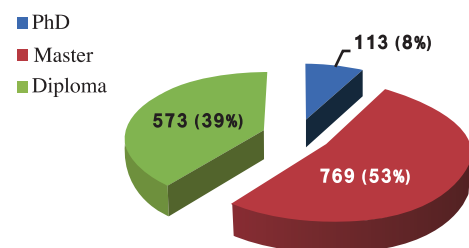


Figure 2- Distribution of students according to the academic programs offered by the University during the academic year 2013-2014.

Entrance to the Diploma, Master's, and Doctoral programs that are offered by NAUSS in various disciplines of security sciences is available primarily to eligible nominees from the



Table 1 - Degrees awarded by the University in the academic year 2013-2014

Colleges	Degree	Subjects
College of Higher Education College of Criminal Justice College of Social and Administrative Sciences	PhD	Police Sciences
		Criminal Justice
		Administrative Sciences
	Master	Social Sciences
		Police Sciences
		Criminal Justice
	Diploma	Administrative Sciences
		Social Sciences
		Drug Trafficking
		Investigation and Criminal Evidence
		Traffic Management
		Civil Protection
		Border Security
Passports		
Electronic Crimes		
Criminal Systems		
Nuclear Security		
College of Strategic Sciences	Master	Strategic Sciences
	Diploma	Information Systems Strategic Sciences
College of Forensic Sciences	Master	Toxicology
		Forensic DNA Analysis
	Diploma	Poisons and drugs
		Document Examination Firearms Crime Scene Investigation Forensic DNA Analysis
College of Languages and Translation	Master	English Translation for Security Purposes
	Diploma	English for Security Purposes



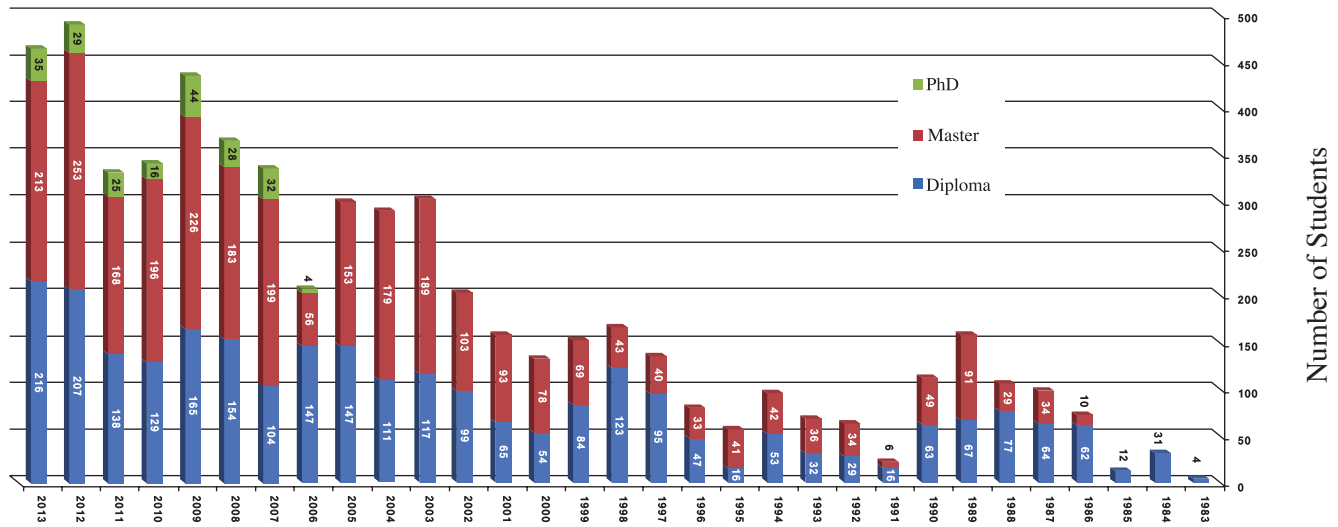


Figure 3 - Number of students graduated from the University from 1983 - 2013

Ministries of Interior and Arab security services with a good academic background. However, students from the private sector working in public security who wish to continue their studies for a higher degree or want to specialize in a specific field are also accepted provided they meet the admission criteria. The University accepts applications from eligible applicants of either sex.

Figure-1 shows the distribution of students enrolled during the academic year 2013-2014 according to gender. Of the total 1455 registered students, 171 (12%) were female while the remaining 1284 (88%) were male. Figure-2 indicates the number of students enrolled in the various colleges of the university during the academic year 2013-2014 according to the academic programs offered by the University. Table-1 shows degrees awarded by the various colleges of the University for the year 2013-2014.

Faculty

It has always been among the top priorities of the University to provide students with well qualified, professionally competent and academically distinguished teachers in various fields of security sciences. At present, the University has more than a hundred internationally known full-time faculty members in various disciplines of security sciences who are actively engaged in teaching and research. Included among them are full professors, associate professors, assistant professors, lecturers, and research scholars.

Student-to-faculty ratio is an important parameter that often reflects the academic and professional standards of an institution. A ratio of 10:1 to 15:1 is usually considered

beneficial to the students. Realizing the academic needs of each student, NAUSS has successfully maintained a student-to-faculty ratio of about 15:1, which is regarded as the best acceptable ratio to produce intelligent, hardworking, and devoted scientists, researchers, and scholars. In order to achieve this objective, the Deanship for Academic Affairs at the University advertises faculty posts regionally and internationally, and selects highly qualified faculty both from the Arab world and abroad. At the same time, the University also encourages postgraduate students, who have completed their studies with honor and distinction, to apply for research and teaching posts.

To remain in touch with recent advances in their respective field of teaching and research, the University encourages and supports faculty members to attend regional and international conferences, meetings, and workshops.

The Role of NAUSS in developing Forensic Science in the Arab World

NAUSS has earned the reputation of a leading institution in the Arab world for education, training and research in various fields of security sciences. Because of its significant contribution in promoting forensic science in the region, the University has become known to Arab security personnel as the centre of excellence for studying forensic science. NAUSS recognizes the central role of forensic investigation and research in preventing and solving crimes, and therefore strives to provide forensic scientists with the latest skills and knowledge in different branches of forensic science. The University plays a central role in the successful development



of forensics for governments, educational institutions, and private companies on a regional scale – both academically and practically.

NAUSS has achieved this objective through the establishment of the College of Forensic Sciences, which offers higher diplomas and Master's degrees in important areas of forensics and forensic investigation. The College offers the latest training and education in major fields of forensics such as forensic toxicology, forensic DNA analysis, crime scene investigation, dactyloscopy and other impression evidences, analysis of drugs of abuse, document examination, counterfeiting and forgery, ballistics, and analysis of trace evidence.

Accordingly, other colleges in the University have a wealth of knowledge and expertise in different areas of security sciences. The College of Forensic Science draws upon the experience of these colleges and therefore has a unique comprehensiveness to its activities and research.

The University recognizes the necessity of successful regional and international cooperation in the development of forensic sciences and, therefore, it encouraged Arab forensic scientists and medicolegal experts to establish the Arab Society for Forensic

Sciences and Forensic Medicine (ASFSSFM), which was established in 2013. NAUSS provided full moral, technical and professional support to strengthen the Society and placed the College of Forensic Sciences as its headquarters. The Society aims to bring together regional and world experts to develop forensic sciences in the Middle East through the successful exchange of ideas and research – and through conferences and other activities.

The University also recognizes the need for the successful spread and exchange of knowledge and experience in forensic sciences and has facilitated that through the launch of this academic journal – the Arab Journal of Forensic Sciences and Forensic Medicine (AJFSSFM).

It is hoped that through the activities of the University in forensic sciences – and in particular with the launch of the Arab Society for Forensic Sciences and Forensic Medicine (ASFSSFM) and the Arab Journal of Forensic Sciences and Forensic Medicine (AJFSSFM) – Naif Arab University for Security Sciences will become an international leader in the field of forensic science and achieve its goal of enhancing peace, security and justice all over the world.

sources: Naif Arab University
Faculties guides

