NEW FACULTY

SPRING 2022

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.
NADIA EL CHEIKH
Vice Provost for Cultural and Research Engagement,
Professor of History
PhD in History and Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, USA

Nadia El Cheikh comes to NYUAD from the American University of Beirut in Lebanon, where she was the dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and a professor of history, leading a division of 3,700 students, 400 faculty, and 100 staff. She is a highly accomplished scholar of the Abbasid Caliphate and Byzantium, with a focus on women, gender, and Islam.

El Cheikh has published two monographs: Women, Islam and Abbasid Identity and Byzantium Viewed by the Arabs; and co-authored Crisis and Continuity at the Abbasid Court: Formal and Informal Politics in the Caliphate of al-Muqtadir. In 2019, she received a $1 million Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant for an oral history project, The Arab Oral History Archive: Gender, Alternative Histories, and the Production of Knowledge.

El Cheikh has been visiting professor and scholar at Harvard, Columbia, University of California Los Angeles, Amherst College, and New York University. She also served as a member of the International Advisory Board of the NYU Press and NYU Abu Dhabi’s Library of Arabic Literature, which she has championed from its inception.

Previously: Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, American University of Beirut, Lebanon

MARK JENKINSON
Assistant Arts Professor
BFA in Photography, The Cooper Union, USA

Mark Jenkinson has been a working professional photographer for the last 40 years. He has photographed hundreds of feature stories on a vast array of subjects including fashion, celebrity, portraiture, sports, business, travel, architecture and automobiles. Publications include Vogue, Vanity Fair, Fortune, GQ, Town and Country, Men's Journal, and The New York Times. He has also published three text books on photography techniques and practices: Photography Essentials, The Portrait Photography Course, and Careers in Photography: Finding your True Path.

His personal photography projects include a 30-year documentation on the evolution of Las Vegas as an urban phenomenon, a 15-year project examining capital punishment in the United States as well as other smaller projects on color interaction. He has a lifelong interest in theoretical physics and is currently researching how evolving theories in the history of science have influenced the history of art. In addition to his professional career, Jenkinson has been teaching at NYU for over 35 years.

Affiliated from: Photography and Imaging, NYU, USA

VENKATESAN (RAM) NATARAJAN
Visiting Assistant Professor of Writing
PhD in Anthropology, NYU, USA

Ram Natarajan’s research and teaching focus on violence, memory, human rights, literature, and law. His current book project examines what it is to live with cruelty in the context of state violence in Argentina. His research has received funding from the Fulbright-Hays Program, the National Science Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, and the Wenner-Gren Foundation.

Visiting from: Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Latin American Studies, University of Arkansas, USA

KIM ROBERTSON
Adjunct Associate Professor Art & Art History
MFA in Print, Royal College of Art, UK

Kim Robertson is a self-employed design and manufacturer of screen printed products for an extensive global client-base. She was the head of the print-making studio at Tashkeel, has taught at various institutions including the Sharjah Art Foundation and The Ruskin School of Art, Oxford University, UK and has led workshops across the region in Screen printing on paper, Screen printing on fabrics, Etching and Photo Etching, text and smartphone photography and Sculpture.

Previously: Self-employed

ARTS AND HUMANITIES
LUCIA DELOGU

Visiting Assistant Professor of Biology

PhD in Biochemistry, Biology, and Biotechnology, University of Sassari, Italy

Lucia Gemma Delogu is currently leading the ImmuneNano-lab at the University of Padua, Italy. She has a scientific background related to nanotechnology, immunology and applied biochemistry. In 2011, she was selected as one of the "200 Best Young Talents of Italy" from the Italian Ministry of Youth and since has received several awards.

She served the European Commission as an invited expert for different review panels of FP7 and Horizon 2020. She has been granted by the University of Padua for “STARS”, a highly competitive call, with a project on MXenes material biomedical applications. She has been the scientific coordinator of two interdisciplinary European Projects (G-IMMUNOMICS and CARBO-IMMAP) on nanomedicine and she serves in the editorial committees of a number of publications, in addition to serving as an administrative member of a number of international conferences. She has directed 40 research projects funded by the EC and Greek sources.

Prior to joining NYU, Kyriakopoulos served as faculty at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the National Technical University of Athens.

Previously: Professor of Robotics, Mechatronics and Control, National Technical University of Athens, Greece

ÖMER F. ÖRSÜN

Visiting Lecturer of Political Science

PhD in Political Science, Koç University, Turkey

Ömer F. Örsün is a Visiting Lecturer of Political Science at New York University Abu Dhabi. Before New York University, he held pre-doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships at Harvard University, Department of Government and Harvard Institute of Quantitative Social Science. He also held a position as Assistant Professor of International Politics at Istanbul University, where he taught empirical and theoretical models in international relations.

Ömer’s research interests include international security, game theory, and machine learning. His recent research appeared in International Interactions, Democratization, Oxford Research Encyclopedia as various book chapters.

Previously: Instructor of Social Science, NYU Abu Dhabi, UAE