



مركز ابن خلدون للعلوم الإنسانية والاجتماعية
Ibn Khaldon Center for Humanities and Social Sciences



جامعة قطر
QATAR UNIVERSITY

The Annual Conference of Ibn Khaldon Center on Interdisciplinary Research

September 30, 2023



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About Ibn Khaldon Center

Named after the famous 14th Century Muslim philosopher and great humanistic scholar Ibn Khaldon who laid the foundation for systematic inquiry of universal science of society, Ibn Khaldon Center for Humanities & Social Sciences at Qatar University is devoted to fostering inter-disciplinary research that connects disparate branches of scientific knowledge. Imbued with this Khaldonian spirit of linking different genres of inquiry of both natural and social phenomena, the Ibn-Khaldun Center for Humanities & Social Sciences will be hosting an inter-disciplinary conference that seeks to bring scholars from diverse fields.

About the Conference

Social phenomena, by their very nature, are multidimensional and overlapping. Scientific progress, with its attendant social changes, resulted in emergence of many new determinants of social phenomena, making them even more complicated and overlapping. This overlapping facet of social phenomena calls for an interdisciplinary approach to scientific research that can lead to a deeper, holistic, and mature understanding of social phenomena, away from piecemeal approaches informed by our narrow disciplinary focus. This attempt to bridge disciplinary gaps is one of the strategic frameworks of Ibn Khaldon Center. With a view to strengthening this approach in research written in Arabic language, the Ibn Khaldon Center organise an annual conference that would seek to promote interdisciplinary research among the social sciences, including economics, politics, international relations, education, management, psychology, sociology, religion, anthropology, and public health. There is a vital need to integrate social sciences with natural sciences (i.e., biology, physics, chemistry, medicine, mathematics, artificial intelligence) in a clear interdisciplinary research paradigm to solve key societal challenges. Despite the need for such collaboration between social sciences and natural sciences being expressed more frequently, it unclear to what to extent such collaboration actually can occur.

Interdisciplinary Research Conference in its Current Cycle

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Conference Themes

First Theme: Interdisciplinary Studies between Social Sciences and Natural Sciences: Philosophy and Reality

This theme seeks to attract research works that discuss the philosophy of interdisciplinary studies within the social and natural sciences in terms of its nature, objectives, determinants, criteria, tracks, etc. In addition, the theme attracts submissions and contributions that monitor the state of interdisciplinary studies within social sciences and natural sciences, in terms of their prevalence, depth, obstacles and challenges.

Second Theme: Sociology and Natural Sciences

This theme is concerned with interdisciplinary studies that aim to bridge and connect sociology, and anthropology with natural sciences. Within this theme, submissions should grapple with connecting and bridging sociology to basic sciences, including biology, physics, and chemistry, and to applied sciences, as well, such as, medical and technological sciences. Such bridging might be conceptual/theoretical, empirical, or methodological. Despite that social sciences and natural sciences can be distinct bodies of knowledge, employing social sciences in research works that grapple with natural and applied sciences could help to illuminate the way in which social and natural sciences' researchers addressing their research projects and concerns.

Third Theme: Politics and International Relations and Natural Sciences

The argument that political science is a static science is old. Despite political science can never be the same as natural science, political science is considered a dynamic and changing science. The argument that political science is a branch of social sciences that involves the study of complex, unpredictable and political behavior is common in literature. Unlike natural sciences which deal with facts and figures to come out with exact and accurate results, political sciences involve the study of political institutions, government systems, and political behavior. Interdisciplinary collaboration between political and natural sciences can offer researchers in both disciplines significant intellectual gains to provide new perspectives on issues they study.

Fourth Theme: Economics and Natural Sciences

There is a vital need to reintegrate economics with natural sciences. Economics is the foundation upon which most decisions related to the distribution of resources, analysis of benefits, and costs are based. Natural scientists, including physics, environment, and biology scientists, may have views on how to integrate economics with natural sciences. Interdisciplinary dialogues between economics, environment, and biology should promote the mutual exchange of methods, theories, and data where these natural sciences can help out explaining economic behavior, consumer behavior, and the nature of the human economy.

Fifth Theme: Islamic Sciences and Natural Sciences

The Islamic Sharia sciences and the natural sciences represent two cognitive systems. Islamic Sharia sciences are based on sharia text which comprises the totality of guidance, values, perceptions, concepts, judgments, knowledge, and systems. Nonetheless, experimental research paradigm plays critical role in natural sciences and focuses on testing theories to provide the basis for scientific knowledge. This theme seeks to create connections between natural knowledge and Islamic sciences, and to use Islamic text to frame related natural sciences' topics. Integrating Islamic sciences with natural sciences can offer significant intellectual gains in terms of getting new perspectives and methodological insights.

Sixth Theme: Psychology and Natural Sciences

Interdisciplinary research that links theories and literature from psychology with natural sciences in a meaningful manner can be perceived as critical research to solve various challenges facing humankind. Aligning backgrounds and effective interdisciplinary research across psychology, behavioral neuroscience, cognitive neuroscience can help to understand human behavior in an effective way. Overall, this theme seeks to attract interdisciplinary research that creates meaningful link between psychology and natural sciences.

Seventh Theme: Pedagogics and Natural Sciences

Pedagogical science is concerned with studying methods of teaching, growth, and adaptation. Pedagogics helps researchers to gain a systematic insight into how the human mind deals with new information. This theme seeks to attract interdisciplinary research that attempts to employ educational knowledge in the natural sciences or vice versa. The pedagogical approach to understanding learning should be incorporated with natural sciences to acquire new knowledge and skills related to the learning process.

Conference Objectives

- Fostering interdisciplinary research that connects disparate branches of scientific knowledge in research written in Arabic.
- Highlighting the need of integrating social and natural sciences and humanities in interdisciplinary research paradigm to solve key societal challenges.
- Promoting the concept of effective collaboration and cognitive integration between professors and graduate students.
- Illuminating the way in which researchers from the social and natural and sciences collaborate.
- Developing a scientific platform through which researchers from social and natural sciences can collaborate to acquire significant intellectual gains and to obtain new perspectives on their research works.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

- Abstracts should at least be 300 words long.
- Only submissions that address the main conference themes will accepted for the review process.
- Abstracts should be accompanied by a short biography (about 200 words) of the author(s) and, if appropriate, the organisation of which he or she is a member, key publications, and research interests.
- Abstracts can be submitted and presented in Arabic or English.
- Abstracts will be evaluated through a double-blind review process overseen by the track chairs.
- After a successful review of abstracts, authors will be guided further steps towards full paper submission.
- All submissions must not be previously published or under consideration elsewhere.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Conference date is: September 30, 2023.
- The deadline for abstract submission is: January 15th, 2023.
- The Annual Conference of Ibn Khaldun Center on Interdisciplinary Research is a non-profit conference with free registration.
- Ibn Khaldun Center will reimburse authors with accepted manuscripts for their travel expenses and their accommodation.
- Abstracts should be sent as an MS Word or PDF email attachment to Conference e-mail:
IbnKhaldon-conf@qu.edu.qa
- If you have any queries, please contact the conference organizers at: IbnKhaldon-conf@qu.edu.qa