



# **INTER- NATIONAL STUDENT ONBOARDING**

**HANDBOOK**

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# WELCOME TO UOFCANADA!

Welcome to the Universities of Canada. No matter how long you stay with us—for a few months or several years—the things you learn, the memories you create, and the people you meet here will have a lasting impact on your life.

I commend your bravery for making the difficult decision to study away from home. Your educational journey will not be an easy one at UofCanada, but I sincerely hope it will be meaningful, enlightening, and will contribute to your growth in significant ways. This is the gift of education, and you are wise to pursue it.

The staff from the International Program Office is here to assist you at any time during your time as a student at UofCanada, and we sincerely hope that you will do so. You are welcome to contact us by phone, or email to make an appointment. In addition, there are numerous resources on campus, many of which are listed in this guide. Feel free to ask anyone at UofCanada for any help. We want you to feel home at our campus, which is a very open and welcoming environment.

The best experience for our student has always come from their early decision to be involved. I urge you to keep an open mind and to seize the extraordinary opportunities that are available to you here.

Don't be hesitant to meet new kinds of people, join organizations, and try new things. It will not only improve your quality of life but also contribute to our diversity of our campus community, which is essential for a vibrant university culture.

Before the semester starts, international students attend an orientation session a week before the classes start to learn about the new culture, integrate into campus life, and to provide a place for asking questions.



# **INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

## **HOURS**

The office is open from 8:30 am to 4 pm during Fall and Winter semesters and from 9 am to 4 pm during Summer. The Office is closed during holidays.

## **TELEPHONE**

International call: 201200835022+

Domestic call hotline: 16838 Extension 1121

## **EMAIL ADDRESS**

[IPO@uofcanada.edu.eg](mailto:IPO@uofcanada.edu.eg)

# **THINGS TO DO**

***BEFORE GOING ABROAD***



There are several formalities you must do before you can board the plane and start your study abroad journey. Your preparation will go smoothly if you start thinking about the things you need earlier. This list will help you consider some of the things you will have to do.

## OBTAINING VISA

You must have a valid passport for six months beyond your arrival date. International students can get an application visa from the Egyptian embassy or consulate from their home country for 30 days. North American, European, British and Australian citizens can get a visa upon arrival at Cairo International Airport valid for one month for USD \$25.

After your arrival in Egypt and have deposited your tuition fee, the admission office will provide you a hard copy Letter of Enrollment in order to apply for a student residency in Egypt valid for one year. Once you receive the Letter of Enrollment, sign up at the International Program Office to receive an email with the exact details for your appointment at the immigration process. There will be a person who will guide you through the process.

**Note: Do not wait until the last minute to apply for a visa. Allow several weeks if you are getting the visa by email.**

## TRAVEL REGULATION

Before departing from your home country, you are responsible to keep yourself informed of all travel regulations and COVID-19 safety measures. As of 17 June 2022, Egypt has lifted all COVID-19 restrictions on travelers coming to Egypt. You no longer need to take a PCR test or show proof of vaccination.

However, this does not mean that you should stop frequently checking updates regarding travel safety advise and restrictions. People coming from countries of high risk for yellow fever such as Brazil, Ecuador, Venezuela, or Sudan, must show their yellow fever vaccination certificate in order to enter Egypt.





## IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

International student and Egyptian nationals living abroad must have all their important documents, such as high school transcript, proof of 12 years of schooling, and any original certificates (i.e. WAEC, KCSE, etc.) to be authenticated by their home country's foreign affairs before arriving in Egypt.

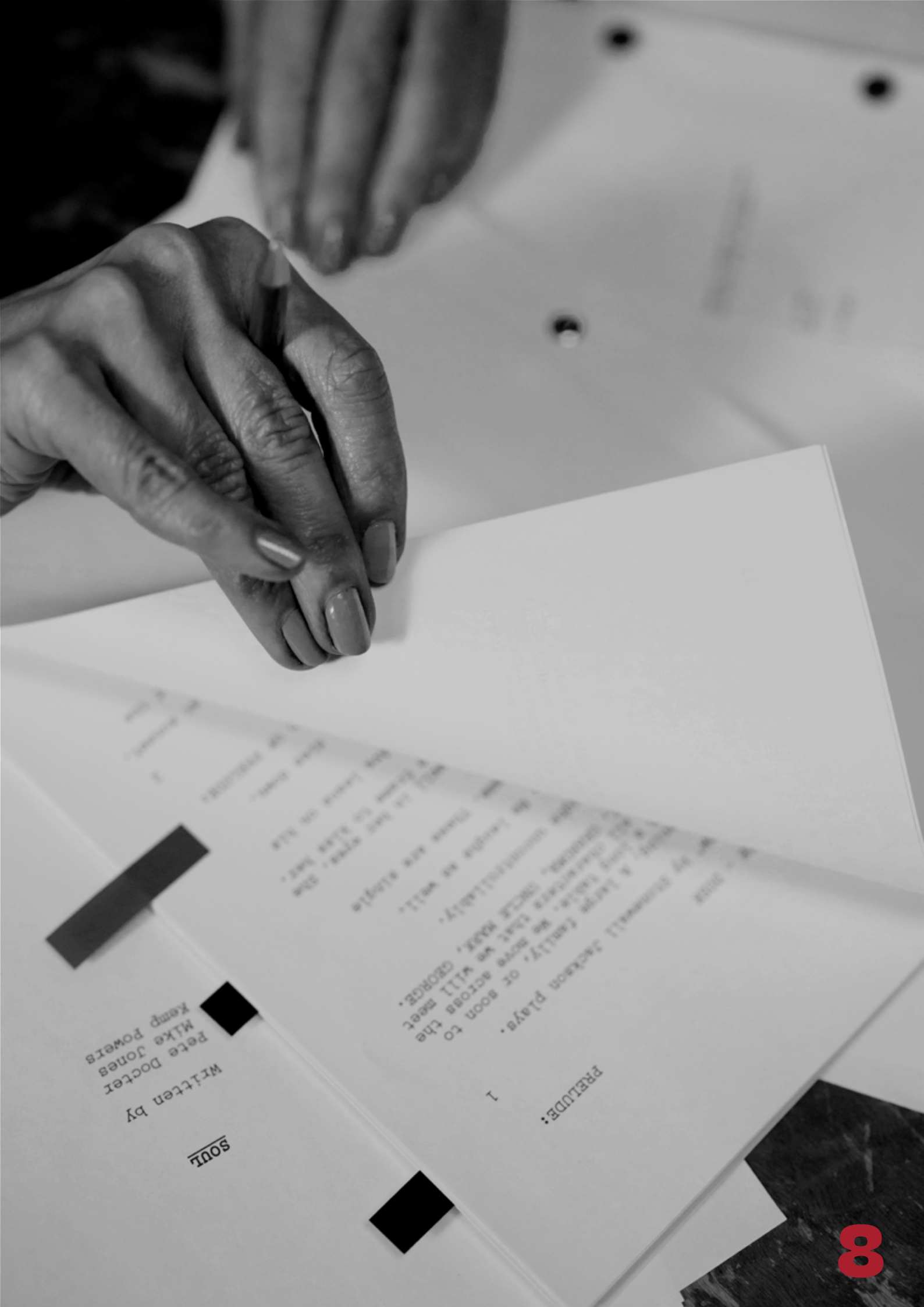
To know more on document requirements, please contact the admission office of your chosen university: University of Prince Edward Island Cairo Campus (UPEI Cairo) or Toronto Metropolitan University Cairo Campus (TMU Cairo).

In order to receive a hard copy Letter of Enrollment from the admission office to submit for a student residency in Egypt, you must have all the above-mentioned documents authenticated by your home country's foreign affairs, English proficiency certificate, COVID-19 vaccination certificate, original birth certificate and a copy of \$1,500 USD non-refundable tuition deposit receipt. Before you start the process of having your documents authenticated, consult with your home countries' foreign affairs to know what the requirements for authentication.

**Note: If your documents are in a language other than English, you must provide the documents in the original language as well as a certified/notarized literal English translation.**

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TEST

It is always best to take the English language proficiency test months in advance before you arrive in Egypt. Even if you have submitted your proof of English language proficiency online, you must bring the original certificate with you when you come to UofCanada campus. The admissions office will request to see the English proficiency certificate for verification.



SOUL

Written by  
Pete Docter  
Mike Jones  
Kemp Powers

PRELUDE:

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... a large family, or soon to  
... that he will meet  
... GEORGE.  
... well.  
... happily.  
... play.

The English proficiency tests that UPEI Cairo and Ryerson Cairo accept are TOEFL, IELTS, and Pearson Test of English. To know more about the English language proficiency test, please visit [uofcanada.edu.eg](http://uofcanada.edu.eg) website and select your choice of Canadian university: UPEI Cairo or TMU Cairo and go to the admission requirements page.

## HEALTH INSURANCE

Egypt doesn't require foreign visitors to get a health insurance prior their arrival to the country. However, students enrolling to UofCanada's hosted universities are obligated to pay the health insurance fee that is an addition to the university tuition fee annually.

To know more about the health insurance, please visit your choice of Canadian university page through UofCanada website and go to International Students under Tuition Fees.

## CURRENCY

Egypt's national currency is Egyptian Pounds. Currency exchanges are conveniently located in almost every hotel and airport, and banks are easily accessible throughout the national via a quick Google search.

A maximum of 5,000 Egyptian Pounds in local currency and about \$10,000 (or its equivalent) in foreign cash can be brought into or taken out of the country, provided that it was disclosed on arrival or departure. To know more about custom regulation in Egypt, please visit [cairo-airport.com/en-us/](http://cairo-airport.com/en-us/)

Before you arrive in Egypt, make sure with your bank (from your home country) that it allows you to make transactions through your credit card in Egypt.

**Note: Do not withdraw money from ATMs in Egypt using your home country credit card because you will be charged a fee. Bring enough cash with you, before you board your flight.**

## PACKING

The best advice is to pack light. Your clothing should be comfortable and warm. You should also look into what is culturally appropriate when choosing what to pack. Layering is a great way to go, as the weather tends to change throughout the day.

**Electronic devices:** If you are taking any electronic devices, such as hair dryer, shaver, etc., make sure that they must be dual-voltage (110 and 220 volts) or take a voltage converter with adapter plugs.

**CAUTION:** Do not pack expensive jewelry or luxury items which would mark you as a worthwhile target for theft and pickpocketing.

# **ARRIVING**

***IN EGYPT***



## TRANSPORTATION

UofCanada provides bus pick up from the airport (with additional fees). You must notify the International Program Office when your arrival to Egypt is to arrange a bus to come pick you up.

The best and safest form of transportation to use in Egypt is Uber or any mobility service provider used in Egypt. They screen their drivers, and you get charged through the application (not from the driver). You can choose through the app which method of payment you want to pay.

## SIM CARD

There are various types of telecommunication companies you can choose from to purchase a sim number in Egypt. Some of the well-known telecommunication companies in Egypt are Etisalat, Orange and Vodafone. You can find these stores anywhere. All you have to bring is your passport, visa and your credit card or cash.

## BANKING

International students can open a bank account in Egypt after they have lived for six months (some banks request it). In order to open a bank account, you need to have:

- **A valid passport**
- **Resident permit**
- **Must be 21 years old**
- **Passport size photo**
- **Minimum deposit (amount needed will depend on the bank)**
- **A completed (and signed) application form**

In many cases, you will need to bring supporting documents such as:

- **Proof of student status (Confirmation of Enrollment letter)**



- **Proof of residence (student residency or rental contract)**  
You might be charged a fee to open a bank account in Egypt. Some of the suitable banks in Egypt that you might consider opening with are:
  - Arab Bank Egypt
  - HSBC Egypt
  - Emirates NBD

## LIVING COSTS IN EGYPT

This is a sample of an estimate monthly budget for a single student living in Egypt.

	EGP	USD Dollar
<b>ON-CAMPUS</b>		
BUS TRANSPORTATION	1,750	92.59
SINGLE BEDROOM WITH BATHROOM	4,780	250
FOOD	3,500	183.44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,030</b>	<b>526.03</b>
<b>OFF-CAMPUS</b>		
FOOD	1,500	79.37
FULL-FURNISHED APARTMENT +UTILITIES	5,000	261.10
INTERNET (8MBPS)	175	9
RATE PER DAY HOUSE CLEANER	250	13.23
SHOPPING	4,359	230
TRANSPORTATION	1,500	79.37
ENTERTAINMENT	500	26.49
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,285</b>	<b>698.56</b>

This does not reflect the exact amount that a student will spend per month, but an estimate. The cost of expenses varies by person to person based on their lifestyle.



Form 1040 2020

Form(s): 1  6814  4972  3

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25a  
25b  
25c

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35a  
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Personal identification number (PIN)

Yes, Complete below.  No

Your occupation

Spouse's occupation

Date  PTIN  Check if  Self-employed

Phone no.

Firm's EIN



## **SAFETY TIPS**

- **Leave extra cash and valuables in a secure location and avoid carrying your credit card, tickets, and cash with you when you go out.**
- **Avoid using ATMs in isolated or dimly lit areas and refrain from displaying big sums of cash in public.**
- **Unless absolutely necessary, don't bring your passport outside; instead, maintain a copy of your residency stamp.**
- **Give your family or friends a copy of your passport and proof of residency.**
- **In public locations like internet cafes, train stations, and bus stops, keep a tight check on your personal goods and hang onto them.**
- **Never drink tap water and always drink tap water bottles. Nestle is a good company for drinkable water.**
- **Refrain from taking public minibuses to get around Cairo. The use of these vehicles is unregulated.**

**ON**  
***CAMPUS***



UofCanada isn't just an education, but an experience. Students' majority of their time is not only spent inside the classroom but also outside. UofCanada has many services and facilities offered to their students to not only help them in their academic journey but also have a great time as UofCanada students..

## ACCOMMODATION

UofCanada provides student residence to international students, which are fully furnished apartments that has 3 to 4 rooms, divided between single and double room options. To know more about the application processes and rates, please visit [uofcanada.edu.eg/student-residences](http://uofcanada.edu.eg/student-residences)

## BUSES

UofCanada has buses that pickup and drop off students from their dorms to the campus. Buses typically leave from 1:30 pm (arrives on campus at 1 pm) and from 4:15 pm (arrives on campus at 4 pm). Once you pay the bus fee, you will receive information directly to your student email account about which buses to ride and where the check point to be picked up at. Students residing in the dorms receive 25% discount on their bus fee.

## ORIENTATION

International students are required to attend the Orientation session which is held a week before classes begin. This is the best time for international students to get acquainted with the new culture, meet new people, tour the campus and have the opportunity to ask questions.



## **COVID-19 SAFETY**

UofCanada follows WHO's COVID-19 safety measurement inside the campus. Students must follow all COVID-19 safety measurements by wearing masks inside the bus and on campus, disinfecting hands before touching any surfaces, and keeping a 2 meters distance. There are sanitizers available all-around campus for students and staff to keep their hands sanitized.

## **FIRST AID CLINIC**

There is a First Aid Clinic located in building B that provides first aid support, medical advice by a professional physician, and medical check-up for students enrolled in athletic programs. There is also a small pharmacy for general drugs. In terms of critical cases, students will be transferred to the International Medical Center.

## **INTERNATIONAL PEER LEADERS PROGRAM**

The mission of this program is to match UofCanada international students with incoming international students to help them transition easily to Cairo and to the University. International students will receive peer support and friendship from their international peer leaders.

## **STUDENT UNION**

The Student Union (SU) is there to represent all students and support their rights and responsibilities. The Student Union performs while adhering to all university rules and regulations. Each SU presidency serves for one academic year.



## CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

UofCanada has a vibrant campus community made up of student clubs and societies. You can join as a general member who attends events, when possible, or as an executive position taking on logistic and organizational tasks. You can select one of the below clubs that matches your interests, or you can create your own club!

- **Enactus**
- **SBS**
- **Canada TV**
- **MUN (Model United Nations)**
- **Engineering Society**
- **Business Society**
- **CS Society**

# **LIVING**

***IN CAIRO***



The capital of Egypt, Cairo, is a dynamic metropolis that has a wide variety of cultural and historical attractions. It is also home to numerous heritage sites that are designed to provide a glimpse into the country's Coptic and Islamic history.

## **RESTAURANTS**

Cairo has a wide variety of restaurants that cater to different tastes. Some of the prominent areas that are known for their local and international cuisines are Maadi, Zamalek, and Downtown Cairo. Those who enjoy dining with a view can enjoy a boat ride to catch a glimpse of the sunset.

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

Cairo's vibrant nightlife is known for its diversity, which allows people to enjoy different styles and genres. There are also numerous live music events held in the city, such as jazz and electronic music concerts. The Cairo Opera House is additionally a must-visit for music lovers.

## **SHOPPING**

There are a lot of shopping malls in Cairo that has international and local stores to shop from. Some of the prominent shopping malls in Cairo are Mall of Arabia, City Star, Cairo City Festival, and Open-Air Mall. These malls host international names such as Virgin Mega Store, H&M, Zara, and many more.

You will also find a food court with local and international cuisines, a cinema with international and local movies, and cafés.

## CULTURE

There are many museums in Cairo that displays the history and culture of Egypt. There are museums that displays artifacts that talk about the history of Egypt while there are museums that displays the art and culture of Egypt. Egypt is a country that has a massive number of monuments to visit across the country so you will always have something to do or go.



# **CAMPUS**

***MAP***



**A- Admission & Business Faculty**

**B- UPEI Building Faculty of Engineering & TMU  
Faculty of Engineering & Architectural Science**

**C- TMU Building Faculty of Creative School**

**FC- Food Court**

**WEBSITE**

*[www.uofcanada.edu.eg](http://www.uofcanada.edu.eg)*

**TELEPHONE**

*International call: +201200835022*

*Domestic call hotline: 16838 Extension 1121*