

PRESS RELEASE

Students from Hamad bin Khalifa University's EBDA leadership program return to Qatar after completing Outward Bound Oman challenge

Doha, January 13, 2015 – Nineteen undergraduate and graduate students from across Education City recently returned from a challenging outdoor adventure trip organized by Hamad bin Khalifa University's Student Life team in partnership with Outward Bound Oman. The trip was part of EBDA, a leadership development program that takes students out of the classroom to teach them life skills such as time management, working well in teams, and staying calm under pressure.

From December 12 to 16, two separate groups of students, one male group and one female group, trekked across the Jebel Samhan mountain range in southern Oman and took part in a variety of physically and mentally challenging activities, designed to test endurance, teach resilience, and unlock personal potential.

Participant Sana Mahdi Al Ansari, from Northwestern University in Qatar commented: "The program pushed me to my limit," she said, reflecting on her experience. "I feel like a changed person. A lot of people didn't even expect me to apply, let alone complete it. I proved to myself that I can do anything I put my mind to."

As a part the EBDA leadership program, students get the chance to meet and work with individuals from across Education City's universities who come from a variety of backgrounds and study a wide range of academic specialties, while learning about their own strengths and weaknesses. Teambuilding is a core goal of EBDA's program which aspires to be the pre-eminent student leadership program in the Gulf region, focused on building leadership capacity in Qatar to help the country achieve its future ambitions.

Ameena Hussain, Director of Student Life at Hamad bin Khalifa University, commented: "HBKU Student Life is incredibly proud of the 19 students who completed this leadership building program in Oman. They demonstrated impressive determination, perseverance, and an ability to work in teams towards common goals. This program was the last EBDA leadership program of the fall semester and we look forward to hosting more leadership trainings for the students of HBKU and Education City in the spring semester."

To learn more about EBDA and the opportunities it provides students, please visit <http://www.ebda.qa/>.

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About Hamad bin Khalifa University

Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, is an emerging research university building upon unique collaborations with local and international partners. Located in Education City, HBKU seeks to provide unparalleled opportunities for scholarship, teaching, discovery, and learning for all of its students through an array of interdisciplinary programs.

HBKU's partners are Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Texas A&M University at Qatar, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, Northwestern University in Qatar, HEC Paris in Qatar, and UCL Qatar.