

Certificate Program in “Future-Ready Graduate”

The Certification Program in “Future-Ready Graduate”, administered by the Center for Futuristic Studies at Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University, is designed to elevate the professional competencies of individuals intrigued by pursuits such as scanning, trend analysis, forecasting, and strategic planning. This unique set of courses underscores the cultivation of foresight, creativity, and innovation. It seamlessly amalgamates theoretical paradigms and practical instruments, fostering a holistic grasp of the dynamics of change. Participants are empowered to craft feasible future scenarios and devise strategies for robust preparedness.

1. FUTR 1311: Overview to Future Studies

The practice of Futures Studies requires a suite of traditional cross-disciplinary skills, such as research, collaboration, and communication, and less frequently practiced skills, such as inferential reasoning and critical, contingent and creative thinking. At the end of this course, students will be able to think critically about claims made about the future by examining the evidence and asking what else could reasonably be true. They will also be able to construct their own claims about the future involving multiple scenarios and their consequences for themselves, their communities and the world as a whole. Finally, they will learn that they must be leaders or support leaders if they are to have influence in the world of the future.

2. FURS 1311: Futuristic Skills

This course provides students with a basic understanding of the key concepts of Futures Studies including a brief overview of the different technological innovations in the 4th Industrial Revolution era, otherwise referred to as Post normal times. The technological innovations are discussed in the context of other influences such as societal, economic, environmental and policy changes. This course also prepares students for the eventual impact of this constantly evolving digital environment on their future careers. Most importantly, it helps them understand the need to upskill and reskill to survive tomorrow’s global landscapes.

3. SYST 131: Systems Thinking

Systems' thinking is a discipline of seeing the "whole", recognizing patterns and interrelationships, and learning how to innovate a more effective, efficient and creative system solution(s). This course will acquaint students to basic concepts of systems thinking. The primary emphasis will be the introduction of basic systems thinking fundamentals, i.e. defining a systems perspective about any situation or problem, solving problems with that perspective, describing and modeling a problem, and designing and improving upon system solutions.