



Curtin University

Dubai

# ***CURTIN COMES TO YOU***

Workshops and Activities for  
High School Students

# ABOUT CURTIN UNIVERSITY

Curtin University is Western Australia's largest university and is known for excellence in education, innovation, and research. Curtin has global campuses in Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Mauritius, Colombo, and Dubai. Curtin is ranked in the top 1% of universities by the ARWU 2025 rankings and 174<sup>th</sup> in the QS World Rankings 2025.

## ACCREDITATION

Curtin Dubai is globally recognised, offering programs with the same academic standards as Curtin Australia.

Curtin University's Dubai campus is accredited by the **Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA)** under the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and is licensed by the **Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA)** in the Emirates of Dubai.

Curtin University is registered with the **Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)**, the Australian Government's higher education regulatory and quality assurance body.

# CURTIN COMES TO YOU

- At Curtin University Dubai, we believe in teaching students transferable skills through defining goals, problem-solving, focusing on their strengths, and learning how to overcome challenges
- **'Curtin Comes to You'** is the University's CSR initiative, which offers workshops for high school students in the UAE from grades 8 to 13
- These workshops are arranged as one-time lectures, weekly workshops, or to suit the needs of the school and their students
- The Curtin Comes to You workshops can be conducted virtually, at your school, or at Curtin's campus in Dubai International Academic City
- These sessions are strictly a way to give back to the community and as such there is no sales talk or university promotion and no effort to collect the students' contact information

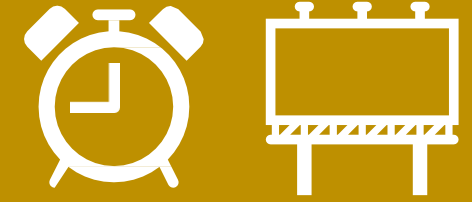




***WORKSHOPS  
AND TOPICS***

# GENERAL TOPICS

## *(Virtual/Our Campus/Your School)*



- Importance of Careers Education in Schools
- What Matters/Should Matter to High School Students When Selecting a University
- How to Manage Hobbies and Careers
- Followership
- Managing Change
- Design Thinking - Process, Tools, and Techniques
- Design Thinking - Product
- Design Thinking - Services
- Design Thinking - Social Causes
- Risk and Crisis Management
- Great Opportunities in Less Known Careers
- UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Negotiations
- 21st Century Leadership
- Decision Making
- Project Management
- Product Marketing
- Services Marketing
- Cosmology - Big Bang to The Heat Death of The Universe
- The Super Telescopes
- Range - The Importance of Being a Generalist
- The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens

# PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

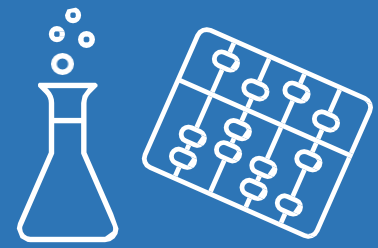
## *(Virtual/Our Campus/Your School)*



- Essay writing (Academic)
- Writing an essay for university admission
- Emotional Intelligence
- Problem solving
- Time management and goal setting
- Communication and business etiquette
- Leadership and interpersonal skills
- Personal development - being the best you can be
- Preparation for exams (stress & time management)
- Anti-bullying
- Coping with cyber bullying - mental health and well-being
- Video game addiction
- Getting the most out of your education - study skills
- Test-taking skills
- Introduction to conducting research
- Cybersecurity: How to stay safe online
- Building and improving student portfolios
- Building a personal study plan

# MAD SCIENCE AND FUN MATHEMATICS WORKSHOPS

## (Our Campus/Your School)



- Creating a supersonic ping-pong ball
- Internal combustion engines
- Build It: Rat trap boat
- Build It: Trebuchet
- Build It: Hydraulic drawbridge
- Build It: Strongest spaghetti bridge
- Quick Math: Calculating the value of Pi
- Quick Math: Mental maths and estimating
- DIY Hydraulic robotic arm
- Testing the strength of materials
- Website development: website building and dynamic website building (advanced)
- What's is ethical hacking?
- Solar powered vehicles
- How do electric circuits work

# *BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY*

## *(Virtual/Our Campus/Your School)*



- Digital marketing 101
- Financial planning for the youth/financial literacy
- Global trends in business
- What does mass communication entail
- NFTs: Non-fungible tokens
- How to earn digitally and intellectual property laws
- Content Creation (Vlog/Blog/Videos etc.)

# *CAREERS (GENERAL)*

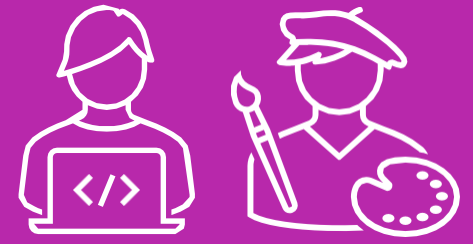
## *(Virtual/Our Campus/Your School)*



- CV writing
- LinkedIn
- Personal branding
- Your digital footprint
- Business etiquette
- Effective emails
- Working in a diverse environment
- How to network
- The benefits of work experience
- Synergising your LinkedIn and CV
- How to face hiring managers with confidence
- Interview skills and common interview questions
- Coping through unemployment/Tough Times  
Financially – mental health and wellbeing
- How to build your personal portfolio

# *FIELD-SPECIFIC TOPICS*

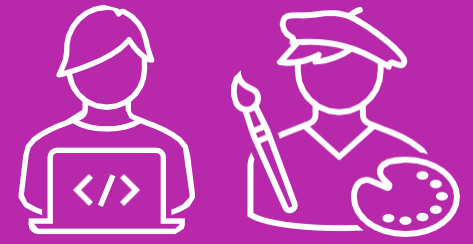
## *(Virtual/Our Campus/Your School)*



- Understanding the Australian education system
- Understanding the opportunities and requirements in different industries
  - Careers in Engineering
  - Careers in IT
  - Careers in Business
  - Careers in Arts / Humanities
  - Careers in Health Sciences

# *FIELD-SPECIFIC TOPICS – ENGINEERING & IT*

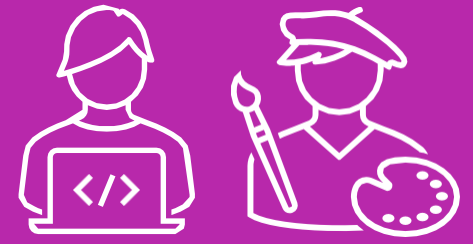
## *(Virtual/Our Campus/Your School)*



- Mechanical Engineering
- Aerospace and Aeronautical Engineering
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Natural Resource Management
- Urban and Regional Planning
- Civil and Construction Engineering
- Architecture
- Agricultural Science
- Interior Design/Interior Architecture
- Computer Engineering
- Software Engineering
- Petroleum Engineering
- Engineering Management
- Metallurgical and Mining Engineering
- Coastal and Marine Science
- Robotics and Mechatronics
- Internet of Things (IoT)
- Computer Systems and Networking
- Cybersecurity
- Computer Science and IT (similarity and differences)
- Artificial Intelligence
- Blockchain/Crypto Currencies/NFTs
- Data Science
- Business Information Systems
- Sustainability in Engineering

# *FIELD-SPECIFIC TOPICS*

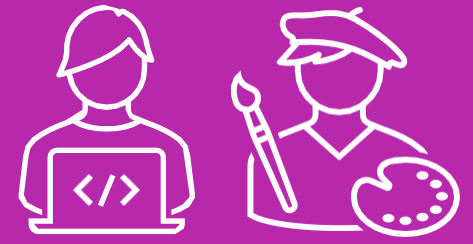
## *(Virtual/Our Campus/Your School)*



- Accounting and Finance
- Accounting, Auditing, and Taxation
- Finance and Financial planning
- Banking
- Marketing
- Digital Marketing
- International Business/International Management
- Business Law and Policy
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Human Resource management
- Industry Relations/International Relations
- Tourism and Hospitality
- Small Business Start-Up
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Business Project Management
- Property Investment/Real Estate Management
- Event Management
- Communications
- Digital Experience and Interaction Design
- Professional Writing and Publishing/Creative writing
- Journalism
- Design Thinking
- Creative Arts/Screen Arts/Theatre Arts/Fine Arts
- Fashion Design
- Graphic Design/Illustration

# *FIELD-SPECIFIC TOPICS - SCIENCE*

## *(Virtual/Our Campus/Your School)*



- Psychological Science
- History and Cultural Studies
- Anthropology and Sociology
- Humanities and Social Sciences Education  
(select from Politics, Law, Economics, History, or Geography)
- Corporate Governance
- Education (select from Primary, Early childhood, Secondary)
- Hard Sciences (select from Biology, Human Biology, Physics, or Chemistry)
- Health and Physical Education
- Health, Safety, and the Environment
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Health Data / Epidemiology
- Medical Imaging
- Biomedical Science



***SPEAKER  
PROFILES***



**DANIEL ADKINS**

President and Group Senior Executive Officer

Mr Daniel Adkins joined Transnational Academic Group Middle East in November 2009 to teach in the Foundation and Business Programs.

Dan began his career working in the information technology industry. Over 20 years, he held numerous management positions, including CIO and CEO and has worked with companies such as IBM, Dell, Clorox, Visa, Hershey's, and Coca-Cola.

He is the President and Group Senior Executive Officer and leads masterclasses and Immersive Programs.



### **DR BILAL SIDDIQI**

Managing Director - Strategy  
Director - Teaching & Learning

Dr Bilal Siddiqi has experience in both academic and operational spheres. He has a PhD in Literature from the University College of London, where he was a recipient of a three-year scholarship. During his PhD, he edited a cluster of articles on Fyodor Dostoevsky entitled, 'Rethinking Dostoevskii: Literature, Philosophy, Narrative' with the renowned Slavonic journal, SEER. He also co-wrote the introduction for this cluster. He taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses at UCL and supervised undergraduate theses in literature.

He is also a qualified school teacher with a Postgraduate Certificate in Education from Oxford University. He has taught at various secondary schools in London and Oxfordshire, teaching English Literature and Language to students between the ages of 11 and 18.

On the administrative and operational side, Bilal has worked predominantly in the media and education sectors, serving as Executive Director for Samaa TV, one of the premier news channels in Pakistan, and as a Marketing and PR executive and later Marketing Manager at Murdoch University Dubai.



**SHWETA WAHI**

Managing Director  
Operations | People & Culture

Shweta Wahi, formerly an emergent fashion entrepreneur, transitioned to the education industry to help students fulfil their dreams.

She currently manages People & Culture, Marketing, and Operations at the Curtin Dubai campus and is actively involved with the student community.

Shweta has a degree in Visual Arts, and to further her understanding of academia, she has completed her Postgraduate Certificate in International Education from the University of Nottingham in the UK. She is working towards her Master's in Educational Leadership. She is Google Ads certified with her primary strength lying in digital marketing and people engagement.



**PROFESSOR CHITHIRAI PON SELVAN**  
**John Curtin Distinguished Professor**  
Director – Research | Head of Faculty  
Head of School – Science and Engineering

Professor Chithirai Pon Selvan obtained his Bachelors in Production Engineering, Masters in Computer Aided Design, PhD in Mechanical Engineering, and Postdoctoral Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering.

He has over 23 years of experience in teaching, educational assessment, classroom management, and student relations. He has published more than 100 research articles in journals and presented many papers at conferences. He has been invited and honoured as keynote speaker, session chair, resource person, and technical committee member of various conferences held in the UAE, India, Thailand, Malaysia, the UK, Germany, and Italy. He is an approved supervisor of many universities including Curtin University, Australia to guide PhD students. He is a member of SAE, ASHRAE, IMechE, ASME, EI, ASQ, and ISTE. He is also a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA), UK.

He joined Curtin University Dubai in July 2018 after serving 7 years at Manipal University Dubai and 3 years at Amity University Dubai.



**PROFESSOR ANITHA MENON**  
Head of School - Psychology

Professor J. Anitha Menon has extensive experience in academia, research, and professional practice. She holds a PhD in Psychiatry/Health Psychology from the University of Nottingham, UK. With over 30 years of experience, she has made significant contributions to research on youth mental health, gender-based violence, psychological well-being of marginalized populations, and communication skills among health practitioners.

Her research also focuses on the prevention and management of chronic illness, health-related decision-making, treatment adherence, and the role of stress management and yoga in improving adolescent well-being. Professor Menon has led and contributed to several international research projects funded by organizations such as DFID, NORAD, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH).

She has taught and mentored undergraduate, master's, and doctoral students and has served on the editorial boards of several academic journals. Her work includes over 250 publications and conference presentations. Professor Menon has also held international academic roles, including Visiting Professor at the American University of Sharjah and the Rochester Institute of Technology Dubai, and Professor of Psychology at the University of Zambia.



**DR NIDHI SEHGAL**

Head of School - Business and Humanities

Dr. Nidhi Sehgal is the Head of School of the School of Business and Humanities at Curtin University Dubai. She completed her PhD in Business Administration and is also a fellow of the Higher Education Academy, UK. She holds two master's degrees: one in the area of Business Administration with a specialisation in Human Resource Management and another in Philosophy with a concentration on Management. She was the university topper and secured a gold medal for outstanding performance in her MBA. She has also completed an Advanced Diploma in Business Administration.

She qualified with the National Eligibility Test for Lectureship conducted by the University Grants Commission, India. She has worked with prestigious government and private international universities in the UAE and India and has a rich teaching experience of over a decade. Prior to academia, Dr Sehgal has significant industry experience. She regularly presents her research papers at conferences and publishes her research in reputed journals. She has published research papers in the areas of teaching and learning, human resource management, and marketing.



## SHAHRA JAFAR

Head of School - Foundation Studies

Shahra Jafar was the recipient of the Vice Chancellor's Academic Excellence Award and the Colonel SP Wahi Leadership Award during her time as a student pursuing a double major in Information Technology and Business Information Systems at Murdoch University Dubai.

During her time as a student, she began her career with Transnational Academic Group as an Adjunct Lecturer teaching Computer Productivity and Mathematics in the Foundation Program. At Curtin University Dubai, Shahra Jafar started as the Unit Coordinator and Lecturer for Mathematics and Computer Productivity, where she contributed towards the curriculum development of Physics and Chemistry in addition to her teaching portfolio. She has completed her Masters in Information Technology (Software Systems) from Heriot Watt University and is currently the head of Foundation Studies at Curtin University Dubai. Shahra is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, UK.

She is simultaneously pursuing her PhD with Curtin University, focusing on Artificial Intelligence.



## **NICHOLAS BROWN**

Associate Lecturer – Foundation Program and  
Teaching and Learning Coordinator

Nicholas Brown is a Teaching and Learning Coordinator in the Student Success Centre at Curtin University Dubai. He teaches courses within the University's Foundation program, focusing on areas such as Critical Thinking, Academic Writing, and Project Management.

Born in the United Kingdom, Nick graduated with a BEng (Hons) in Architectural Engineering in Edinburgh and began his career as a Mechanical Building Services Engineer. Nick then moved to Dubai, managing several projects, including Expo 2020 Pavilions, helping them obtain their LEED Gold Sustainability targets.

As a Teaching and Learning Coordinator, Nick supports students with understanding the types of academic writing, tips and tricks on paraphrasing, referencing, and understanding how to identify credible sources when writing assignments.



**SHELLEY LAWSON**

Lecturer – Foundation Program

Shelley Lawson was an English Language teacher for more than twenty years at higher education institutions in Germany, South Korea, KSA, and the UAE and she now works as a lecturer in the School of Business and Humanities at Curtin University Dubai.

She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Graphic Design, a Master's in Media and Culture, and a Master's in English Language and Applied Linguistics. She is currently conducting her PhD research into the credibility of personal stories on Twitter, and her other research interests include second language acquisition, culture, social media, and critical discourse analysis.

Shelley regularly presents at conferences and publishes her research, but still considers the most important and rewarding aspect of her job to be the teaching itself.



**MAHESH NAGARAJ**

Lecturer

School of Science and Engineering

Mahesh Raj Nagaraj holds a Bachelor's in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, and a Master's in Computer Applications in Industrial Drives in Electrical Engineering, for which he secured a university gold medal. He has over 8 years of experience in teaching and student relations. He is currently pursuing his PhD with Curtin University.

His research interests are in the areas of Nano Technology; Artificial Intelligent and Neural Networks; Electrical Power Generation; Smart and Eco-friendly System; and Maximum Power Point Tracking for Photovoltaic System. He has hands-on experience in the installation of various engineering laboratories and is a certified professional in PLC and SCADA.



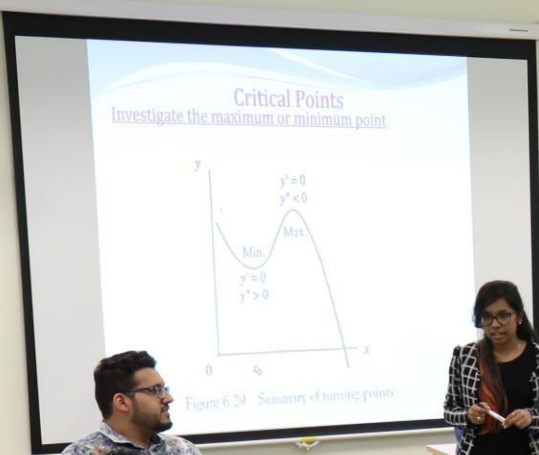
**LANITA NORONHA**

Head of Marketing and Outreach

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Lanita Noronha is a passionate marketer who is currently overseeing marketing and outreach at Curtin University Dubai.

She is well-versed with public speaking, events, and project management. Her career journey as a full-time professional spans across B2B & B2C industries including consultation and service management, personal care, human resources, fashion, and academia. Lanita holds a Bachelors of Business Administration in Marketing.



***Testimonials and reviews will be provided upon request***

***BOOK A SESSION FOR YOUR SCHOOL***

**To register your school for Curtin Comes to You,  
please email us with your preferred workshop  
topic and dates at [outreach@curtindubai.ac.ae](mailto:outreach@curtindubai.ac.ae)**

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