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EDUCATION

PhD in Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language, Literacy & Corpus Linguistics (2017)
Summa cum laude - La Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Spain)

Master's in teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language (2008)
The American University in Cairo (AUC)

Bachelor of Arts in Arabic & Islamic Studies (1998)
La Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Spain)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

New York University in Abu Dhabi: Senior Lecturer of Arabic Language (2014-present)

- Teach Arabic at all proficiency levels, in the Core, and in Arabic Literature
- Co-author of a Minor proposal in Arabic Literature & Translation (under review)
- Co-author of an M.A. proposal TAFL (under review/update)
- Arts & Humanities representative at the Faculty Council Steering Committee
- Member of the Freshmen Reading Colloquium Committee
- Member of the Adult Education Committee
- Designed and implemented an [immersion linguistic/cultural trip to Kuwait](#) for students of Arabic
- Co-organized a literary event with IPAF-Booker prize author Saud al-Sanousi

American Councils for International Education: Academic Consultant (2018-2022)

- Train faculty at the Arabic Overseas Flagship Program in Morocco
- Evaluate quality of instruction at this Capstone program
- Participate in regular inspection visits
- Review quality of curricula, materials, and syllabi
- Lead the development of content courses and classroom materials
- Provide vision and leadership to help integrate new, innovative teaching strategies
- Deliver onsite & online workshops for faculty
- Design online modules for teachers of Arabic

The University of Texas at Austin: Lecturer in Arabic - Department of Middle Eastern Studies (DMES) and Arabic Flagship Program (AFP) (2008 to 2014)

- Taught Arabic at all proficiency levels & content-based courses on Modern Arabic Literature
- Coordinated Second- and Third-Year Arabic courses
- Supervised the teaching of graduate teaching assistants

The University of Texas at Austin: Director of the [Arabic Summer Institute](#) - DMES-AFP (2012 & 2013)

- Recruited teachers, teaching assistants, and speaking partners
- Selected and placed students
- Coordinated and supervised teaching of instructors and teaching assistants
- Developed pedagogical materials for the Institute
- Designed and coordinated the cultural activities program

[Critical Language Scholarship Program](#) (U.S. Department of State): Academic Director - Fes, Morocco (2011)

- Recruited teachers and language partners
- Provided a 2-weeks teaching training workshop for teachers and speaking partners
- Oversaw academic implementation of the program
- Coordinated and supervised teaching of instructors

[Center for Arabic Study Abroad](#) (CASA-Cairo): Instructor of Arabic (2007-2008)

- Taught Spoken Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) at the Superior level
- Taught Arabic Media with a focus on Listening

[Middlebury College](#): Instructor of Arabic - Intensive Summer Arabic Program (2007)

- Taught Arabic & helped run cultural activities

[The American University in Cairo](#): Fellow Instructor, Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language Department, Arabic Language Unit (2004-2007)

- Taught Media Arabic and language courses at different proficiency levels in MSA
- Designed and taught a course on Palestinian Colloquial at the Intermediate level

Al-Azhar University in Cairo: Lecturer in Spanish - Department of Spanish Studies (2001-2003)

- Designed and taught courses of Spanish (Novice to Advanced)
(Position funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Spain)

Cairo University: Instructor of Spanish - Center of Languages (1999)

- Taught Intermediate level

Instituto Cervantes- Cairo: Instructor of Arabic (2000-2002)

- Designed and taught several courses (Novice, Intermediate & Advanced)

Instituto Cervantes, Cairo: Instructor of Spanish (1999-2002)

- Taught all proficiency levels (Novice to Superior)

TEACHER TRAINING

Invited - Using Literature in TAFL & Designing Abridged Literary Materials ([Upcoming - April 2023](#))

A 2-day workshop commissioned by the University of Exeter for teachers of Arabic in the UK.

Invited - Webinar for the New England Arabic Teachers' Council ([February 2022](#))

The Power of the Most Frequent Words in Arabic – Sponsored by Qatar Foundation International

Invited – [Workshop](#) for US government funded Arabic language programs, in collaboration with The University of Texas in Austin & American Councils for International Education.

- Speaker and co-coordinator of a 3-Day workshop ([February 2022](#))

Invited - Training faculty for the Hilary Ballon Center for Teaching & Learning at NYUAD (January 2022)

- Building Community in Remote & Hybrid Classrooms

Invited – 2-Day [Workshop](#) for the Arabic Flagship Teachers, in collaboration with American Councils (January 2022)

- Developing L3 Arabic Presentational Skills

Invited - Webinar for New York Arabic Teachers’ Council (December 2021)

- Develop stronger reading skills by focusing on frequently used words

Invited - 2-Day Workshop for [NSLI-Y](#) teachers of various critical languages (June 2021)

Invited - Teacher Training Workshop for the Chicago Teachers Arabic Council (January 2021)

- Designing successful lesson plans that integrate language and culture in online learning environments

Invited – Webinar for the Hilary Ballon Center for Teaching and Learning at NYUAD (January & August 2021)

- Building Community in the First Week of Class

Invited - Teacher Training Workshop for the University of Naples (Italy) (December 2020)

- Integrating culture in the language curriculum

Invited - 2- Day Teacher Training Workshop for Universidad de Granada (Spain) (October 2020)

- Integrating culture in the language curriculum
- Teaching vocabulary in the Arabic classroom

Invited - Teacher Training Workshop for the New York Arabic Teachers Council (April 2020)

- The use of Arabic literature at different proficiency levels

Invited - 2- Day Teacher Training Workshop for the Arabic faculty at Hunter College (CUNY) (October 2019)

- Integrating Culture in the Arabic Classroom

Teacher Trainer for American Councils for International Education (2018-2021)

- Training teachers regularly at the Arabic Flagship Overseas program in Meknes (Morocco), onsite and online, on an array of topics

Instructional Coaching (2017-present)

- Online instructional coaching & mentoring services for teachers of Arabic

Teacher Training Workshop at NYUAD (Fall 2018)

- Organized, designed, and conducted a workshop for teachers of Arabic as a Foreign Language in schools across the UAE.

Mentoring of Teaching Assistants & Fulbright students at UT (2008-2014)

- Mentored graduate students and incoming teachers of Arabic at the AFP

- Helped them with lesson planning
- Observed their teaching practice
- Provided constant feedback and support

Workshop for language educators at UT (2013)

- *Culture Shock: Developing Authentic Materials to Increase Foreign Language Proficiency* – part of a symposium on Literature as a Cultural Mediator - The Texas Language Center at UT

Training Moroccan teachers at Critical Language Scholarship Program (Fes) (2011)

- Provided in-depth training to incoming teachers and language partners
- Interviewed and hired the final instructional team
- Helped the team develop lesson plans and teaching materials
- Conducted classroom visits and observation
- Provided constant feedback and support

NON-ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Translator & interpreter, Embassy of Spain in Cairo (2003-2006)

- Translated press and political documents from Arabic to Spanish and vice versa
- Acted as the interpreter of the Embassy during official visits

PUBLICATIONS

- *Creating a CEFR Arabic Vocabulary Profile: A frequency-based multi-dialectal approach* – Co-authored article submitted to [Critical Multilingualism Studies](#) (under review, 2022)
- *Developing Intercultural Competence in Superior-Level Arabic Classrooms* – online module co-developed for American Councils for International Education. Soon to be hosted [here](#) (2022).
- [A Frequency Dictionary of Contemporary Arabic Fiction: Core Vocabulary for Learners and Material Developers](#) - Routledge (2021)
- [Saud al-Sanousi's Saaq al-Bamboo: The authorized abridged edition for students of Arabic](#). Georgetown University Press, 2016. (Editor of the novel and co-developer of the accompanying pedagogical materials)
- [Hoda Barakat's Sayyidi wa Habibi: The authorized abridged edition for students of Arabic](#). Georgetown University Press, 2013. (Editor of the novel and developer of the accompanying pedagogical materials)
- [La tía Safeyya y el monasterio](#) (خالتي صافية والدير). Bahaa Taher. Barcelona: Ediciones del Bronce, 2000. (Spanish translation of the novel)

ONLINE PEDAGOGICAL PROJECTS

- **Project Manager** of *Khallina* (www.khallina.org): An open-source website to help teachers and independent learners of Arabic explore Arab culture(s). Funded by QFI & NYUAD.

IN THE PRESS

- Article in Raseef22 about Arab children's reading abilities in MSA and dialects (2022)
هل يقرأ أطفال العرب قريباً بلهجاتهم المحلية؟
- Songs from Palestine: A meaningful addition to Arabic language teaching, article for Al-Fanar Media (2021)
- Featured in The National for her work in the field of Arabic (2020)
- Interview with Asymptote Journal: Inter-Lingual Translation as Pedagogy: Arabic Text Simplification (2016)
- Interview with Arabizi: The Need for Effective Arabic Teaching Materials (2016)

AWARDS & GRANTS

- 2020 NYUAD **Grant for Publication** to support the publication of *Contemporary Arabic Fiction: Modern Arabic Short Stories Reader: An Anthology for Advanced Learners of Arabic* (\$5,000)
- 2019 NYUAD **Grant for Publication** to support the publication of *Contemporary Arabic Fiction: A Frequency Dictionary* (\$5,000)
- 2016 **Grant-in-Aid** from NYU Humanities to support the publication of *Saad al-Sanousi's Saaq al-Bamboo: The authorized abridged edition for students of Arabic* (\$1,500).
- 2015 **Research Enhancement Fund grant**, at New York University in Abu Dhabi, to continue working on *Khallina* (\$65,440).
- 2014 **Recipient of the Texas Foreign Language Teaching Excellence Award**, College of Liberal Arts, at the University of Texas at Austin (\$5,000).
- 2013 **Qatar Foundation International's Curriculum Development Grant** to develop *Khallina* (\$25,000).
- 2012 & 2013 Texas Language Center Professional Development Award, to assist developing materials related to teaching culture in the Arabic classroom.

- 2011 & 2013 Nominated for the Texas Foreign Language Teaching Excellence Award, College of Liberal Arts, at the University of Texas at Austin.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & CONSULTANCY

- **Consultant** for the [Abu Dhabi Executive Office](#) on Arabic language education (2022)
- **Jury member** for the [Etisalat Award for Arabic Children's Literature](#) (2022)
- **Member of a [SDG Global Council](#) of the UAE** (chaired by Isobel Abulhoul, trustee of the Emirates Literature Foundation) (2021-present)
- **Academic consultant** for American Councils for International Education & the Arabic Overseas Flagship Program in Morocco (2018-present)
- **Arabic language & culture consultant** for ISEE Media and the Arabic Language Center in Abu Dhabi to produce a series of 30 episodes to promote the Arabic language in the UAE (2021)
- **Academic consultant** for the Arabic Program of Worcester Polytechnic Institute (2020)
- **Consultant** for [AlphaSights](#) (regional GCC projects related to the teaching of Arabic) (2020-present)
- **Consultant** for [Bain and Company](#) (regional GCC project related to the teaching of Arabic) (2020)
- **Consultant** for Arabee Learning (educational UAE-based company for Arabic learning platforms) (2020)
- **Language books reviewer** for academic publishers (Georgetown University Press, Routledge/Taylor & Francis, American University in Cairo) (2010-present).
- **Referee for the journal article** "Corpus-based teaching in the Arabic classroom: Theoretical and practical perspectives", published in International Journal of Applied Linguistics (2016).
- **Consultant in Universidad de Granada (Spain)** to develop an official proficiency test for accreditation purposes, based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (2013-2014).
- **Board Member** of the non-profit organization *Cooking UP Cultures*, based in Austin, which teaches foreign languages through cooking lessons (2013).
- **Team Leader and Item Developer** for the National Middle East Language Resource Center (NMEELRC) and the Arabic Flagship Program (AFP) to develop an Arabic Listening and Reading proficiency test (2008-2012)
- **Member of the National Arabic Consensus Meeting.** Provided input to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and revised the ACTFL proficiency guidelines specific to Arabic. Sponsored by AFP and ACTFL 2009-2012

- **Member of a Spanish research team** sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology for developing Internet resources for teaching Arabic as a foreign language (2003-2006)

PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCE

- **Invited** as **Speaker** at the Sharjah International Book Fair in a panel organized by Etisalat Award for Arabic Children's Literature (UAE - November 2022)
- **Invited** as **Keynote Speaker** at a [conference](#) organized by Qatar Foundation International and British Council for Arabic school teachers in the UK (London - June 2022)
- **Invited** as **guest speaker** at the master's program *Contemporary Arabic Studies* - Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, Spain (May & June 2022 - online)
- **Invited** as **guest speaker** at the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies - Exeter University, UK (April 2022 - online)
- **Invited** as **speaker** at the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair to speak about [A Frequency Dictionary of Contemporary Arabic Fiction: Core Vocabulary for Learners and Material Developers](#) (May 2021). [Talk](#).
- **Invited** as **Keynote Speaker** at the 3rd Biennial Conference of Arabic Language Teaching & Learning in the UK Higher Education – University of Exeter ([April 2021](#)). [Talk](#).
- Lexical Frequency that Develops Reading Fluency in Arabic – paper at MESA 2020 (online)
- Innovating and decolonizing Arabic language teaching in the UK higher education sector (June-July 2020) - The British Society for Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES), University of Kent (abstract accepted) – [Postponed due to COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- Instructional Coaching for teachers of Arabic - The International Conference: Arabic Language and Linguistics: Heritage and Innovation - The American University of Cairo (Dec 2019)
- **Invited** as a **speaker** by the Korean Association for Middle East Studies (KAMES) - What can Arabic literature offer in times of conflict? - Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul (Nov 2019)
- Teaching Arabic through the Arab culture(s) - IV Congreso Internacional Nebrija en Lingüística Aplicada en la Enseñanza de Lenguas, Madrid (June 2019) – Talk in Spanish
- What is feedback? On grading, assessment, and students' emotions - Panel discussant at NYUAD's Writing Studies Working Group Symposium (May 2019)
- **Invited** by the European Institute of the Mediterranean to their Interdisciplinary Research Seminar in Barcelona, as a speaker - Leer en árabe a la velocidad de la luz: Diseño curricular y frecuencia léxica (April 2019)

- Achieving instructional excellence through teacher training and professional development - Curriculum and Methods of Instruction Forum. United Arab Emirates University in Al-Ain (April 2018) - Talk in Arabic
- Developing Arabic reading literacy from early stages using lexical frequency data (Feb-March 2018) - *First Annual Teacher Conference*. Zayed University (Dubai).
- Creating Reliable Frequency Lists: An Essential Tool to Implementing Extensive Reading Programs (Dec 2017) - *Approaches and Challenges in Arabic Language Pedagogy*. The American University in Cairo.
- Creating Lexical Frequency Lists to Write Graded Readers - *The Fourth World Congress on Extensive Reading*. Tokyo, Japan (Aug 2017)
- An Arabic fiction corpus to develop graded readers - Digital Humanities Abu Dhabi (DHAD) conference. NYUAD (April 2017)
- Contemporary Gulf Narrative as a Pedagogical Tool to Promote Language and Culture Proficiency - *Middle East Studies Association Conference*. Denver, Colorado (Nov 2015)
- Abridging Contemporary Arabic Literature to Promote Extensive Reading in L2 - *The Third World Congress on Extensive Reading*. Dubai (Sept 2015)
- Cultural and linguistic gains from using simplified literature in the foreign language classroom - NYUAD (March 2014).
- Teaching Arabic Literature in a Content Based Model - *Middle East Studies Association Conference. AATA Panel*. New Orleans, Louisiana. Co-presenter: Radwa El-Barouni. (Oct 2013)
- Better Practices for Teaching Culture in the Arabic Classroom - *Middle East Studies Association Conference*. Denver, Colorado (Nov 2012)
- Teaching Culture in the Language Classroom - *Flagship Results 2012 Conference* at New York City (Oct 2012)
- Vocabulary and Classroom Activities - Arabic Teachers of Texas Professional Development Workshop, at the University of Texas Austin (March 2012)
- Integrating culture into the Arabic classroom - Arabic teachers training workshop at the University of Texas at Austin, sponsored by the NMELRC (June 2010)
- Simplified literature to maintain and boost Arabic proficiency - *Western Consortium Middle Eastern Language Workshop* - Tucson, Arizona (April 2010)
- Integrating simplified literature into the Arabic classroom - *Middle East Studies Association Conference* - Boston (Nov 2009)

LANGUAGES

Arabic Multiple Dialects / MSA	Native proficiency
Spanish	Native proficiency
English	Professional proficiency
French	Intermediate proficiency
Japanese	Low-Intermediate proficiency
German	2 years of formal study. Novice proficiency.
Turkish & Farsi	1 year of formal study each. No current proficiency.
Latin	2 years of formal study. No current proficiency