Welcome
Dr Nora Ann Colton, Dean of the Royal Docks Business School

The University of East London and the Royal Docks Business School
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Welcome

The University of East London’s Royal Docks Business School (RDBS) is a leader in global business education. We pride ourselves on providing an environment in which students can think beyond the boundaries of traditional disciplines, embrace a diverse and innovative learning approach and benefit from programmes that match academic excellence with industry experience.

RDBS is known locally and internationally for its research and excellence in entrepreneurship, finance, diversity and business and we support a number of leading research centres in these areas. The School is also recognised for its cutting-edge programmes in finance, sports, events, hospitality and management.

When it comes to transforming the student experience, we are consistently ranked as a leading business school in London. All our students have the opportunity to study and undertake internships abroad and we make sure that throughout their time with us, they receive the support and experience they need to become global leaders in an ever-evolving world economy.

Whether you are a prospective student, corporate partner or donor, I hope you will explore what we have to offer and embrace our approach to management education.

Nora Colton
Dr Nora Ann Colton
Dean of the Royal Docks Business School
The University of East London (UEL) is one of the UK’s fastest-growing universities and plays an integral role in local, regional and international development. We empower individuals, communities and businesses through diversity, partnership and excellence in teaching and research.

The Royal Docks Business School provides a vibrant, international learning environment that offers excellent facilities through its purpose-built site in the historic Royal Docks. Over 3,000 students benefit from our comprehensive suite of business programmes and services, championed by leading academics who are committed to undertaking high-quality research that underpins our teaching.

At this time of huge regeneration in east London, we engage in consultancy and knowledge exchange projects with London-based businesses and enrich our students’ study experience through these collaborations.

Our goal is to facilitate the movement of our students and staff across our campuses and overseas partner institutions, building upon the international dimension for which we are already recognised.
Our vision

To be an internationally recognised centre of excellence in the dissemination, application and critique of Islamic banking and finance processes and practices. Also, to establish a strong support, research, teaching, training and engagement Centre that will focus on Islamic banking and finance.

Our mission

The mission of the Islamic Banking and Finance Centre at the Royal Docks Business School (RDBS) is to provide a forum for research, training and dialogue on industry practices concerning Islamic finance and banking. The Centre also serves as a bridge in terms of examining best practices in banking and finance by proffering studies that compare conventional and Islamic practices.

What we do

Our Centre builds on the existing capacities of our finance, economics and accounting academic staff at RDBS. Currently we have a number of academics publishing and researching in the fields of Islamic economics, finance and accounting. Moreover, our Centre is engaged in outreach programmes to build awareness and interfaith dialogue, meeting the needs of our local Islamic community, and integrating conventional and Islamic banking into a dialogue concerning best practices in the industry. We also offer a number of short training courses through a blended learning environment where students can become certified in Islamic banking and finance through online and face-to-face training. We also offer an MSc in Islamic Banking and Finance.

Centre for Islamic Banking and Finance

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The Islamic Banking and Finance Centre is proud to be working in partnership with the Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), one of the leading universities in Malaysia, to develop joint programmes and other collaboration in the field of Islamic finance.

“The centre sponsors a number of events to build awareness of Islamic finance and banking issues and research. These events include an annual speakers series, a biannual newsletter, conferences and the hosting of visiting researchers.”

Dr Gaffar Khalid, Director of the Islamic Banking and Finance Centre
The unprecedented growth in Islamic finance has put increasing pressure on industry professionals to continuously upgrade their skills and knowledge. This need is impacting both the business of today, and the impetus to drive the industry into the future.

The following short courses offered by the Islamic Banking and Finance Centre are designed to provide a deep and practical understanding of Islamic banking and finance:

- **Foundations of Islamic Banking and Finance**
- **Islamic Insurance (Takaful)**
- **Islamic Bonds (Sukuk)**

Islamic banking is one of the fastest-growing sectors in the financial marketplace. Despite its rapid growth, the availability of world-class training in the subject area is lagging far behind that of demand. The following short courses are designed to provide a deep and practical understanding of Islamic banking and finance:

- **Foundations of Islamic Banking and Finance**
- **Islamic Insurance (Takaful)**
- **Islamic Bonds (Sukuk)**
This programme provides a unique perspective on banking and finance, combining conventional and Islamic views, enabling students to compare, contrast and learn the best of both. Taught by leading academics and practitioners, this MSc provides students with a strong foundation in the principles and practice of Islamic banking and finance, as well as new skills and analytical tools to give a sound basis for financial decision making.

What’s included
• Regular guest lectures from leading academics and experienced practitioners to provide a hybrid mix of academic theory and managerially relevant issues.
• Study in a state-of-the-art facility at the Royal Docks Business School, with a dedicated suite of rooms exclusively for postgraduate students, located in our Molex Suite.
• Access to our on-site Bloomberg training centre and monitoring of real-time trading data.
• Fast-track your professional career with our dedicated employability team.
• Experiential / work-based learning in the form of one-hour interactive workshops with every module.

Programme structure
Issues in Islamic Banking and Finance (30 credits)
This module aims to introduce students to a discussion of the key characteristics of Islamic banking, highlighting how these differ from conventional banking. It illustrates detailed discussions of issues involved in the Shariah contracts of Murabaha, Mudaraba, Musharaka, Ijara, Istisna’a, and Salam. Islamic insurance (Takaful) is also covered.

Research Methods and Econometrics (30 credits)
This module develops students’ knowledge and understanding of research methods methodology with a focus on the accounting/finance domain. The module will equip students with the means to explore recent issues and research trends. It will provide them with the requisite skills to identify, choose and implement research designs and strategies, and to present their research projects in the appropriate academic formats.

Islamic Banking and Financial Regulation (30 credits)
This module aims at presenting the main concepts and practical / ethical considerations in Islamic banking and finance. It also aims to develop students’ understanding of how financial regulation more broadly might be motivated and enacted.

Optional module (30 credits)
A choice of one of the following modules:
• Applied Quantitative Finance
• Economics of Money, Banking and Finance
• Financial Risk Management
• Islamic Economics.

Dissertation (60 credits)

Spotlight: MSc Islamic Finance and Banking
The Language Centre at UEL offers pre-sessional academic English programmes designed specifically for students considering a UEL degree programme. Programmes vary in length depending on how much support the student needs. Students who have a conditional offer for a course at UEL can meet their English entry requirements by attending such a course. Successful completion of this course allows students direct entry onto their chosen undergraduate or postgraduate programme without needing to take an IELTS or TOEFL exam.

On our courses students:
• develop their English language grammar
• learn how to use English effectively in an academic environment
• develop academic study skills for their degree
• become more independent.

The Centre has developed an innovative new programme designed to prepare students for the Metropolitan Police Interpreters’ Test. It is also developing a range of other language courses at different levels including German, French, Spanish, Arabic and Mandarin.

Find out more at: uel.ac.uk/elc
Working with business

As a School we are engaged in more than learning and teaching. For us, business incorporates a myriad of enterprises, from the established multinationals within neighbouring Canary Wharf and the fledgling east London start-ups, to public sector and voluntary organisations.

We recognise the vital input that universities can provide to the knowledge economy and we offer a range of services and professional programmes covering consultancy, research, knowledge exchange and expertise.

RDBS consultancy
The School offers knowledge management and consultancy services to large and small businesses at all levels of their development, through a dedicated group of business professionals / academics. RDBS has an excellent track record of undertaking bespoke business research projects and of successfully sourcing and delivering European grants to fund this work.
Working with business

Noon Centre for Equality and Diversity in Business
The Noon Centre is an affiliate of the Royal Docks Business School. The centre provides a service to businesses and forges strong links with the community through consultancy and executive education and training for local and international organisations. The Centre also welcomes applications from prospective PhD students and offers supervision in leadership, human resources management, organisational development, change management, equality and diversity, race, ethnicity, gender and sexuality in business.

RDBS Advisory Board
The Royal Docks Business School’s Business Advisory Board is composed of business and management professionals drawn from the commercial, public and third sectors. Its members are selected for their interest in higher education, their knowledge of the business environment and their willingness to devote time towards developing the School. The Board provides a business perspective on the effectiveness of our strategy, vision and future activities whilst also playing an important advisory role.

For further information on the above services please visit our webpage uel.ac.uk/business/working-with-businesses
The Royal Docks Business School is proud to be working with some of the leading professional bodies in the business field. Where possible we aim to build professional body accreditation into our programmes so that students have already started on the road to professional qualification by the time they graduate.

The Royal Docks Business School has attained membership from the following bodies:

- European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD)
- Association to Advance Collegiate schools of Business (AACSB)
- UK Islamic Finance Secretariat (UKIFS).

Professional accreditations:

- Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM)
- Association for Project Management (APM)
- Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
- Chartered Institute of Personal and Development (CIPD)
- Institute of Operational Risk (IOR).