

NEW FACULTY

— SPRING 2021 —



جامعة نيويورك أبوظبي



NYU | ABU DHABI



NYU Abu Dhabi leadership and faculty are researchers, scholars, and artists of extraordinary distinction within and beyond their disciplines, and at the same time exceptional teachers, dedicated to supporting and challenging their students and to transforming them into intellectual colleagues. In addition to a growing cohort of full-time faculty, the University also draws talent from across NYU's global network and hosts visiting faculty from outstanding universities around the world.

Today NYU Abu Dhabi has a faculty of more than 300 experts who are drawn to the University by the quality and passion of our students, by a very favorable research environment, and, as importantly, by the institution's resolve to contribute significantly to the region and to shape a better world through education and research.



SUN-HEE BAE

Lecturer of Writing

PhD in Linguistics, Harvard University, Cambridge USA

Professor Sun-Hee Bae is a linguist who studied theoretical phonology and syntax and received training in experimental design and statistical analysis of linguistic data. Her research interests lie in experimental linguistics, language acquisition, and comparative linguistics, with focus on the areas of phonetics, phonology, syntax, and the interfaces thereof. Previously, she has taught in the Department of English at the American University of Sharjah and in the Department of Linguistics and at the Institute for English Language Programs at Harvard University. She has received the Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching and the The Bok Center Teaching Certificate from the Harvard University Bok Center for Teaching and Learning.

Previously: American University of Sharjah, UAE



SUPHAN KIRMIZIALTIN

Adjunct Lecturer of Arab Crossroads

PhD in History, University of Texas at Austin

Professor Suphan Kirmizialtin is a historian of the Ottoman Middle East. Her research interests center around the intersection of gender and modernization in the Middle East within the specific context of the Ottoman/Turkish modernization project. She also studies the emergence of women's print media in Ottoman lands and its contribution to the creation of a civil public space in the Empire. Her current research focuses on text recognition and textual analytics of Ottoman Turkish print media. Her most recent study on the HTR applications for Ottoman Turkish entails the automated transcription of Ottoman Turkish print texts to modern Turkish. She is also working on applying the same technology to the British Indian office documents from the 19th century with the goal of making these texts available for higher-order text analysis.

Previously: Visiting Scholar, History Program, NYU Abu Dhabi, UAE



DANIEL JOHNSON

Assistant Professor of Civil and Urban Engineering

PhD in Physical Chemistry/Biophysics, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom

Dr. Daniel Johnson's main research interests have been in the fields of membrane separation research, advanced water treatment, membrane surface characterisation, and colloid and interface science, all primarily within the context of improving wastewater treatment technology and processes. He has made significant contributions to the characterisation of process equipment surfaces using atomic force microscopy (AFM), particularly in the development of novel membranes with improved fouling resistance and in the assessment of fouling of polymer filtration membranes and other surfaces of relevance to water purification processes. Recent activity has been in the fields of organic and biological fouling of membranes; development of polymer membranes for removal of heavy metals from contaminated sources; mitigating scaling in membrane distillation systems for sea water desalination, the development of novel biofouling resistant membranes, and forward osmosis treatment of wastewater. These activities have been aimed at improving water sustainability through enhanced membrane processes.

Previously: Senior Research Officer, Swansea University, Centre for Water Advanced Technology and Environmental Research (CWATER), UK



MOSTAFA MOBASHER

Assistant Professor of Civil and Urban Engineering

PhD in Civil Engineering, Columbia University in the City of New York - New York, USA

Professor Mostafa Mobasher was one of the developers of VistaMat, a software package that aids high fidelity failure modeling of materials. He leads the Computational Solid Mechanics (CSM) research lab at NYUAD. He has developed specific interests in constitutive material modeling, numerical methods and solution algorithms, optimization and inverse problems, and parallel computing.

Previously: Senior Project Engineer - Applied Science Practice, Thornton Tomasetti, Inc., USA



NITI MAHESH DHUTIA

Visiting Assistant Professor of Bioengineering

PhD in Echocardiography, Imperial College London, United Kingdom

Dr. Niti Dhutia trained as a Biomedical Engineer and developed a strong interest in medical imaging, in particular, echocardiography. She specialises in using quantitative techniques, derived from mathematics, engineering and statistics, to problems that affect patients with heart disease. She was awarded a British Heart Foundation Research Excellence Award for her PhD at Imperial College London, which developed image processing elements for an operator guidance system using multimodality cardiac ultrasound to improve quantitative diagnostics. Her research work applies technology and computer vision techniques to provide a proof-of-concept for the automation and standardisation of clinically-relevant physiological measurements of the human heart, to enable the widespread use of quantitative echocardiography. She has been working with clinicians at the International Centre for Circulatory Health, St Marys Hospital and Hammersmith Hospital in London to translate her research into day-to-day clinical practice.

More recently, she has been applying artificial intelligence techniques to automate cardiac measurements and further improve reproducibility and clinical workflow.

Previously: Research Associate, Imperial College London, UK



RIYADH BAGHDADI

Assistant Professor of Computer Science

PhD in Computer Science, Sorbonne University, France

Professor Riyadh Baghdadi is an affiliated researcher at MIT. He works on the intersection of compilers and applied machine learning. More precisely, he works on developing compilers that take high-level code and optimize it automatically to generate highly efficient code. He uses machine learning to achieve that and enable compilers to automatically optimize code. Riyadh also works on developing techniques to accelerate deep learning training and inference (e.g., by exploiting DNN weight sparsity). This enables the use of sophisticated DNN models in platforms with limited computational resources (smartphones, driverless cars, ...). Before joining NYUAD, Riyadh did a postdoc at MIT where he developed the Tiramisu compiler for deep learning, image processing and scientific computing.

Previously: Postdoctoral Associate, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA



HANAN SALAM

Emerging Scholar/Assistant Professor of Computer Science

PhD in Telecommunications, Information and Communication Sciences and Technologies, Centrale Supélec, France

Professor Hanan Salam is the co-founder and president of Women in AI, an international non-profit Do-Tank whose mission is to close the gender gap in the domain of Artificial Intelligence through education, research, and events. After spending two years as a postdoctoral fellow and one year as a teaching and research assistant (ATER) at the University of Pierre and Marie Curie (Sorbonne), she spent one year in the industry where she was an R&D Engineer in AI and Robotics at A.I.Mergence, a startup specialized in intelligent autonomous robots for home security. Following, she worked as an independent consultant in AI and Data Science, in parallel with part-time lecturing at different French universities and engineering schools. She has published several international peer-reviewed conference and journal papers on social robotics and intelligent affective computing. Her scientific interests include Artificial Intelligence, Human-Machine Interaction, social robotics, computer vision, machine learning, and affective computing. She is an advocate of technology for common good and an activist for women empowerment.

Previously: Associate Professor in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, Emlyon Business School, France

SCIENCE



MARWA BANNA

Emerging Scholar/Assistant Professor of Mathematics

PhD in Mathematics, Université Paris-Est., France

Professor Marwa Banna spent a year as a CNRS postdoctoral associate at Télécom ParisTech before joining the free probability group at Saarland University until December 2020. Marwa Banna's research focuses on high-dimensional probability and free probability theory. Free probability was first introduced in a purely operator algebraic context but ever since its connection to random matrices was revealed, both fields were serving continuously one another. Marwa is mainly interested in the interaction of these fields and their applications.

Previously: Postdoctoral Researcher, Saarland University, Germany



ALEX DELIS

Visiting Professor of Computer Science

PhD in Computer Science, University of Maryland - College Park

Professor Delis research interests are in distributed/virtualized data systems, management of big data and software systems, topics on which he has published articles in archival journals and international conferences.

He has served in numerous PCs for international conferences in the above areas and is an associate editor for the Distributed and Parallel Database Journal, the WWW Journal, and Journal of Cooperative Information Systems.

Visiting from: Professor, Department of Informatics and Telecommunications, University of Athens, Greece



SOCIAL
SCIENCE



RAFAEL LEAL-ARCAS

Visiting Professor of Law

PhD in European and International Economic Law, European University Institute, France

Professor Rafael Leal-Arcas, holds the first ever Jean Monnet Chair in EU International Economic Law awarded in the UK by the European Commission. Former Director of Research at QMUL's Centre for Commercial Law Studies. He has authored more than 180 scholarly publications on international trade and WTO law, climate change law, EU law, international investment law, international energy law, and governance and the interaction among them in American and European law reviews such as the Columbia Journal of European Law, Georgetown Environmental Law Review, University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law, The George Washington International Law Review, Fordham International Law Journal, Chicago Journal of International Law, Legal Issues of Economic Integration, European Foreign Affairs Review and Journal of World Energy Law and Business (Oxford University Press). Rafael's work has been cited by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 5th Assessment Report. He is also a qualified attorney in Madrid and speaks English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Ladino, and conversational Portuguese.

Visiting from: Jean Monnet Chaired Professor of EU International Economic Law, Queen Mary University of London, UK



PAUL PHILIP CRAIG

Visiting Professor of Legal Studies

MA, Oxford, United Kingdom

Professor Paul Philip Craig, FBA is a British legal scholar, specialising in administrative and European Union law. He was Professor of English Law at the University of Oxford from 1998 to 2019, and is now emeritus professor. He was also a Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford (1976-1998) and then of St John's College, Oxford. He was educated at Worcester College, Oxford, where he took his Master of Arts and Bachelor in Civil Law degrees. He is the author of a number of legal textbooks the most well known of which (EU Law: Text, Cases and Materials) was published in its 5th edition by Oxford University Press in September 2011. He is a member of the Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute's International Council.

Previously: Emeritus Professor of English Law, St John's College, Oxford, UK



FRANCOIS BOURGUIGNON

Global Distinguished Professor of Economics

PhD in Economics, University of Western Ontario

Professor François Bourguignon is the former Chief Economist of the World Bank. He has been the Director of the Paris School of Economics, and from 1985 to his retirement in 2013, a Professor of economics at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris. In 2016 Bourguignon was awarded the Dan David Prize.

Previously: Director, Paris School of Economics & Professor of Economics, Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), France



MYRNA WOODERS

Visiting Professor of Economics

Ph.D. University of Minnesota

Professor Myrna Wooders currently is a Professor of Economics at Vanderbilt University and the University of Warwick. She has made significant contributions to public economic theory, network theory and game theory. Specifically, her work has focused on coalition theory, public good theory and club theory. She is editor of the Journal of Public Economic Theory, Fellow of the Econometric Society, Charter Member of the Game Theory Society, and the founding editor of Economics Bulletin. She currently serves as an elected member of the Game Theory Society Council and holds the Presidency of the Association of Public Economic Theory.

Visiting from: Professor of Economics, Vanderbilt University, USA



TARIG EL-SHEIKH

Adjunct Lecturer of Entrepreneurship/Political Science

MS, Banking and International Finance (Distinction), CASS Business School, City University, UK

Professor Tarig El-Sheikh is an experienced entrepreneur and finance professional with a 15-year track record across emerging markets in building global businesses, technology startups, and finance. Tarig is the co-founder of Beneple (formerly known as Aythan DMCC), a HR and health management platform that was successfully acquired in August 2015 after only eight months of operations. Before that, he co-founded a global e-commerce custom menswear company, Knot Standard, specializing in online and retail sales of custom clothing using proprietary online measurement technology. Tarig also founded the MENA based advisory group, Istashir in 2011 (exited March 2013), serving as an advisor to numerous leading MENA private equity firms and family offices. He sits on the boards of various companies that he has helped successfully launch.

Visiting from: Senior Venture Architect, MD for MENA, Jigsaw Group

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