



## Al-Quds Open University

### About us

Al-Quds Open University is a Palestinian public university that is administratively, academically and financially independent. The University adopts Open Learning System, which is based on empowering the students, and on “Learner Autonomy” and on “Independent Learning” through adopting e- Learning technique, Multimedia, modern means of communication and textbooks to equip the learner with distinctive pattern of education.

The idea of establishing QOU emerged in 1975 with the aim to spread higher education and access those who live under difficult social, economic and demographic conditions resulted by occupation in Palestine.

In 1980, PLO submitted a request to UNESCO to prepare a feasibility study for an Open University project. This study; was approved by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1981, and later by the Palestinian National Council.

The temporary Headquarter of QOU was founded in Amman in 1985; and this is where QOU started drawing its plans and academic programs, approved the specializations, and developed curricula and textbooks. This phase lasted until 1991 when QOU commenced its educational services in its main Headquarter in Jerusalem. Then QOU gradually started to establish its study centers and branches in the Palestinian cities and villages.

In the beginning, the number of enrolled students did not exceed several hundreds, but that number started to double annually. Now QOU embraces one third of the Palestinian higher education students as the number reached (57895 students) in (2015/2016).

The University sought and is still seeking to spread open learning and e Learning in particular, not only in Palestine, but also in the entire Arab world to access larger number of beneficiaries; students, trainees, and those seeking knowledge and education away from the ideological and political conflicts. It also promotes freedom of thought and opinion, creativity, innovation and excellence. QOU did not neglect the right of persons with disabilities to learn and so it established highly –equipped labs for persons with visual impairments as a contribution to sustainable human and community development.

In spite of all the obstacles and challenges, the University has been able to develop programs and specializations in line with the needs of the Palestinian society. It adopts the latest teaching and learning pedagogy (Blending Learning Model) which is a mix of open learning and e- Learning. QOU has graduated (75413 students) since 1997 until 2015.

### **Vision**

Leadership, excellence, creativity and serving the community and the scientific research; besides enhancing its leading role in establishing a Palestinian society empowered by knowledge and science.

### **Mission**

Preparing qualified graduates; capable of competing in both local and regional labor markets, and can contribute effectively in technical and human capacity building and in scientific researches. This will be achieved through providing educational and training programs based on best practices of open and blended learning; as well as enhancing scientific research environment, within a framework of community interaction, cooperation and exchange of expertise and based on the latest standards of quality and excellence.

### **Prof. Younis Amro**

#### **President of Al-Quds Open University**

It has been more than 24 years since Al-QOU launched its services. This prominent educational institution embodies the dream of its founders headed by Leader Yasser Arafat (Abu Ammar) which was to move the University to the students instead of the opposite and to overcome the obstacles that face learning because of occupation.

Year by year, QOU proved to be unchallenged success story and yesterday's dream is today's reality. In few years, the University became the largest educational institute among its counterparts in the Arab World not only concerning the number

of its students but also concerning its geographical expansion. Today QOU has (19) educational Branches spread all over Palestine from Rafah to Jenin.

Since its establishment, QOU has played a remarkable role in spreading education among Palestinians regardless of their ages; whether they were housewives, elderly people or released prisoners. QOU has adopted a modern educational approach (Blended Learning) which combines classroom meetings with new technology that is applied by some of the Arabic and international universities since employing technology in learning is now a necessity and not a luxury.

Here we are now approaching a quarter of a century of work and we leave the judgment to our people to evaluate the experience of QOU and its impact. But the sun cannot be covered with a sieve and here is QOU with its remarkable accomplishments on both regional and international levels; the most recent accomplishment is the winning of the Golden Century Era Award as QOU has been selected as one of the best (50) leading institutions worldwide by the Business Initiative Directions (BID) Madrid / Spain. QOU also gained great honor by the winning of one of our graduate, Ms. Hanan al Hroub, the prize of the best teacher in the world. These accomplishments contributed to make the University flourish and be in a prominent rank.

### **Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees is appointed by a decision from the Executive Committee of PLO/Head of PNA. The members of the Board are qualified Palestinian experts residents who are capable to fulfill their responsibilities in achieving the objectives of the University in accordance with its bylaws.

On Feb. 16th. 2014, His Excellency, President Mahmoud Abbas, decreed to appoint the following 14 members as QOU Board of Trustees for (2014-2018):

1.	Eng. Adnan Samara	Chairman of the Board of Trustees; Chairman of the Higher Council for Innovation and Excellence, Consultant of the President for Innovation & Excellence Affairs
2.	Prof. Reyad al-Khudary	Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Member of the Executive Committee of PLO, Head of Higher Education Department (PLO) , President of Gaza University
3.	Prof. Abdul-Fattah Abu Shukor	Professor of Economics at AL-Najah National University (Member)
4.	Dr. Aziz Shawabka	Lecturer of Physics at Birzeit University-(Member)
5.	Dr. Suleiman al-Khalil	Associate Professor / Dean of Faculty of Agriculture & Veterinary Medicine/ AL-Najah National University- (Member)
6.	Dr. Abdullah Abdul-Mun'em	Former Deputy Minister for Higher Education / Gaza - (Member)
7.	Prof. Hani Najem	Coordinator of International Bank Project for Developing Higher Education / Gaza - (Member)
8.	Dr. Husein al-Aaraj	Minister of Local Government (Member)
9.	Dr. Nuha Khoury	Vice President for Academic Affairs of Dar Al-Kalima University College for Arts & Culture – Bethlehem - Member

10.	Mr. Hatem Abdul-Qader	Former Minister for Jerusalem Affairs; Member of FATAH Revolutionary Council; In charge of Jerusalem File in Fatah Movement (Member)
11.	Mr. Azzam Shawwa	Governor of the Palestinian Monetary Authority (Member)
12.	Mr. Akram A. Jrab	Chairman of Al-Quds Bank (Member)
13.	Mr. Yousef Dajani	Head of Administration Council at Jerusalem District Electricity Company (Member)
14.	Prof. Younis Amro	President of Al-Quds Open University, Member of FATAH Revolutionary Council – Member
	Dr. Odeh Masharqa	General Secretary of Board of Trustees, Assistant to the university's President for Community Resources

## Faculties

1. Faculty of Educational Science
2. Faculty of Arts
3. Faculty of Administrative & Economic Sciences
4. Faculty of Social and Family Development
5. Faculty of Technology and Applied Science
6. Faculty of Agriculture
7. Faculty of Media
8. Faculty of Graduate Studies

### Faculty of Educational Science

Faculty of Educational Science came into being in 1991 same time when Al-QOU was established. This Faculty seeks to achieve the mission of the University through qualifying school teachers. The students of *Educational Science* receive other courses besides the specialization materials some of which are practical courses. The Faculty also contributes with the Ministry of Higher Education to qualify school teachers.

The Faculty of Educational Science awards bachelor degree in: Primary Education (Classroom Teacher), Islamic Education and teaching methods, Arabic Language *and teaching methods*, *Teaching Science*, *English language and teaching methods*, *Mathematics and teaching methods*, *Teaching Social Studies*, as well as granting a diploma in education for bachelor degree holders in other academic specializations.

The Faculty has (216) full-time teachers, (15) of them are professors, (43) associate teachers, (96) teachers' assistants (37) lecturers, (25) teachers in addition to (700) part-time members.

## **Faculty of Arts**

The Faculty of Arts was established on Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>. 2015 and has two departments: “Arabic Language & Literature” and “English Language & Literature”, the graduates receive a bachelor degree in Arts. The Faculty intends to expand in the future and start other departments and to graduate professionals capable of serving their society and enriching cultural and intellectual life, in and out of the University, through writings, translations, studies, researches and seminars. It also seeks to strengthen its relations with other faculties in local and international universities.

The mission of the Faculty of Arts is based on providing advanced programs in different specializations aiming to graduate professionals capable of fulfilling their tasks in teaching and in scientific research. It also seeks to develop human sciences to serve both the University and the community.

## **Degrees Granted:**

Faculty of Arts grants a bachelor degree in the following specializations:

- Arabic Language & Literature: Single, Major, and Minor.
- English Language & Literature: Single, Major, and Minor.

**Single Specialization:** in this program; students must accomplish (86) credit hours or more in one specialization, in addition to the requirements of the University & Faculty to obtain the bachelor degree.

**Major Specialization:** in this program students must accomplish (65) credit hours in their specialization, in addition to the requirements of the University and Faculty, and another (27) credit hours in minor specialization or minor in education for those who seek to become teachers.

**Minor Specialization:** in this program students must accomplish (27) credit hours

from other specialization besides his/her major specialization. It gives a comprehensive and concentrated idea about the specialization. The students will get new skills and knowledge that will develop their professional level, and increase their job opportunities.

### **Faculty of Administrative and Economic Sciences**

This Faculty was established in 1991; and it awards bachelor degree in six specializations: Business Administration, Health Management, Accounting, Banking & Financial Science, Marketing, and Economics. The Faculty cooperates with the Continuing Education and Community Service Center in granting specialized Professional Diplomas in several fields that fulfil the new needs of national and international labor market.

The Faculty provides the labor market with qualified human resources who are distinctively capable of achieving sustainable development in administrative, economic, financial, health and other fields. The Deanship of the Faculty updates its plans and textbooks periodically in order to respond to the new development in specialization and to adapt the programs of the Faculty to the needs of the labor market in a way that is in harmony with the challenges that face the national economy and regional and international economies.

The Faculty adopts scientific theory and practical application in its educational process, to qualify the graduate to employ scientific theories (and the accompanying practical applications) in businesses and functional activities at a high degree of efficiency and excellence.

The Faculty also seeks to improve the quality of its output through the continuous development of its input which is embodied in its academic and administrative and technical cadre, question books, and the ongoing communication with its students, in addition to enhancing the scientific research capabilities within one whole integrated system. It also focuses on building enhanced partnership with other relevant national and international institutions aiming to achieve quality and excellence in its different educational programs.

### **Faculty of Social and Family Development**

Faculty of Social and Family Development was established at the beginning of founding QOU in 1991; and has four majors: *Social Service, Local Community*

*Development, Special Education, and childcare.* It aims to develop professionals in Social and Family Development and empower them with qualifications to be able to compete in regional and local labor markets, and be capable to make positive changes in the community consistent with values and ethics that guide the professional behavior in various care and social service areas.

### **Faculty of Technology and Applied Science**

The Faculty of Technology and Applied Science was established upon the founding of QOU in 1991. It seeks to achieve the goals of the University through human capacities capable of providing local and regional markets with scientific competencies specialized in the fields of computerized information systems and communication technology, in addition to developing highly qualified specialists in software industry in Palestine. The mission of the Faculty is to develop learning in the field of communication and information technology to the highest possible level through learning, research, and spreading knowledge for the benefit of students in particular and the community in general.

Currently, this Faculty awards a bachelor degree in: Computer Information Systems, Information Technology and Communications, Computer Science and Web Technology, and Science and Mathematics.

The total number of the full time teaching staff in the Faculty of Technology and Applied Science is (66) members; (13) of them are PHD holders, (12) are currently enrolled in doctorate studies besides (135) members who are part-timers holding different academic degrees and specializations that meet the needs of the Faculty.

This years, we have (2613) enrolled students while the annual average number of graduates is about (240) with 60% females.

### **Faculty of Agriculture**

The Faculty of agriculture seeks to provide the Palestinian and regional labor markets with qualified competencies and support the agricultural and development sectors in Palestine through skilled professionals.

The Faculty offers specializations in Plant Production and Protection, Rural Development, Animal Protection and Food Industry and seeks to develop creative thinking skills of its students.

## **Faculty of Media**

The Faculty of Media was established in September 2014 after obtaining the accreditation of the “New Media” program from the Ministry of Education & Higher Education. The program is one-of-a-kind in Palestine that offers a new concept in media that aims at preparing comprehensive journalists capable of working in different types of media.

The program focuses on practical application linking it to theoretical principles. It includes courses in “Journalism Genre”, Radio and Television, in addition to Internet Technique and its applications.

“Digital Media” plays a central role in the formation of public opinion, influencing and making the history. Lately, we are witnessing increasing interest in studying communication studies especially after the emergence of the digital world and internet where communication studies have become the core of human experience and the center of all sciences and specializations.

## **Faculty of Graduate Studies**

The Faculty of Graduate Studies is the main support of scientific research in academic institutions. QOU managed to obtain the accreditation for two programs of Graduate Studies after being approved by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and based on the Accreditation of Quality Assurance Commission (AQAC) for the following programs:

- Arabic Language & Literature
- Educational & Psychological Counselling

These two programs have been announced and commenced by the beginning of the University year (2015-2016). The Technical Committee held interviews with the applicants and approved students based on special selection criteria. Teaching started on Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. 2015 at Masqat Building after the completion of all the required procedures and preparations adopted by the commission.

The University aspires to provide more programs that are consistent with the specializations it offers and in accordance with the standards of the University.

## **Deanships:**

1. Deanship of Students affairs
2. Deanship of Admission, Registration and Examination
3. Deanship of Scientific Research
4. **Deanship of Students Affairs**

Deanship of Students Affairs serves as a key link between students and administration; it follows up the affairs of the students especially extracurricular activities of all QOU's Branches and Centers, it also empowers the students and helps them adapt and enhance their feeling of belonging while giving the priority to preventive and developmental roles within advanced mechanism of work and in full transparency.

The deanship of students affairs seeks, and through voluntary work, to contribute in social responsibility and to achieve integration with Palestinian community institutions of all sectors whether private, public or NGOs. It also invests in the capacities of its students and develops their sense of belonging and responsibility in what serves the general interests of their country.

The Deanship also follows up the activities of Students Council; prepares quarterly budget for the activities, builds relations with the local community and institutions as a contribution to enhance the social ties among the students and higher education institutions in Palestine and abroad.

On the other hand; the Deanship also manages grants and loans file through a central computerized system and transparent selection criteria supported by field social survey; 40% of the students benefit from these aids in the form of excellence grant, or as needy student fund grants. The Deanship also manages alumni services to qualify graduates and help them find jobs and compete in labor market. The office is also a channel of effective communication with the university. The alumni portal includes integrated database about the graduates; it also provides feedback to the decision-makers at QOU to develop programs and academic plans based on the needs of the market.

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

The Deanship of Admission, Registration & Examinations is responsible for the admission, registration, maintaining records and following up the affairs of the students until graduation. It also follows up examinations and assignments in accordance with the regulations of the University.

The Deanship of Admission, Registration and Examinations consists of seven main departments:

**First: Admission and Registration Dept.**

It follows up admission and registration procedures besides the issues of the students and maintains their records until their graduation.

**Second: Certificates and Alumni Dept.**

It is in charge of auditing the transcripts in accordance with the study plans, and checks the documents attached to students' files. It also issues transcripts and certified card certificates.

**Third: Examinations Dept.**

It supervises the exams in terms of assignments, preparations, audit and photocopying in addition to following up and solving any issue or problem that emerges during or after examinations

**Fourth: Audit Dept.**

This Department is in charge of auditing and checking the integrity of the measures implemented by "Admission, Registration and Examinations Dept." in Centers and Branches. It also does immediate auditing of the data of the students at all Branches.

**Fifth: Assignments Dept.**

It supervises and follows up study assignments and it is also in charge of solving any problem that might emerge in regard to assignments.

**Sixth: Credit Transfer Dept.**

This Department calculates the previous study hours of the enrolled students (from other universities or colleges) in accordance with the adopted calculation system at Al- QOU.

**Seventh: Cards Dept.**

It is in charge of issuing ID cards for the enrolled students and the staff of Al-QOU.

The distribution of students in Branches and Centers for the first semester "1151" for the year (2015-2016)

	<b>Branch</b>	<b>No.</b>
<b>1.</b>	El Eizareyeh Service Study Center / Jerusalem	789
<b>2.</b>	Nablus Branch	7867

3.	Qalqilya Branch	2286
4.	Salfit Branch	1233
5.	Bidya Services Center	821
6.	Tubas Branch	1625
7.	Ramallah & Al-Bireh Branch	6782
8.	Jericho Branch	999
9.	Bethlehem Branch	3900
10.	Hebron Branch	4825
11.	Dora Branch	1742
12.	Yatta Branch	1280
13.	Jenin Branch	7664
14.	Tulkarem Branch	4010
15.	Gaza Branch	3453
16.	Al Wusta Branch	1657
17.	Khan Younes Branch	1363
18.	Rafah Branch	2051
19.	Northern Gaza branch	3568
Total		<b>57915</b>

QOU grants bachelor degree in the following majors.

**1. Technology and Applied Sciences**

Computer Information System, Communication and Information Technology, Computer Science/ Web Technology, Science and Math.

## **2. Agriculture**

Plant Production and Prevention, Rural Development

## **3. Family and Social Development**

Local Society Development, Social Service, Special Education and child's Care.

## **4. Economics and Administrative sciences**

Business Administration, Economics, Banking & Financial Sciences, Marketing, Health Administration and Accounting.

## **5. Education**

The basic stage, Teaching Islamic Religion, Arabic Language and its Teaching Methods, English Language and its Teaching Methods, Teaching Social Studies, Maths and its Teaching Methods, Teaching Science, Educational Rehabilitation Diploma, Educational Rehabilitation Diploma in Special Education, Educational Rehabilitation Diploma in Educational and Psychological Counseling.

## **6. Media**

New Media

## **7. Arts**

Arabic Language and Literature, History, English Language and Literature.

## **Dean of Scientific Research**

Among the main objectives of QOU strategic plan is to promote and spread scientific research and information industry using technology tools that comply with comprehensive quality standards, while embodying its philosophy which is based on "Blended Learning" to meet the requirements of the Palestinian community.

To achieve these goals; QOU worked to overcome the obstacles that hinder the scientific research and initiated more than once to increase the budget

allocated for scientific research to a ceiling that is higher than any amount allocated by any other national educational institutions. This initiative has a tangible positive impact on establishing research mobility that contributes to the scientific research journey in composing, creativity, production fields and organizing conferences that serve the Palestinian community.

The Dean of Scientific Research, through this financial and moral support, issues many publications and periodicals in addition to the University's Journal for Research and Studies which has issued 37 volumes so far, in addition to 3 specialized magazines: The Palestinian Journal for Open Education, QOU Journal for Research, Psychological and Educational Studies and QOU Magazine for Research and Economic and Administrative Studies. Another journal on technology and applied science will be issued in the near future.

Al-QOU promotes research and researchers; the Deanship has developed regulatory list regarding supporting the scientific production of the University. In the past 5 years; tens of books and literature has been issued in addition to 2 scientific encyclopedias; one about Jerusalem in which (26) researchers from QOU and other universities had participated, and the other is about the Palestinian Heritage; 5 journals of these have been issued until now and they deal with traditional heritage of some Palestinian governorates.

QOU, and through, the Deanship of Scientific Research, developed incentives system, it also organizes scientific competitions by adopting the Educational Documented Article Competition besides 2 annual awards for Excellence in Research.

The University, through the Deanship of Scientific Research and the Conferences Committee, organizes a number of conferences, workshops, and seminars and promotes its researchers to participate in international scientific conferences and covers their expenses.

QOU also established Future Studies and Opinion polls Center besides submitting a proposal to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education to establish e-Learning Excellence Center and we got the approval and will start establishing other scientific centers as in our strategic plan. It is worth mentioning that some of our accomplishments are beyond expectations.

## **Branches and Centers**

1. Hebron Branch
2. Ramallah and Al Bireh Branch
3. Bethlehem Branch
4. Nablus Branch
5. Jenin Branch
6. Gaza Branch
7. Tulkarm Branch
8. Jericho Branch
9. Salfeet Branch
10. Qalqiliya Branch
11. Khan Younis Branch
12. Dora Branch
13. Tubas Branch
14. North Gaza Branch
15. Rafah Branch
16. Yatta Branch
17. Al Wusta Branch
18. Ezariyeh Services Center
19. Bidya Services Center

### **Media and Production Centers**

1. Open Learning Center
2. Information and Communication Technology Center (ICTC)
3. Center for Continuing Education and Community Service
4. Palestinian Center for Excellence in E-Learning
5. Center for Media Production
6. Future Studies and Opinion Polls
7. Center for Measurement and Correction

### **Open Learning Center (OLC)**

Open Learning Center is one of the technical educational Centers of Al-Quds Open University. It was established in 2008 and works to develop the e-Learning environment in cooperation with the Departments and Centers of QOU and through the application of best practices to comply with quality standards of open education and the criteria of efficient electronic and blended education. The Center seeks to enhance the competencies of teaching staff and students of open learning and e-Learning to keep up with the latest developments in the field and spread the philosophy of Open Learning, E-Learning and Blended Learning.

Open Learning Center provides e-Learning services, synchronized and non-synchronized online training any time and any place for QOU students and teaching staff and also for local community. The Center has a number of experts who work as one team to simulate international best practices in learning and in training.

The Center aims at facilitating learning and training conditions and presenting best learning opportunities and services in addition to providing unique interactive courses and modern techniques.

### **The Evolution of E-Learning at QOU:**

- 2003-2007: Open Learning Initiative, video streaming.
- 2008-2012: Pilot Model of Blended Learning, online training, video streaming courses, capacity building for Blended Learning staff
- 2010-2013: E-learning environment, Blended Learning and E-Learning, capacity building for the Blended Learning staff and developing digital content.
- 2014-2015: Entire courses are now available online, interactive digital content, e-Learning and training standards, digital learning resources and digital repository.

### **Blended Learning**

Al-Quds Open University with its educational system is capable of providing learning opportunities for whoever wants to access learning in Palestine (elderly people, housewives, ex-detainees, persons with disabilities, and employees) to incorporate learning with other activities in their life in a flexible learning atmosphere and make education available for all. The University was keen to develop an educational paradigm, which is in line with the Palestinian status and situation to implement Open Learning and Blended Learning parameters.

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

The Center for Information and Communication Technology was established in 1998 based on a decision from the University Council. It is considered as one of most pivotal centers specialized in the most vital resources of the University in terms of information technology and communication. The Center is in charge of

qualifying Palestinian cadre in communication and information technology sectors through delegating experts to attend advanced training in some international accreditation centers (information technology and communication) in addition to conducting a number of specialized training courses.

The Center participates in a number of projects that contribute to the development of technology sector in Palestine and this reflects the effective role of the University in terms of social responsibility. The University is up to date with the new technical development in this domain and works to makes this Center always distinguished.

The Center consists of four sections: System Engineering and IT Infrastructure, Programming Engineering, Network and Information security, Training and Development in addition to two units; Technical Support for E-Learning Unit and Communication and IT research Unit.

### **Center for Continuing Education and Community Service:**

The Center was founded in 1991 to serve the Palestinian community through offering a wide range of continuing learning and education opportunities targeting entire segments of the community. The Center actively contributes to improving and developing the skills of individuals and institutions through providing training (technical and professional) that is consistent with local and international quality standards. Furthermore, the Center offers administrative and technical consultancy services and implements community development projects. It also works to enhance the capacities of the staff of QOU and to improve the facilities of the University.

### **Programs:**

- Training and International Exams:
  - Training programs and internationally accredited certificates in communication and information technology;
  - Training programs in administrative, financial and languages fields;
  - E-training;
  - Internationally accredited exams (TOFEL, ICDL, Pearson VUE, and Parametric).

## **Developmental Projects:**

- Prepare proposals that are consistent with the objectives and aspirations of the University and that aim at enhancing its capacities and its leading role in empowering Palestinian institutions and individuals.
- Implement educational and community projects and offer consultancy services based on community partnerships.

## **Professional Specialized Diplomas**

The Center offers professional diplomas that are consistent with the accelerating needs of the local, regional and international work market, and aims at empowering and equipping students with competencies and skills that are required to achieve excellence in workplace, thus mitigating unemployment among fresh graduates.

The Center offers the following diplomas:

- Diploma in Administrative Skills
- Diploma in E-learning and Teaching Design
- Diploma in Modern Secretarial skills and Office Management
- Diploma in Knowledge Management

## **The Palestinian Center for Excellence in E-Learning**

Palestinian Center for Excellence in E-Learning is one of the seven centers selected by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education as national developmental centers.

It is also the first Center concerned with joint procedural and applicable scientific researches among other universities that has e-Learning approach. The Center provides an integrated electronic communication environment and develops Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) to qualify students and researchers to be creative and solve related issues on both national and international levels. This comes as a contribution of QOU to achieve its social responsibility and sustainable development through employing the most recent electronic methods to serve Open Learning and E-Learning approaches.

## **Media Production Center**

Media Production Center supports the vision of the University in applying Open Learning System in conformity with scientific and technological developments. The Center continuously seeks to enrich the online courses with high quality

techniques. It also offers media coverage services of the activities of the University, produces programs, movies, reportages, introductory and documentary reports to be broadcasted on University Web TV. The Center also offers graphic design of brochures and printings and interactive multimedia in addition to 3D animated advertisements and training in multimedia and graphic design to University staff. The administration of the University alongside with the Center for Media Production launched an educational Web TV which is considered the first of its kind in Palestine to provide educational services in particular. Over the past ten years, the University has a huge archive of media materials that includes all textbooks and courses of the University, conferences, seminars and workshops conducted or organized through the University. Web TV is the lighthouse to lead and equip New Media students with experience and training.

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

This Center deals with researches on future studies that concern the Palestinian society and with public opinion polls that contribute in drawing policies and strategic decision making.

#### **Objectives:**

- 1- Providing scientific studies that have future orientalism perspective and serve policy and strategic decisions makers.
- 2- Providing inter-disciplinary studies that adopt diverse complementary specializations and give a clear future perspective of the political, economic, social and professional aspects.
- 3- Providing exploratory and opinion poll studies based on public opinion polls of vital issues that have future perspective and based on scientific approach in monitoring and analysis in what best serves decision makers.
- 4- Contributing in spreading national democracy culture that denounces closed-minded and religious or ethnic extremists' cultures, considering them an intrusion on the Palestinian community which is known by its humane genuine culture.
- 5- Promoting researchers to conduct prospective studies that tackle the Palestinian future to be published in the journal of the Center, taking into consideration that these studies must be creative and authentic.

## **Scope of work**

The Center provides readings on the trends of the Palestinian public opinion and the attitudes of Palestinians in regard to many issues whether political, economic or social and submit them to relevant parties. This analysis will be circulated in purely scientific and neutral ways. Thus, the Center aims at helping the researchers, academics and graduates in their studies.

## **Units of the Center**

**Unit of Political Studies**

**Unit of Social Studies**

**Unit of Economic Studies**

**Unit of Public Opinion Poll**

## **The Center for Measurement and Evaluation**

This Center conducts evaluation and trainings, develops tests and measurements, contributes to the “evaluation of the educational process” and updates its tools then converts it into effective functional and cooperative process that complies with the requirements of quality and Open Learning philosophy. It also seeks to maintain the quality of learning and teaching in accordance with scientific criteria. The Center also promotes the right concepts of measuring and evaluation and enhances the capacities of the staff to spread awareness that is based on knowledge and performance.

The Center has goals that are represented in developing exams and assignments in accordance with quality standards and are also computerized according to Psychometric standards. The Center seeks to correct the educational process by conducting field surveys which address weaknesses in case exist. The Center has developed Question Bank to develop a Level Test that is based on special bank

besides statistical studies and central correction based on scientific criteria that complies with the philosophy of the university.

### **Al-Quds Open University Graduate Wins \$ 1 Million Global Teacher Prize**

Hanan al Hroub; Al-Quds Open University Graduate, won The \$ 1 Million Global Teacher Prize Award from *Sunny Varkey Foundation* presented by *Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashed Al Maktoum*. Last year the prize went to Nancie Atwell from the USA.

Al Hroub won the award for her teaching excellence, which adopts *Playing Technique*. Her teaching method aims at enhancing the values of learning, hope and aspiration in children who suffer from living under difficult situation in Palestine because of occupation.