Computational Linguistics Researcher
Samer: Simplification of Arabic Masterpieces for Extensive Reading
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Samer is a funded research project at NYU Abu Dhabi seeking to address the severe dearth of graded readers in Arabic fiction by creating a standard and tools for the simplification of fictional works to school-age learners. Samer is led by a team of specialists in Arabic linguistics, computer science, literature, and K12 education working to build a corpus of all the texts in Arabic used in teaching and learning in the official school curricula of the United Arab Emirates; analyze it for lexical, morphological, and syntactic features; and generate a Graded Reader Scale (GRS) mirroring readability levels in the primary, preparatory, and secondary curricula to assist in the simplification process. Finally, the team will conduct a competition to draw in the best talents among students and specialists of Arabic from around the Arab World to simplify some of the major works in Arabic fiction in line with the GRS levels and guidelines.

This project is currently seeking to hire a researcher with a set of advanced skills in Arabic, computer programming, data analysis, and web technologies. The ideal candidate is expected to hold (at a minimum) an MS or MA degree in computational linguistics, computer science, or a related field with some proven experience in natural language processing. The position is based in the Arabic Studies program, and the researcher will report to professor Muhamed Al Khalil but he/she will also be working closely with professor Nizar Habash in the Computational Approaches to Modeling Language (CAMEL) lab at NYUAD.

Terms of employment are competitive and include a generous salary, housing, and other benefits. The preferred start date is September 2016. The duration of employment is for two years.

Applications will be accepted immediately. To be considered, all applicants must submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae with full publication list, statement of research interests, representative publications, and the contact information for three references, all in PDF format. For instructions and information on how to apply, please visit our website at http://nyuad.nyu.edu/en/about/careers/faculty-positions.html. If you have any questions, please email nyuad.arabic@nyu.edu.

About NYUAD:
New York University has established itself as a Global Network University, a multi-site, organically connected network encompassing key global cities and idea capitals. The network has three foundational degree-granting campuses: New York, Abu Dhabi, and Shanghai, complemented by a network of over eleven research and study-away sites across five continents. Faculty and students will circulate within this global network in pursuit of common research interests and the promotion of cross-cultural and interdisciplinary solutions for problems, both local and global.

Entering its seventh year, NYU Abu Dhabi has recruited a cohort of faculty who are at once distinguished in their research and teaching. Our students are drawn from around the world and surpass all traditional recruitment benchmarks, both US and global. NYU Abu Dhabi’s highly selective liberal arts enterprise is complemented by an institute for advanced research, sponsoring cutting-edge projects across the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences, and Engineering.

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