

Global Network Week

13-17 October, 2025

Exploring FinTech in Africa and the Middle East

Introduction

To explore the transformative impact of Financial Technologies (FinTech) across Africa and the Middle East, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of the sector's role in driving innovation, financial inclusion, and economic development in the region. The program integrates academic insights with cultural context and practical exposure through company visits and immersive cultural experiences.

Program Overview

- **Duration:** 1 week
- **Hours:** 20 hours
- **Dates:** Fall 2025

Learning Objectives

1. **FinTech Insights:** Understand innovative business models and technologies driving FinTech in Africa and the Middle East.
2. **Regional Insights:** Explore the economic, political, and business landscape of the regions.
3. **Practical Experience:** Gain hands-on experience through interactions with FinTech startups and cultural visits.

Course Structure

- **Teaching Faculty:** Faculty and Industry speakers with expertise in FinTech and international business.

Curriculum Components

1. **FinTech Workshops:** Interactive sessions on AI, digital banking, and cybersecurity in FinTech.
2. **Guest Lectures:** Insights from FinTech entrepreneurs and policymakers on business models and regulatory environments.
3. **Sites Visits:** Explore local FinTech firms and their operations.
4. **Cultural Visits:** Engage in cultural activities to understand the regional context.
5. **Case Studies:** Analyze successful FinTech ventures in Africa and the Middle East.
6. **Group Projects:** Develop a FinTech business plan for the region in teams.

Itinerary Snapshot

- **Day 1:** Introduction to FinTech; guest lectures; initial case studies.
- **Day 2:** Sites visits to local FinTech companies; cultural immersion activities.
- **Day 3:** In-depth exploration of FinTech innovations; further cultural visits.
- **Day 4:** Group project work and presentations; feedback sessions.
- **Day 5:** Networking events with FinTech professionals; wrap-up discussions.

This condensed program aims to enhance the students' understanding of FinTech while providing rich cultural experiences in the region.