



UOK Study Guideline for International Students

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International Students Affairs Office

<http://international.uok.ac.ir>

February 2023

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1. Introduction

Internationalization of higher education is a global educational strategy so that it is nowadays no longer an option, rather a necessity. International students are an important part of this strategy being considered by the majority of International and Iranian universities. In order to appropriately direct International Students of the University of Kurdistan in the fields of education, academic, research, accommodation, food, this guideline has been prepared. This guideline tends to deliver required information to international students so that they can easily register, participate in classes, conduct research, get graduated, and enjoy their time during their studies. The International Affairs Department of the University of Kurdistan (UOK) proudly claims that our university is one of the most important leading Iranian universities in terms of internationalization and providing a joyful and academic environment for international students.

2. University of Kurdistan

the [University of Kurdistan](http://www.uok.ac.ir) started its activities as a comprehensive university in 1991. Since then a great range of courses at various levels have been added to the university's graduate and postgraduate programme lists. Currently, University of Kurdistan has over 11000 students (5 percent international), of which over 30 percent are postgraduate students. University of Kurdistan has an autonomous college (Pardis), 9 faculties and 49 departments offering 264 undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Moreover, UOK employs approximately 400 full-time academic members. In addition, over 380 part-time teaching staff are employed and the number of administrative staff totals 385. Currently, the university has 11 research institutes and 22 academic journals and has its own publishing press with many yearly publications. Moreover, UOK has plentiful research and teaching laboratories to aid students and staff at all faculties.

As a young university, The University of Kurdistan has acted successfully at national and international levels in terms of education, research and internationalization such that has been ranked as 601-800 among world universities, as 189 among world young universities, and as 155 among

Asian universities in 2022 based on the Times Higher Education World University Rankings System. The university is also among 11-20 top Iranian comprehensive universities.



Benefits of studying at the UOK include:

- ✓ Utilization of a high quality educational (regular and virtual) and research environment
- ✓ Low tuition fee
- ✓ Accommodation with free transportation service
- ✓ Affordable student restaurants and canteens
- ✓ Self-governing Centre for Teaching Persian Language on-campus
- ✓ Self-governing consular office on-campus
- ✓ High cultural and linguistic diversity environment
- ✓ Diverse tourism, ecotourism, and historical attractions
- ✓ Professional Centers for nurturing students' new ideas and creativity
- ✓ Free library, sport, health, and counseling services

3. International Affairs Department

International Affairs Department of the University of Kurdistan started its activities in 2007. This department extended its activities very quickly such that it admitted international students in 2012. Currently, over 550 international students are studying at 105 different Bachelor, Master, and PhD programs. This department has 5 different offices including:



- 1) [International Students Affairs Office](#)
- 2) [Consular Affairs Office](#)
- 3) [Center for Teaching Persian to Non-Persian Speakers](#)
- 4) [International Relations Planning Office](#)
- 5) [International Relations Development Office](#)

The department is open from Saturday to Wednesday during office hours (08:00 to 14:00).

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4. Studying at University of Kurdistan

The University of Kurdistan offers 71 bachelors, 138 master, and 55 PhD programs. Each academic year includes 2 semesters: Fall semester which starts from 5th of September till 25th of January, and Winter semester which starts from 1st of February till 5th of July of the following year. Type and duration of each program at the UOK are shown in table below:

Program	Duration	Number of Credits	Thesis (Credits)
Bachelor	4-5 years (8-10 semesters)	135-142	---
Master	2-3 years (4-6 semesters)	26-28	4-6
Regular PhD	3-4 years (6-8 semesters)	12-18	18-24
PhD by Research	3-4 years (6-8 semesters)	3-8	18-24

Official educational language of studying at UOK is **Persian** at **all bachelor, master, and PhD** programs.

5. Faculties and Programs

5.1. Faculty of Agriculture



The Faculty of Agriculture (<https://agr.uok.ac.ir/>) was founded jointly with the Faculty of Natural Resources in 1991. In 2007, the Faculty of Agriculture separated from the Faculty of Natural Resources and commenced its academic teaching and research activities on an independent basis. It is currently one of the major providers of research in agricultural fields in the region.

The faculty has 13 departments, offering 12 undergraduate degree programs and 34 master degree programs, and 10 PhD degree programs), comprising of:

Department	Degree Programs	BA/ BSc	MA/ MSc	PhD
Animal Science	Animal Science	✓		
	Veterinary Laboratory Sciences	✓		
	Animal Science- Animal & Poultry Breeding		✓	✓
	Animal Science- Animal & Poultry Physiology		✓	✓
	Animal Science- Animal Nutrition		✓	✓
	Animal Science- Poultry Nutrition		✓	✓
Agronomy & Plant Breeding	Production and Plant Genetic Engineering (Agrotechnology & Biotechnology)	✓		
	Plant Genetic and Breeding		✓	
	Agrotechnology-Crop Physiology		✓	✓
	Agrotechnology-Crop Ecology			✓

	Agrotechnology-Weed sciences		✓	
	Agrotechnology-Seed science and technology		✓	
	Agroecology		✓	
	Agricultural Biotechnology		✓	✓
Horticultural Sciences and Engineering	Landscape Engineering	✓		
	Horticultural Science & Engineering	✓		
	Greenhouse Crops Production		✓	
	Horticultural Science & Engineering - Fruit Trees		✓	
	Horticultural Science & Engineering- Vegetables		✓	
	Horticultural Science & Engineering- Medicinal Plant		✓	
	Horticultural Science & Engineering-Ornamental Plants		✓	
	Horticultural Science & Engineering - Production and Post-harvest physiology of Horticultural Plants			✓
Soil Science	Soil Science & Engineering	✓		
	Soil Fertility and Biotechnology Management - Soil Biology and Biotechnology		✓	
	Soil Resources Management - Soil Resources & Land Evaluation		✓	
	Soil Resources Management - Soil Physics & Conservation		✓	
Agricultural Economics	Agricultural Economics	✓		
	Agricultural Economics- Agricultural Policy & Development		✓	
	Agricultural Economics – Agricultural Marketing (Agribusiness)		✓	
	Agricultural Economics - Production Economics and Agricultural Farm Management		✓	✓
	Agricultural Economics - Natural Resources and Environmental Economics		✓	
Plant Protection	Plant Protection	✓		
	Agricultural Entomology		✓	
	Plant Pathology		✓	✓

Water Sciences & Engineering	Water Science & Engineering	✓		
	Water Science & Engineering- Irrigation & Drainage Engineering		✓	
	Water Science & Engineering- Water Resources		✓	
	Water Science & Engineering- Hydro informatics		✓	
Biosystems Engineering	Biosystems Mechanical Engineering	✓	✓	
	Food Industry Machinery Engineering	✓		
	Biosystems Engineering- Design and Construction		✓	
	Biosystems Engineering- Postharvest Technology		✓	
	Biosystems Engineering- Renewable Energies		✓	
Food Science and Engineering	Food Science and Engineering	✓		
	Food Science and Engineering - Food Technology		✓	
Agricultural Extension and Education	Sustainable Agricultural Extension and Education	✓		
	Sustainable Agricultural Extension and Education, Invention and Agricultural Entrepreneurship		✓	
	Sustainable Agricultural Extension and Natural Industries		✓	

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5.2. Faculty of Art and Architecture



Because of the importance of Art, architecture and planning at national and international levels and the rich history of the arts in western Iran, especially in Kurdistan, the University of Kurdistan launched programs in the aforementioned fields in the early years of its establishment as a university. The University of Kurdistan commenced offering degree programs in Architecture, Planning and Music in 1999, 2006 and 2016, respectively.

In total, the faculty currently has four departments:

Department	Degree Programs	BA/ BSc	MA/ MSc	PhD
Architecture*	Architecture	✓	✓	
	Energy and Architecture		✓	
Urban Planning*	Urbanism	✓		✓
	Urban Planning		✓	
	Urban Design		✓	
Music*	Iranian Classical Music Performance	✓		
Handicraft*	Handicraft	✓		

* Note that these programs only accept students for the fall term.

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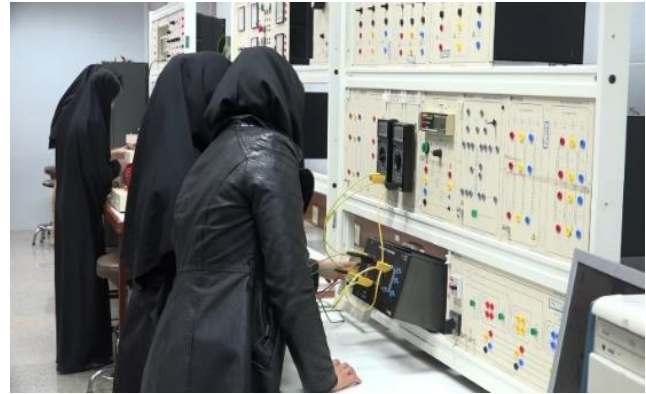
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5.3. Faculty of Engineering



The Faculty of Engineering is one of the largest and most successful of its kind in Iran. From its foundations in 1995, the faculty has pursued excellence and innovation in education and research. Its alumni are to be found as leaders and decision makers in industry and the community. With over 2100 students, this faculty plays a leading role in the delivery of undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes providing a focus on sustainability as well as core engineering knowledge preparing students to confidently meet the challenges of contemporary global, national and regional society. It is widely believed that engineers are uniquely placed to understand, meet and solve those challenges.

The Faculty of Engineering at present has 7 Departments offering 8 undergraduate degree programs and 28 postgraduate degree programs (including 8 PhD programs) as shown in the table below:

Department	Degree Programs	BA/ BSc	MA/ MSc	PhD
Chemical Engineering	Chemical Engineering	✓		
	Chemical Engineering – Design Process		✓	
	Chemical Engineering- Thermokinetics and Catalyst		✓	
Civil Engineering	Civil Engineering	✓		
	Earthquake Engineering		✓	
	Water Resources Management		✓	

	Structural Engineering		✓	✓
	Remote Sensing		✓	
Electrical Engineering	Electrical Engineering	✓		✓
	Electrical Engineering- Power Systems Engineering	✓	✓	✓
	Electrical Engineering- Micro and Nano-Electronic devices		✓	
	Electrical Engineering- Communication Systems		✓	
	Electrical Engineering- Control Engineering		✓	✓
	Electrical Engineering- Electronic Integrated Circuits		✓	
	Electrical Engineering- Power Electronics and Electric Machines		✓	
Computer Engineering	Computer Engineering-Software	✓	✓	✓
	Computer Engineering- Artificial Intelligence and Robotics		✓	✓
Industrial Engineering	Industrial Engineering	✓		✓
	Logistics & Supply Chain		✓	
	System Optimization		✓	
Mechanical Engineering	Mechanical Engineering	✓		
	Mechanical Engineering Energy- Conversion		✓	✓
	Mechanical Engineering- Applied Design		✓	
Mine Engineering	Mine Engineering	✓		
	Rock Mechanics		✓	
	Mineral Exploration		✓	

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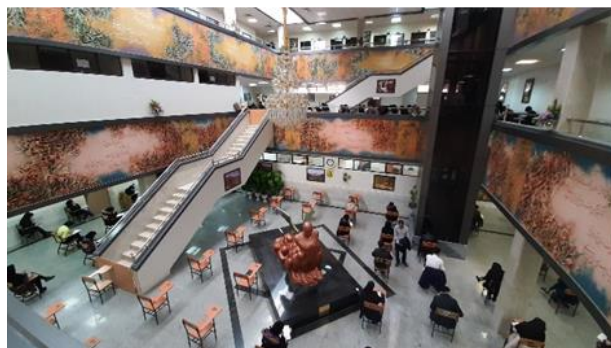
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5.4. Faculty of Humanities and Social Science



The Faculty of Literature and Humanities was officially divided into two separate faculties in 2012: The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Literature and Foreign Languages. The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences currently has 11 departments that are involved in teaching and research activities. It has approximately 2500 students who are on 12 programs leading to an undergraduate degree, 23 programs leading to Master's degree and 7 programs leading to a PhD as shown below:

Department	Degree Programs	BA/ BSc	MA/ MSc	PhD
Accounting*	Accounting	✓		
Business Administration*	Business Administration	✓		
	Tourism	✓		
	Business Administration- Marketing		✓	
	Business Administration- Strategic Management		✓	
	Business Administration- Entrepreneurship		✓	
	MBA - Strategy		✓	
	MBA - Marketing		✓	
	MBA - Human Resources Management and Organizational Behavior			✓
Psychology*	Psychology	✓		✓
	Clinical Psychology		✓	
	Cognitive Psychology		✓	
Economic Sciences *	Economics	✓		

	Economic- Energy Economics		✓	
	Theoretical Economics		✓	
	Economic- Economic Development and Planning		✓	
Educational Science	Educational Administration & Planning	✓		
	Educational Administration (by Organizational Education Approach)	✓		
	Curriculum Planning		✓	
	Educational Administration		✓	✓
	Higher Education Development Planning			✓
Counselling	Counselling	✓		✓
	Family Counselling		✓	
	School Counselling		✓	
	Rehabilitation Counselling		✓	
Law	Law	✓		
	Criminal Law & Criminology		✓	
Shafe'ee Jurisprudence & Law	Shafi'i Jurisprudence and Law	✓		
	Shafi'i Jurisprudence		✓	
Physical Education	Sport Science	✓		
	Sport Management			✓
	Exercise Physiology			✓
	Exercise Physiology and Health		✓	
	Sport Injuries and Corrective Exercise-Sport Injuries		✓	
	Motor Development- Motor Behavior		✓	
	Sport Marketing and Communication Management		✓	
Sociology*	Sociology	✓	✓	
	Cultural sociology			✓

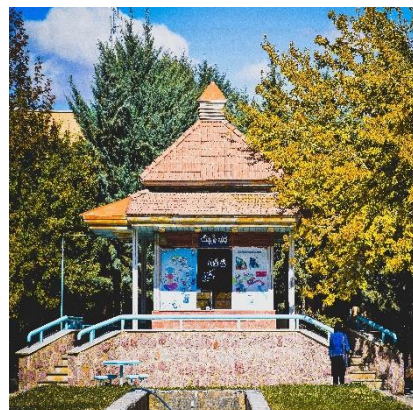
* Note that these programs only accept students for the fall term.

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5.5. Faculty of Language and Literature



The Faculty of Literature and Foreign Languages officially began its teaching and research activities in October 2012 and prior to that it was part of the Faculty of Literature and Humanities. It is worth mentioning that the disbanded Faculty of Literature and Humanities was established in 1991 as the second faculty of the University of Kurdistan, but began its teaching activities much earlier in 1976 by accepting students majoring in English language teacher training and later establishing 14 departments. The Faculty of Literature and Foreign Languages currently has 4 departments offering 5 undergraduate programs, 5 Master programs and 3 PhD programs to over 760 students:

Department	Degree Programs	BA/ BSc	MA/ MSc	PhD
Arabic Language & Literature	Arabic Language & Literature	✓		✓
	Arabic Literature		✓	
English Literature & Linguistics*	English Language & Literature	✓	✓	
	English Language Teaching	✓	✓	
	Public Linguistics		✓	

Persian Language & Literature*	Persian Language & Literature	✓	✓	✓
	Persian Language & Literature - Mystical Literature			✓
Kurdish Language and Literature*	Kurdish Language and Literature	✓		

* Note that these programs only accept students for the fall term.

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5.6. Faculty of Natural Resources



The Faculty of Natural Resources was founded jointly with the Faculty of Agriculture in 1991. In 2007, the Faculty of Natural Resources disbanded from the Faculty of Agriculture and commenced its academic teaching and research activities on an independent basis. The Faculty of Natural Resources focuses on the conservation, protection, rehabilitation, management and enhancement of renew-able natural resources including: forests, rangelands, water reservoirs, soil, biodiversity and related resources. Currently, the Faculty of Natural Resources has 6 departments (as listed below) that offer 6 undergraduate programs, 15 Masters programs, and 4 PhD programs as shown in table below:

Department	Degree Programs	BA/ BSc	MA/ MSc	PhD
Environmental Sciences	Environmental Science and Engineering	✓		
	Environmental Science and Engineering- Biodiversity Conservation and Management		✓	
	Environmental Science and Engineering- Environmental Pollution		✓	
	Environmental Science and Engineering- Land Use Planning and Environmental Impact Assessment		✓	
	Environmental Science and Engineering			✓
Fisheries Science and Engineering	Fisheries Sciences and Engineering	✓		
	Fisheries Sciences and Engineering - Aquaculture		✓	
	Fisheries Sciences and Engineering- Aquatic Ecology		✓	
	Fisheries Sciences and Engineering - Aquaculture			✓
Forest Science and Engineering	Forest Science and Engineering	✓		
	Forest Science and Engineering- Forest Management		✓	✓
	Forest Science and Engineering- Forest Biological Sciences		✓	✓
	Forest Science and Engineering- Forest Engineering and Utilization		✓	
Natural Resources Engineering	Natural Resources Engineering	✓		
	Rangeland Science and Engineering- Rangeland Management		✓	
	Rangeland Science and Engineering- Rangeland Improvement and Rehabilitation		✓	
	Watershed Science and Engineering - Soil and Water Conservation		✓	
	Watershed Science and Engineering - Flood and River		✓	
Geomorphology	Geomorphology	✓		
	Environmental Hazards		✓	

	Geomorphology - Geomorphology & Spatial Planning of Environmental		✓	
Geography (Climatology)	Climatology	✓		
	Environmental Climatology		✓	

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5.7. Faculty of Science



The Faculty of Science is known as the oldest faculty at the University of Kurdistan with over 40 years' experience and has had a crucial role in teaching and re-search in the province. The Faculty of Science currently has the honor of having seven academic members of staff who hold full professorships, 20 Associate Professors and 40 Assistant Professors. In addition, it the faculty employs numerous part-time academic members of staff. The faculty has 6 departments, offering different degree programmes at bachelor, master, and PhD levels as shown below:

Department	Degree Programs	BA/ BSc	MA/ MSc	PhD
Chemistry*	Applied Chemistry	✓		
	Pure Chemistry	✓		

	Science and Nanotechnology- Nano-Chemistry, Nano-Mineral			✓
	Nano Chemistry		✓	
	Polymer Chemistry		✓	
	Analytical Chemistry		✓	✓
	Inorganic Chemistry		✓	✓
	Organic Chemistry		✓	✓
	Physical Chemistry		✓	✓
Mathematics*	Mathematics and Applications	✓		
	Computer Science	✓		
	Applied Mathematics- Optimization		✓	
	Mathematics and Applications-Algebra		✓	
	Mathematics and Applications-Geometry		✓	
	Pure Mathematics-Geometry		✓	
	Applied Mathematics- Analysis		✓	
	Applied Mathematics- Numerical Analysis		✓	✓
	Pure Mathematics-Analysis			✓
	Applied Mathematics			✓
	Pure Mathematics-Algebra			✓
	Statistics *	Statistics	✓	
Mathematical Statistics			✓	
Physics*	Physics	✓		
	Engineering physics	✓		
	Physics- Optics & Laser		✓	
	Quantum science and technology		✓	
	Nanophysics		✓	
	Physics- Gravity & Cosmology		✓	

	Photonics		✓	✓
	Physics- Elementary Particles and Field Theory		✓	✓
	Condensed Matter Physics		✓	✓
	Statistical physics in complex systems			✓
	Astronomy and Astrophysics			✓
Biology*	Biotechnology	✓		
	Cellular & Molecular Biology	✓		
	Cellular & Molecular Biology, Biochemistry		✓	
	Animal Biology, Physiology		✓	
	Cellular & Molecular Biology		✓	
Earth Sciences*	Geology	✓		
	Earth Science-Geochemistry		✓	

* Note that these programs only accept students for the fall term.

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5.8. Bijar Faculty of Science and Engineering



The Bijar Faculty of Science and Engineering was established in September 2014 and commenced its pedagogical activities in the fields of Computer Science, Physics, Statistics, and Civil Engineering as listed below. As its name indicates, this faculty is located in the city of Bijar, a city in Kurdistan Province.

Department	Degree Programs	BA/ BSc	MA/ MSc	PhD
Computer Science	Computer Science	✓		
Physics	Physics		✓	
Statistics	Statistics & Applications	✓		
Civil Engineering	Civil Engineering	✓		
Handicraft	Carpet	✓		

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5.9. Ghorveh Faculty of Industry and Mining

Department	Degree Programs	BA/ BSc	MA/ MSc	PhD
Industrial engineering	Industrial engineering	✓		
Energy Engineering	Energy Engineering	✓		



6. Tuition Fees and Costs of Living at UOK

Tuition fees and costs of living at UOK are shown in table below. Food for International Students is cheap and is about 30 cents per meal.

Program		Semester's Tuition Fee	Total Tuition Fee	Accommodation (Each Semester)	Persian Language Training Course Tuition Fee (340 Hours)	Health Insurance (One person) (Entire Program)	Total Costs (Entire Program)
		Dollar	Dollar	Dollar	Dollar	Dollar	Dollar
B.Sc (8 Semesters)	Faculty of Language and Literature – Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences	200	1600	75	250	400	2850
	Other Faculties	250	2000	75	250	400	3250
M.Sc (4 Semesters)	Faculty of Language and Literature – Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences	450	1800	75	250	200	2550
	Other Faculties	500	2000	75	250	200	2950
Ph.D (8 Semesters)	Faculty of Language and Literature – Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences	600	4800	75	250	400	6050
	Other Faculties	650	5200	75	250	400	6450

7. Tuition Fee Discounts

UOK proudly offers the lowest tuition fees for international applicants among all Iranian universities. Despite this, UOK has prepared the most comprehensive regulations for tuition fee discounts in order to develop international activities of the University of Kurdistan, Sanandaj, IR Iran. The UOK considers special discounts for circumstances below:

- ❖ Faculties and staff introduced by the universities that have joint memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the University of Kurdistan through an official support letter,
- ❖ Staff introduced by the ministries which do not have MoU with the University of Kurdistan,
- ❖ A current international student of the University of Kurdistan who introduces other applicants for pursuing their studies at the University of Kurdistan,
- ❖ An international student of the University of Kurdistan who can obtain rank 1 among all his/her fellow Iranian and Non-Iranian students based on an official report by the undergraduate or postgraduate office of the University of Kurdistan,
- ❖ A graduated international student of the University of Kurdistan who continues his/her studies toward higher degrees at the University of Kurdistan,
- ❖ An agency that collaborates with the University of Kurdistan in terms of introducing international applicants,
- ❖ An international applicant who is the first applicant from a country that no previous applicant has been officially registered from that country at UOK.

8. Scholarships at UOK

The UOK offers two types of scholarships to international applicants and students including the Iranian Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT) scholarship and the University of Kurdistan (UOK) scholarship.

8.1. MSRT Scholarship

This scholarship can be awarded to bachelor, master and PhD students of different programs based on decision made by the MSRT scholarship council. The student needs to officially register at UOK

and then apply to the scholarship from MSRT. This scholarship is valid for 8 Semester for bachelor and PhD students and 4 semesters for master students. To apply for this scholarship, international students must meet the following conditions:

- ❖ GPA over 85%
- ❖ Age below 23 for bachelor, below 26 for master, and below 30 for Ph.D students

The MSRT offers two types of scholarships:

8.1.1. Type A

This type of scholarship covers all tuition fees, accommodation, and health insurance. It also considers an allowance for further support international students.

8.1.2. Type B

This type of scholarship covers all tuition fees, accommodation, and health insurance. It does not consider any allowance for international students.

8.2. UOK Scholarship

On top of the most comprehensive tuition fee discount rules and regulations, the UOK offers two types of scholarships for international students including:

8.2.1. Type A

This type of scholarship covers all tuition fees, accommodation, and health insurance of bachelor and PhD students for 8 semesters and of master students for 4 semesters based on the decision made by the UOK International Affairs Policy-Making Council. It also considers an allowance for further support international students. This scholarship will be awarded to the applicants:

- ❖ the first international student with GPA over 80% from a country that no previous student has been registered at the UOK from that country,
- ❖ international students from poor countries (limited amount) based on the World Bank Report
- ❖ international applicants who have a GPA over 95% in his/her previous grade.

8.2.2. Type B

This type of scholarship covers only tuition fees of bachelor and PhD students for 8 semesters and of master students for 4 semesters based on the decision made by the UOK International Policy-Making Council.

- ❖ Who are introduced by the universities with a specific agreement with the UOK,
- ❖ International applicants who have a GPA over 90% in his/her previous grade,
- ❖ International students from poor countries (limited amount) based on the World Bank Report.

9. Admission Requirements

In order to obtain an admission offer from UOK, an international applicant needs to meet several requirements including:

9.1. General Requirements

- ❖ No legal prohibition to continue studies regarding educational regulations and current laws and no ban on residence in the Islamic Republic of Iran;
- ❖ Holding a valid passport;
- ❖ Holding a valid certificate and transcripts signed and sealed by official authorities in applicant's home country as well as signed and sealed by one of the Iranian consular offices in the applicant's home country;
- ❖ Commitment to comply with the educational, student, cultural and disciplinary criteria of UOK;
- ❖ Financial ability to pay tuition fees and costs of living in the Islamic Republic of Iran (especially for non-scholarship applicants);
- ❖ Official certificate of 240 hours of Persian language training for Kurdish applicants; 340 hours for other applicants before final registration at UOK. This Persian Language Training Certificate has to be issued by one of the Persian Language Training centers certified by the Iranian Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT). Afghan applicants, Tajik applicants, the applicants who have graduated from one of the Iranian universities in their previous degrees, and who has an official Persian Language Proficiency Certificate do not need any Persian Language Certificate for registration at UOK.

9.2. Specific Requirements for Bachelor Studies

- ❖ Applicants for undergraduate studies must have an official high school diploma (equivalent to the end of secondary education in Iran) with GPA of at least 65 out of 100;
- ❖ Approval of the related educational department on the applicant's certificate and transcripts.

9.3. Specific Requirements for Master Studies

- ❖ Applicants for master degrees must have an official undergraduate certificate with GPA of at least 65 out of 100.
- ❖ Approval of the related educational department on the applicant's certificate and transcripts. The related department may agree with the application under the condition of taking some prerequisite courses.

9.4. Specific Requirements for PhD Studies

- ❖ Applicants for PhD degrees must have an official master certificate with GPA of at least 70 out of 100.
- ❖ Approval of the related educational department on the applicant's certificate and transcripts. The departments may ask the applicant to participate in a scientific interview.

10. Initial Registration Procedure

The process of registration at UOK is easy and includes 2 steps to be taken by each international applicant. These steps should be taken in order including:

Step 1: Filling in the application form of the Student Affairs Organization of the Iranian Ministry of Science, Research and Technology via <http://old.saorg.ir:8081/Application.php> and receiving a tracking code.

Step 2: Filling in the application form via <https://admission.uok.ac.ir>

11. Final Registration Procedure

- ❖ **Stage 1:** Once the International Students Affairs Office of UOK receives the applicant's documents (step 1 in section 10), they will send the documents to the related educational department to be approved. *This takes about 15-20 days.*

The related department must evaluate the applicant's certificates and transcripts based on their own criteria. Once approved, if the applicant is either master or PhD, the department has to determine a supervisor for the applicant.

- ❖ **Stage 2:** The Student Affairs Organization of the Iranian Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (Step 2 in section 10) will inform UOK upon the results of investigating the applicant's request.
 - **This may take about 30 days.**

- ❖ **Stage 3:** The applicants have to go to [the Centre for Persian Teaching to Non-Persian](#) for registration in Persian Language Training courses.

This will take about 1 hour.

- ❖ **Stage 4:** After completing the previous stages (the 2 stages will go on simultaneously), the International Students Affairs Office of UOK will issue an official "offer letter" for the applicant and inform the applicant via admission@uok.ac.ir. The office will also apply for e-visa for the applicant, immediately after issuing the offer letter. *This may take about 30 days.*

The e-visa will be sent to one of the Iranian Consular Offices in the applicant's home country. The applicant has to go to the consulate office to receive his/her e-visa. Once the applicant receives the e-visa, he/she has to enter the Islamic Republic of Iran within 30 days and come to the International Students Affairs Office of UOK for final registration.

- ❖ **Stage 5:** The International Students Affairs Office of UOK will complete the educational package of the applicant (Original Documents) and send the applicant with his/her educational package to the Registrar Office of UOK to finalize his/her registration and to obtain Student Number and [Student ID Card](#).

This will take about 4 hours.

- ❖ **Stage 6:** The applicant will be sent to his/her related faculty and department for course selection through [Golestan System](#) under the supervision of the department's head. The user ID and

password for this system will be the student Number by default. The Golestan system's guideline is available at <https://golestan.uok.ac.ir/home/Default.htm>.

This will take about 2 hours.

- ❖ **Stage 7:** The applicant will be sent to the department of Vice-Chancellor for Students Affairs for [accommodation](#) and [food card registration](#).

This will take about 1 hour.

- ❖ **Stage 8:** The applicant has to come back to the International Students Affairs Office of UOK to inform the office on his student number.

- ❖ **Stage 9:** The applicant has to go to the Consular Office of UOK to register for residence permit.

This will take about 30 days.

Contact Persons:

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Director of International Students Affairs Office

Tel: +98-87-33611458

E-mail: anwar.mahmoodi@uok.ac.ir

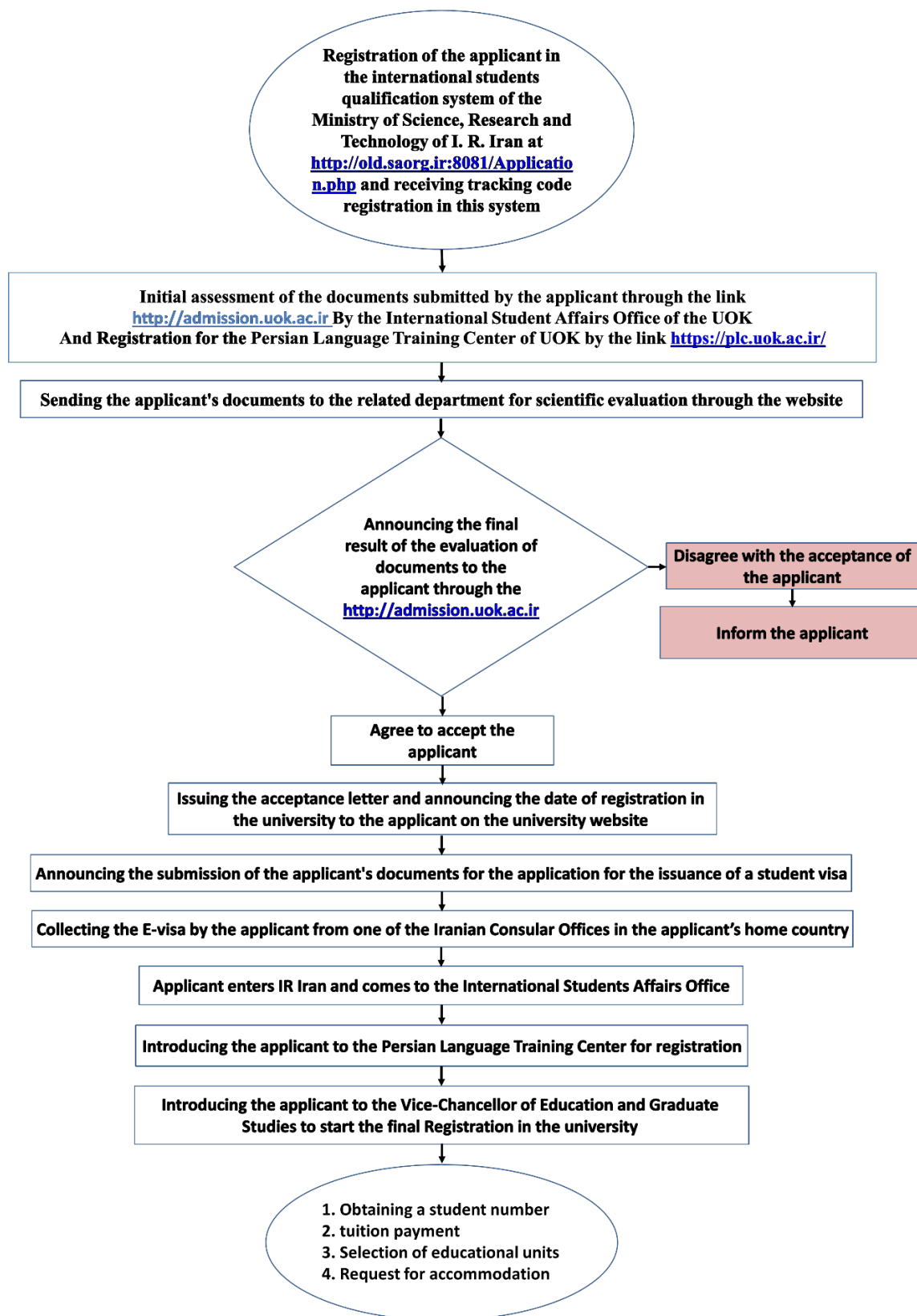
Mrs. Golaleh Ghaderi

International Students Affairs Officer

Tel: +98-87-33611458

E-mail: admission@uok.ac.ir

UOK Final Registration Procedure Flowchart



12. Academic Calendar for International Students

Activity	Dates for Fall Semester		Dates for Winter Semester
	Non-Persian Speakers	Persian Speakers	
Early Admission Deadline	5 th of June	23 rd of July	15 th of December
Sending offer letter and e-visa to applicants	from 5 th of June	from 23 rd of July	from 15 th of January
Presence of applicant at UOK for final registration and course selection	Must participate in Persian courses from 15 st of June Final Registration: 10 th – 20 th of September	10 th – 20 th of September	25 th of January – 5 th of February
Official beginning of semester	20 th of September		5 th of February
Semester dates (including final exams)	20 th of Semester – 1 st of February		5 th of February – 5 th of July
Events and Workshops			
UOK International Day	1 st week of March		
Orientation Session (General Information, University tour, City tour)	1 st week of October		4 th week of February
Workshop on the Golestan System (Electronic system of academic affairs, Academic rules and regulations)	2 nd week of October		2 nd week of March
Workshop on Research Resources (Library, Hamanandjo system, Irandoc system, ...)	3 rd week of October		3 rd week of April

13. Consular Office

The UOK has a self-governing consular office on-campus which provides the following services for international students:

- ❖ **Issuing initial residence permit:** International students must submit their E-visa and some other documents in person to apply for residence permit. The students must stay in Iran for about 3 weeks during this process.
- ❖ **Renewing residence permit:** The initial residence permit is regularly valid for one year. International students must apply for their residence permit renewal one month before its expiration.
- ❖ **Leave and Entry:** Each international student must refer to the Consular Office of the UOK before leaving IR Iran.
- ❖ **Final Leave:** Each international student must refer to the Consular Office of the UOK before final leaving IR Iran after graduation.
- ❖ **Health Insurance Services:** Each international student must have a health insurance during their period of study. The consular office is responsible for providing the insurance every year.

Contact Person:

Mr. Gholamreza Aeni

Consular Affairs Officer

Tel: +98-87-33611458

E-mail: consular@uok.ac.ir

14. Center for Persian Language Training to Non-Persian Speakers

The UOK has a self-governing [Center for Persian Language Training to Non-Persian Speakers](#) on campus in order to teach Persian Language to international applicants and students. This center started its activities in 2016 and now it is the only accredited center for Persian Language training to international applicants and students in western Iran. This center offers a large variety of Persian Language courses to international applicants and students including:

- ❖ Pre-introductory: 100 hours

- ❖ Introductory 1: 100 hours
- ❖ Introductory 2: 80 hours
- ❖ Intermediate 1: 80 hours
- ❖ Intermediate 2: 80 hours
- ❖ Advanced: 100 hours

International applicants have to take these courses during their studies at the UOK. Some of these courses must be taken before official registration (Kurdish applicants: 120 hours; Arab applicants: 220 hours; Non-Kurdish and Non-Arab applicants: 320 hours) at UOK and the rest should be taken in the first year of the programs. The total Persian course hours for Kurdish applicants, Arab applicants, and Non-Kurdish and Non-Arab applicants will be 340, 440, and 540 hours, respectively. Afghan and Tajik applicants do not need to take any Persian Language Courses.

Type of applicant	Number of Persian training hours before registration	Number of Persian training hours during the first year of education	Total Persian training hours
Kurdish	240	120	360
Arab	340	120	460
Others	340	240	580

If a student holds an official Persian Language Certificate before official registration, the center can decrease the number of training hours based on an evaluation exam.

Contact Person:

Mr. Yahya Asaadi

Director of Center for Persian Language Training to Non-Persian Speakers

Tel: +98-87-33660064

E-mail: plc@uok.ac.ir

15. Important Rules and Regulations

International students must adhere by all academic and educational rules and regulations confirmed by the Iranian Ministry of Science, Research and Technology which are similar to Iranian students. However, there are some rules and regulations for international students that they must follow including:

- ❖ Scholarship-holding students cannot change their programs; while, other international students can change their programs based on its circumstances one time during their studies.
- ❖ International applicants have to enter the Islamic Republic of Iran immediately after receiving their E-Visas from one of the Iranian Consular Offices at their home countries.
- ❖ International applicants have to come to the University of Kurdistan Consular Office once they are officially registered as an international student to apply for residence permit.
- ❖ Each semester includes 16 weeks for education and 2 weeks for final examinations.
- ❖ Bachelor and PhD students have to finish their entire Persian Language Courses before the start of their 3rd semester and Master students must finish the courses before the registration of their MSc proposal; otherwise, they will be banned from studying.
- ❖ Bachelor students have to select 12 to 20 credits each semester. They have to obtain at least 10 out of 20 marks to successfully pass a course. Mark below 10 results in failing in a course, implying that the students have to re-pass that course in the next semesters. They also have to obtain a GPA of 12 out of 20 to be able to successfully finish a semester. GPA of below 12 is called “conditional GPA” and the student have to select only 12 to 14 credits in the next semester.
- ❖ If a bachelor student obtains “conditional GPA” for 3 consecutive semesters or 4 intermittent semesters, he/she will be stopped from studying.
- ❖ Master students have to select 8 to 14 credits each semester. They have to obtain at least 12 out of 20 marks to successfully pass a course. Mark below 12 results in failing in a course, implying that the students have to re-pass that course in the next semesters. They also have to obtain a GPA of 14 out of 20 to be able to successfully finish a semester. GPA of below 14 is called “conditional GPA”.
- ❖ If a master student obtains “conditional GPA” for 2 semesters, he/she will be stopped from studying.
- ❖ PhD students have to select 6 to 10 credits each semester. They have to obtain at least 14 out of 20 marks to successfully pass a course. Mark below 14 results in failing in a course, implying

that the students have to re-pass that course in the next semesters. They also have to obtain a GPA of 16 out of 20 to be able to successfully finish a semester. GPA of below 16 is called “conditional GPA”.

- ❖ If a PhD student obtains “conditional GPA” for taken credits, he/she will be allowed to re-take several courses in one semester to restore his/her GPA. If he/she fails to do so, he/she will be stopped from studying.
- ❖ All International PhD students (except PhD students in Persian Language and Literature) have to take a Standard English Exam (MSRT, TOLIMO, IELTS, TOEFL, ...) and successfully pass it in order to enter their qualifying examinations.
- ❖ All international students need to have an official Persian Language certificate for graduation.

16. Facilities and Supports

The University of Kurdistan has a large variety of centers to facilitate life for international students and support them while accommodating in Sanandaj. It has:

16.1. Central Library

It is a well-equipped [central library](#) with a large digital book repository and access to international databases. It contains 126000 books in different languages with huge digital databases for all academic staff and students.

Contact Person:

Mr. Heydar Esmaili

Tel: +98-87-33611412

16.2. Central Laboratory

The [central laboratory of the UOK](#) has many sophisticated tools, devices, and instruments to help staff and students do their research.

Tel: +98-87-33664802 Ext. 2495

Email: centlab@uok.ac.ir

16.3. Sport Office

The [sport center](#) tends to guarantee all students to be healthy and happy. This center has a standard football pitch, a standard open futsal, a [standard swimming pool](#), 4 well-equipped gyms, and many other facilities.

Contact Persons:

Mr. Hamid Shokrnejad

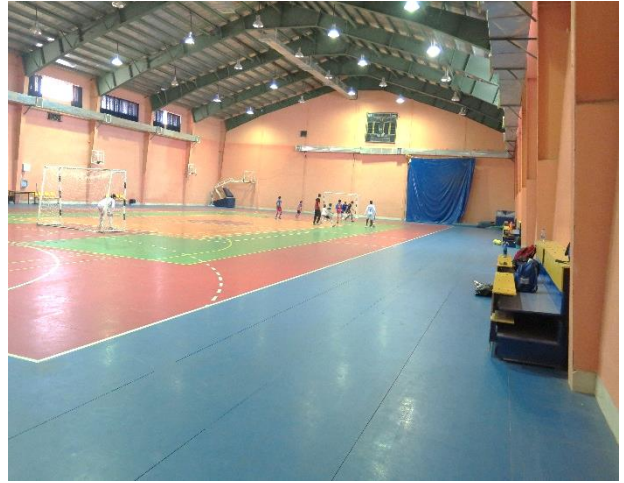
Tel: +98-87- 33666801 Ext. 2484

Email: hamid20745@gmail.com

Mrs. Negin Ardalan

Tel: +98-87- 33666801 Ext. 2361





16.4. Restaurants and Canteens

The UOK has 2 public restaurants and 2 private canteens for staff and students. International students can use these facilities through their food cards. The [food card](#) will be charged online through an online website. The user for this system will be your student ID and the password is 1. You can change your password immediately after the first login.

Contact Persons:

Mr. Masoud Faizi

Tel: +98-87-33660799 Ext. 2359

Mr. Foad Maleki

Tel: +98-87-33660799 Ext. 2360



16.5. [Center for Counselling](#)

This center helps students who feel uncomfortable in terms of mental and social conditions. It provides services free of charge for all students. Students can take a turn through <https://moshaver.uok.ac.ir/>.

Tel: +98-87-33660046 Ext. 2357

16.6. [Health Center](#)

This center provides some medical and dental services for all staff and students.

Tel: +98-87-33660046 Ext. 2356

16.7. Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center

This center provides free services for all students who have new ideas and creativity in scientific and business fields.

Tel: +98-87-33611410

16.8. Cert Center

This center provides services for enhancing computer, virtual media and Internet communication security.

Tel: +98-87-33611415

Email: apa@uok.ac.ir

16.9. Tejarat Bank

Since all students' payments at the UOK are taken place online, each international student has to open a bank account with Tejarat Bank. A Tejarat Bank branch is located on-campus. International students can open an account after they receive their residence permit.

Tel: +98-87-33623545

+98-87-33665752

16.10. Foreign Language Learning Center

This center offers many introductory, intermediate, and advanced courses for staff and students in order for learning a foreign language including English, French, and German.

Tel: +98-87-33624015

Email: uoklc98@gmail.com

16.11. Security Office

This office is responsible for issuing [Students' ID card](#) as well as protecting the university environment safe for all students. Campus police acts as secure guards 24/7 which can be accessible via +98-9108080617, +98-9188773912, and +98-9189778277.

17. Accommodation

The UOK has 12 large dormitories for female students and 10 dormitories for male students, on-campus. To accommodate at these dormitories, international students have to register online through the [University Automation System](#) (UAS). The user and password for this system will be the students' ID number.

An active transportation system will transfer students between class buildings and dormitories 7 times during a day based on a time table provided by the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs Office at the beginning of each semester.

Contact Persons:

Mr. Mohammad Karimi

Tel: +98-87-33660696

Mrs. Fariba Miraki

Tel: +98-87-33664600 Ext. 2232

18. Kurdistan Province

Kurdistan Province is one of the 31 provinces of Iran. The province of Kurdistan is 28,817 km² in area. It is located in the west of Iran, in Region 3 and bound by Kurdistan Region of Iraq on the west, the province of West Azerbaijan to its north, Zanjan to the northeast, Hamedan to the east and Kermanshah to the south. The capital of Kurdistan Province is the city of Sanandaj. Other cities are Saqqez, Marivan, Baneh, Divandarreh, Bijar, Qorveh, Dehghan, Kamyaran, and Sarvabad.

The population of the province in 2016 was 1,603,011 of which 66% were urban dwellers and 34% rural dwellers.

Kurdistan Province is a mountainous region that can be topographically divided into a western and an eastern section at Sanandaj. As a result of its elevation and mountains, Kurdistan province has many rivers, lakes, glaciers and caves, which render it rather picturesque. Consequently, Kurdistan has always attracted many tourists and fans of mountaineering, ski and water-sports.

The Zarrineh River, 302 km long, is one of the longest rivers of this province. Its banks offer great opportunities for recreation and the river's plentiful water renders itself ideal for water sports. This river runs northwards and ultimately pours into Lake Urmia. The Sirvan River is another prominent

river in this province. It runs over a long distance, eventually to join the Tigris in Iraq. The banks of this river are remarkably attractive. The Simineh River is also an important river in this province. Many marine species and birds live on the banks of the province's numerous rivers which they seem to find ideal habitats.

Lake Zarivar is a water-way which lies at the feet to high mountains, providing a delightfully picturesque sight. Its water is sparkling and fresh. The lake has a maximum depth of 50 m and an average depth of 3 m. It is surrounded by thick forests. The lake, the mountains and the forests create a scenic panorama. This lake, which has a length of 5 km and a maximum width of 1.7 km, lies to the west of Marivan. Lake Vahdat's dam, to the north of Sanandaj (Sinne), provides excellent opportunities for fishing and water-sports.



Kurdistan Province benefits from many resourceful mineral water springs. The most outstanding of these are: Govaz to the northwest of Kamyaran, Abetalkh close to Bijar and Baba Gorgor to the north of Qorveh.

Cave Kereftoo, close to Divandarreh, is a unique natural and at the same time archeological site. Inside the cave there are a number of ancient buildings known as the Temple of Heraclius, because the name of this Greek god is carved on the ceiling of one of the halls. Cave Shoovi, 267 m long, is another prominent cave, which lies near the city of Baneh.

Mount Charkhahn 3,330 m high, mount Chehelcheshmeh, 3,173 m, Mount Hossein Bak, 3,091 m, and Mount Masjede Mirza, 3,059 m, are the other large mountains of Kurdistan.

19. City of Sanandaj

The city of Sanandaj is the capital of Kurdistan Province and 512 kilometers west of Tehran. It is geographically located almost in the center of the province so that except for the cities of Saqez and Baneh, it has borders with the other cities in the province. Sanandaj has a population of 501,402 as per the last census taken in 2016 and is thus the province's most populous city. It is considered to be one of the most beautiful cities in Iran because of its scenic views and topography.



The city is surrounded by mountains and hills, and has a mountainous climate where summers are relatively mild and winters cold. Some of these hills, such as Tapeh Tooshnawzar, Tapeh Roosi and Tapeh Sharaf-al-mulk, are of religious and historical importance. Two well-known mountain landmarks in the city are Abidar and Koçek Rash (black stone) which are situated at opposing ends

of the city. The name Sanandaj is an Arabicized form of the compound word “Sna dezh” and the native Kurdish people of the city call the city “Sna”. Although many definitions exist for the term “Sna”, in the Avesta (primary collection of religious texts of Zoroastrianism) it is defined as “hawk” or “eagle” and the word “dezh” means fort.

The city of Sanandaj has been selected as "**creative city of music**" in 2020 by UNESCO.

www.uok.ac.ir

International Students Affairs Office

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Telephone: **+988733611458**

Postal Code: **66177-15175**

Email: admission@uok.ac.ir



Main Portal:

<https://uok.ac.ir/fa.aspx>



International Affairs Website:

[http://international.uok.ac.ir/](http://international.uok.ac.ir)



Aparat:

https://www.aparat.com/uok_ir



Pinterest:

<https://www.pinterest.com/Uokacir/>



instagram:

<https://instagram.com/uok.ac.ir>



linkedin:

<https://www.linkedin.com/school/University-of-Kurdistan-Sanandaj/>