

Versatile arts and humanities at AeU

> ODL provides the opportunity to study without attending classes

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PROF Dr Abdullah @ Alwi Hj Hassan believes that Asia e University's (AeU) School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences has a good future because it covers a wide range of subjects.

Under social sciences, there are areas such as ethnic studies, economics, gender studies, political science, sociology, media studies, area studies, social work and environmental, future studies, and policy studies.

Meanwhile in humanities, there are areas such as history, languages and linguistics, philosophy, psychology, religion, anthropology, law and literature. In terms of arts, there are music, performing arts, fine arts and ethno

design.

The school currently offers Master of Social Science (by research), Master of Humanities & Arts (by research), Master of Knowledge Management, Executive Master in Islamic Management and

Administration, and Bachelor of Education (Teaching Islamic Studies in Primary School) (Hons).

"The current students are very knowledgeable and experienced because they are mainly senior people (at their workplace). Pursuing a Masters allows them to gain even more knowledge and at the same time, learn how to guide people while developing their talent," Alwi said.

"We are more professional here because we deal with working people who need a mature approach. In that sense, we have fulfilled our students by providing them with relevant experience," he added.

The school will be offering new programmes such as Masters of Development Management, Master of International Relations, Master of Industrial & Organisational Psychology, Bachelor of

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Alwi wants to encourage people to study arts, humanities and social sciences.



The university is well-equipped with state-of-the-art facilities to handle the challenges of ODL.

Communication & New Media Studies (Hons), Executive Master in Public Administration, and Diploma in Islamic Studies.

Alwi said providing a different type of education is one of the challenges for them, and AeU's online distance learning (ODL) option provides the opportunity to study without attending classes.

"It can be difficult balancing work and study but we provide them with flexible options. It is some sort of a personalised education," he said, adding that the university's difference is it often offers programmes not found elsewhere.

"Through benchmarking, we are able to design programmes that are in demand. We also get feedback from surveys and road shows about what people want to study.

"Malaysia is a model to teach

subjects like comparative religion, interracial relations, ethnic studies, and morals and religions. We can offer these subjects to not only Malaysia but to the world.

"We want to be a hub of international education and to do that we have to have international partners. The Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) provides opportunities for us to access world-class universities; to offer dual awards and provide facilities like learning centres and academic facilitators," Alwi said.

He believes that one cannot avoid the field of arts, humanities and social science because it relates to everyday topics such as history, economics and even politics.

"We want to encourage people to study social sciences as it is one interesting field where you can explore human behaviour," he said.