**Title: Lifelong Learning Access Policy**

**Code:** GU-PL49LLA

**Version:** 1.1

**Date of Issue:** 2024

**Effective Date:** July 2024

**Approval Authority:** Board of Trustees

**Document Owner:** VP Academic Affairs

**Next Review Date:** June 2028

**Review:** The policy is subject to a periodic review every 4 years no later than June 2028 or in a shorter cycle as per amendments to University Policies

# 1. Purpose

The Lifelong Learning Access Policy at Gulf University is designed to foster a culture of continuous learning for all individuals, promoting inclusive and high-quality education across various formal and informal learning platforms.

# 2. Scope

This policy applies to all Gulf University students, staff, alumni, community members, external participants, and individuals from the general public who engage with the University's lifelong learning activities.

# 3. Acronyms

| BOT | Board of Trustees |
|-----|-------------------|
| BQA | Education and Training Quality Authority |
| GU | Gulf University |
| HEC | Higher Education Council |

# 4. Definitions

- **Continuous Learning:** A core educational value that emphasizes ongoing skill development through high-quality courses.
- **Skill Enhancement:** Focusing on specialized skills in higher education to enhance employability.
- **Knowledge:** The expertise gained by graduates through diverse learning methodologies.
- **Skill:** The ability of students to integrate knowledge and abilities acquired through formal and informal education.
- **Soft Skills:** Psychological and interpersonal attributes such as motivation, leadership, and emotional intelligence.
- **Technical Skills:** Vocational abilities acquired through education and training in areas like technology, crafts, and repair.
- **Update:** Reflects changes in the system bringing appropriate and current information due to advancements

# 5. Policy Statement

1. This policy applies to all Gulf University students, staff, alumni, community members, external participants, and individuals from the general public who engage with the University's lifelong learning activities.

2. Gulf University advocates for the acquisition of knowledge, skills, attitudes, and beliefs essential for individual and societal progress and harmony. Continuous learning

opportunities across all platforms are crucial for this endeavor.

3. GU commits to providing access to select courses and programs for alumni and community members, including online learning modules and certificate programs.
4. GU is committed to offer online and hybrid courses to enable learning outside traditional classroom hours for professionals.
5. The university library will maintain regular operating hours, ensuring constant access to resources for students, faculty, and staff. Changes to operating hours may be implemented at the discretion of library administration.
6. Priority access to library facilities is granted to Gulf University's academic community, including students, administrators, faculty, and staff, while guests are also welcome.
7. GU commits to establish online learning communities to share exchange of ideas and experiences.

## 6. Procedures:

1. Regular Library Hours: Daily from 8 AM- 9PM to be accessible by staff, students and visitors with appropriate arrangements.
2. Access to Labs, workshops and private study spaces will be based on bookings
3. Eligible applicants shall apply for the chosen professional courses via online platform
4. IT department shall provide relevant infrastructure and support services to staff and students for accessing professional courses in online and hybrid mode.

## 7. Responsibilities

**Academic and non-academic units are responsible for:**

- following this document appropriately.

**Heads of Departments and Deans are responsible for:**

- following this document appropriately.

**Heads of Units and Centers, Managers and Directors are responsible for:**

- following this document appropriately.

**Chief Operating Officer is responsible for:**

- appropriate implementation of this document.

**Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for:**

- appropriate implementation of this document.

**University Policy Development and Review Committee is responsible for:**

- systematic review of the effectiveness of this document.

## 8. Related Policies

- Infrastructure Facilities and Campus Development Policy
- Library Policy
- Distance Education Policy
- Alumni Policy

## 9.   Related Procedures

- Library Services Procedures
- E Learning and Distance Education Procedures
- Alumni

## 10.   Related References

| BQA | Institutional Review Handbook |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| HEC | Regulations and Resolutions   |

**President Signature**