Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar

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http://www.qatar.cmu.edu/

Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar is Carnegie Mellon's first and only undergraduate branch campus. We opened in 2004 as part of a collaborative effort with the Qatar Foundation to bring outstanding American educational programs to the Middle East.

Degree Offerings


To examine the requirements for those degrees, see their respective main campus college sections elsewhere in the Undergraduate Catalog. The purpose of this section is to describe the CMU-Q policies that are independent from those of the Pittsburgh campus and outline procedures that are common to students in all programs in Qatar.

Major Sample Schedules

Sample schedules for how CMU-Q students nominally track through the academic programs can be found on the CMU-Q website as follows:

- Biological Sciences (http://www.qatar.cmu.edu/curriculum-bs)
- Business Administration (http://www.qatar.cmu.edu/curriculum-ba)
- Computer Science (http://www.qatar.cmu.edu/curriculum-cs)
- Computational Biology (http://www.qatar.cmu.edu/curriculum-cb)
- Information Systems (http://www.qatar.cmu.edu/curriculum-is)

Business Administration Tracks and Advisors

The Business Administration program requires its students to fulfill the requirements of a track (a sequence of courses in a particular discipline). The following tracks are offered at Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar:

- Entrepreneurship (advisor: Tom Emerson)
- Finance (advisor: Patrick Sileo)
- General Management (advisor: George White)
- International Management (advisor: Patrick McGinnis)
- Manufacturing Management and Consulting (advisor: Sham Kekre)
- Marketing (advisor: Peter Stueftgen)

Minors

In addition to the major degree programs, Carnegie Mellon also offers a number of minors. Minors typically consist of six courses that provide the student with a substantial exposure to the core of that academic discipline. As with the major programs, the requirements of these minors are set by their respective departments on the main campus:

- Architecture (advisors: Rami El Samahy, Kelly Hutzell)
- Biology (advisor: Ken Hovis)
- Business Administration (advisor: George White)
- Computer Science (advisor: Mark Stehlik)
- English Studies (advisor: Ludmila Hyman)
- Ethics (advisor: David Gray)
- Global Systems and Management (advisor: Selma Limam Mansar)
- History (advisor: Ben Reilly)
- Information Systems (http://www.qatar.cmu.edu/information-systems) (advisor: Selma Limam Mansar) [only offered in Qatar]
- Mathematical Sciences (advisor: Hasan Demirkoparan)
- Professional Writing (advisor: Susan Hagan)

Academic Standards and Actions

Academic Standards

Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar complies with common University policies unless otherwise noted. The curriculum requirements for the Biological Sciences, Business Administration, Computer Science, Computational Biology, and Information Systems majors are set by the respective departments of the Mellon College of Science, Tepper School of Business, the School of Computer Science, and the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences on the main campus. The same academic standards, policies, and actions apply to all programs at CMU-Q as at the Pittsburgh campus.

Graduation Requirements

Residency

Candidate for a Bachelor's degree must complete a minimum of four semesters of full-time study, or the equivalent of part-time study, comprising at least 180 units of coursework at Carnegie Mellon.

Cumulative QPA

To be eligible to graduate, undergraduate students must complete all course requirements for their program with a cumulative Quality Point Average of at least 2.0 for all courses taken. For undergraduate students who enrolled at Carnegie Mellon as freshmen and whose freshman grades cause the cumulative QPA to fall below 2.0, this requirement is modified to be a cumulative QPA of at least 2.0 for all courses taken after the freshman year. Note, however, the cumulative QPA that appears on the student's final transcript will be calculated based on all grades in all courses taken, including freshman year. Some programs may have additional QPA requirements in order to graduate. Students are encouraged to confirm all graduation requirements with their academic advisor.

University Honors

Students maintaining a cumulative QPA of at least 3.5 after seven semesters of full-time enrollment or raising their QPA to 3.5 upon completing their graduation requirements in their final semester will graduate with University Honors.

Academic Actions

Students carrying either a full-time course load (defined as 36 or more units) or a part-time course load (defined as fewer than 36 units) are subject to academic actions.

Dean's List

Students earn Dean's List recognition in a given semester by achieving one of two minimum standards. They must either earn a semester QPA of 3.75 or higher (while taking at least 36 factorable units and receiving no incomplete grades) or earn a semester QPA of 3.50 or higher (while taking at least 36 factorable units and receiving no incomplete grades). The CMU-Q Dean's List is calculated uniformly for all students across all majors due to the fact that CMU-Q majors are drawn from four different Pittsburgh colleges with varying Dean's List criteria.

Other Academic Actions

Students (other than those in their freshman year) are subject to academic actions if they fail to make minimum progress toward their degree. Minimum progress is achieving a semester QPA of at least 2.0. Students who begin a semester enrolled in 36 or more factorable units and later drop below 36 units are subject to academic actions regardless of their semester QPA.

Freshman students are not subject to academic actions unless their semester QPA is below 1.75.

Probation

Probation occurs when a student's semester record fails to meet the minimum standards described above. Students are removed from probation if they complete at least 36 factorable units and raise their cumulative post-freshman QPA above 2.00. The school may continue a student's probation if
the student’s cumulative record does not meet minimum standards but his or her semester record suggests that the student may do so by the end of the next semester.

Suspension
If a student fails to meet the minimum standards described above at the end of the probation semester, the student will be suspended. Suspension is for a minimum of one year and the student is required to follow University procedures for departing from campus. At the end of the year, the student may petition to return to CMU-Q by completing the following steps: ask the Associate Dean for Education in writing for permission to resume their studies (the letter should summarize what steps the student took to ameliorate the cause of the suspension); upon receiving approval from the Associate Dean, submit a completed Return from Leave of Absence Form to the registrar.

To get approval to resume their studies, the student must demonstrate that they are better prepared to perform above the minimum standards for graduation than before they were suspended. Students coming back from suspension are placed on Probation for the semester of their return.

Drop
A student who fails to meet minimum standards at any point after returning from a suspension is subject to a drop action. A drop action is a permanent severance; the student is required to follow University procedures for departing from campus and may not enroll again in the future. For a poorly performing student, the typical progression of academic actions is Probation, Suspension, then Drop but the intent of the academic actions are to take measures that are in the student’s best interest, and therefore the school may bypass one or more of these steps in an unusual case.

Other Regulations Affecting Student Status

Adding a Class
Students may add classes to their schedule under the following rules:
1. Students may add a full-semester course through the first 10 class days of the semester.
2. Students may add half-semester (mini) courses through the first 5 class days of the course.

Dropping/Withdrawing from a Class
Students who wish to drop a course (without receiving a “W” grade on the transcript) must do so before the published CMU-Q Drop deadline (shortly after mid-semester grades are published). After that date, students may withdraw from a course up to the last day of classes and receive a “W” grade on their transcript. After the last day of classes student may not withdraw from a class. All drops/withdrawals must be consistent with remaining a full-time student, that is, a student carrying a full-time course load (at least 36 units) as of the last day to add (the 10th class day of the semester) may not drop/withdraw below 36 units after that time.

Course Overloads
A normal maximum load for a CMU-Q student is 51 units. In order to overload (i.e., take more than 51 units but no more than 63), a student must have attained a GPA of at least 3.0 in the previous semester, or have a cumulative GPA of 3.0. A student wishing to pursue a greater number of units must petition the Associate Dean for Education to do so.

Non-Carnegie Mellon Courses
Carnegie Mellon University offers students the opportunity to take courses for credit through a cross-registration program and through the receipt of transfer credit from other accredited institutions. The Carnegie Mellon transcript will include information on such courses as follows:
Carnegie Mellon courses and courses taken through the university’s cross-registration program will have grades recorded on the transcript and be factored into the GPA. All other courses will be recorded on this transcript indicating where the course was taken, but no grade will be reported. Such courses will not be taken into account for academic actions, honors or GPA calculations. (Note: Suspended students may take courses elsewhere with prior approval; however, they will not receive transfer credit.)

Cross Registration
Courses offered for cross-registration are those taken through an agreement with Texas A&M University at Qatar; Georgetown School of Foreign Service in Qatar; Northwestern University in Qatar; Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar; and Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar that full-time students at Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar can take up to one class a semester at their schools. Cross-registration requires the completion of a cross-registration form with the appropriate signatures from the home and host institutions. Completion of the form does not guarantee a space in the requested course. The agreement only applies during the regular academic year, normal course transfer rules apply in the summer.

Course Transfer
Students may receive credit for courses taken outside of Carnegie Mellon if they successfully petition the Associate Dean for Education in advance for permission. Students must take these courses for a letter grade and instruction must be in English for non-language courses. Credit (but not the grade) will normally transfer for courses with a grade equivalent to at least a “B”. The class’s course description must be a close match to the Carnegie Mellon course and from an accredited institution. Students may not receive credit for any courses taken on-line unless there is some safeguard to ensure that the actual student took the course (e.g., a proctored final taken under supervision at CMU-Q).

Students may not receive credit for more than five non-CMU courses during their undergraduate career as a Carnegie Mellon student. Classes taken prior to enrolling in Carnegie Mellon, during study abroad semesters, and as cross registration with other education City schools do not count toward the course transfer limit. All students must meet the University’s residency requirement of completing at least 180 units of Carnegie Mellon coursework.

Campus Exchange and Transfer

Campus Exchange
CMU-Q and Pittsburgh students in good academic standing (not on Probation/Suspension) may study on the other campus for one semester on a space available basis and with the approval of both the home and host departments. Space constraints on both campuses may force programs to limit the number of students who can exchange in any given semester. CMU-Q students may study abroad for a second semester at another institution (not CMU Pittsburgh) if an appropriate additional study abroad opportunity arises and their academic advisor agrees.

Summer studies in Pittsburgh are not subject to any constraint other than being in good academic standing (not on Probation/Suspension).

Transfer
Internally between majors at CMU-Q
Students may transfer between majors at CMU-Q on a space-available and academic performance basis. Students interested in transferring should consult with the Associate Dean for Education and the academic advisor of the new major. First-year students may not apply for transfer until they receive their spring mid-semester grades.

Between CMU-Q and Carnegie Mellon, Pittsburgh
Most majors in Pittsburgh have very few open spaces for transfer students. As a result, decisions about transfer to any major in Pittsburgh will be made by the receiving department, are highly competitive, and are not likely. It has historically been very difficult to be granted transfer to Pittsburgh.

Transfers to CMU-Q from other Universities
Transfer students from other universities must apply through the Admissions Office at Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar. The Admissions Office, the Associate Dean for Education, and the program director will determine if there is space available in the desired program and if the student’s past academic performance warrants admission.

Faculty
SNEJANA ABARJI, Visiting Associate Professor – Ph.D., Landau Institute for Theoretical Physics; Carnegie Mellon, 2013–.
AMAL AL-MALKI, Associate Teaching Professor – Ph.D., University of London; Carnegie Mellon, 2004–.
CHADI AOUN, Associate Teaching Professor – Ph.D., University of New South Wales; Carnegie Mellon, 2014–.
ILKER BAYBARS, Professor and Dean; Deputy Dean Emeritus, Tepper School of Business; George Leland Bach Chair – Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University; Carnegie Mellon, 1979–.
STEPHEN CALABRESE, Visiting Associate Professor – Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University; Carnegie Mellon, 2007–.
ILIANO CERVESEATO, Teaching Professor – Ph.D., University of Torino; Carnegie Mellon, 2006–.