



AMERICAN  
UNIVERSITY  
OF BEIRUT

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT

TWELFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON EFFECTIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Conference Theme:

“Advancing Diversity & Inclusion through Liberal Arts Education”

Friday, March 17, 2023

Online using WebEx

Key Note Speakers and Presenters Bios



### Abeer Obeid

Abeer is a dedicated education professional with a passion for providing equal access to education for all learners. With a Teaching Diploma and a Master's degree in Education, She has extensive experience in curriculum design and management. As a Capacity Building Coordinator for NGOs, she trained teachers in rural areas on innovative methods to educate disadvantaged populations. She currently serves as an Instructional Designer at the American University of Beirut, where she redesigns courses from traditional face-to-face delivery to blended and online formats to ensure that students continue to receive quality education despite the different formats. She has contributed to the development of accessibility guidelines for AUB's students, faculty, and staff. These guidelines have enabled a wider range of users to benefit from the university's educational resources. Currently, she is leading a project that aims to integrate adaptive learning approaches into online courses, tailoring the pace, style, and prerequisites to meet the needs of individual learners. Throughout her career, she has maintained a steadfast commitment to providing equal access to education for all learners, regardless of their backgrounds or challenges.



### Abir Ward

Lecturer in the Writing Program at Boston University. She previously taught at the American University of Beirut (AUB) where she led the editorial work of Pages Apart. In 2019, she founded 2Rāth, a social justice initiative engaged in the politics of representation, and its work has so far garnered over 20 million views on Wikipedia. Dr. Ward published numerous articles on justice-oriented pedagogy, and her research has appeared in Elsevier's Women Studies International Forum, TESOL's SRIS, and Computers and Writing Conference Proceedings. She was the recipient of the CCCC Wikipedia fellowship in 2021 and the Middle East Partnership Initiative grant from the US Department of State.



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### عدنان الأمين-سيرة مختصرة

يحمل عدنان الأمين شهادة دكتوراه في علم اجتماع التربية (1977) وشهادة دكتوراه دولة في الآداب من جامعة السوربون (1991). هو أستاذ العلوم التربوية في الجامعة اللبنانية وفي الجامعة الأميركية في بيروت. عمل مستشارا للتعليم العالي في مكتب اليونسكو في بيروت (2011-2008). وهو حاليا زميل أول في معهد عصام فارس للسياسات العامة والشؤون الدولية ومستشار المعهد لقضايا الشباب والتربية. مؤسس مشارك للهيئة اللبنانية للعلوم التربوية (1995)، ولشبكة المعلومات العربية التربوية (شمعة) (2007). مؤلف لـ 29 كتابا و35 فصلا في كتاب و31 مقالا في مجلات علمية عربية وعالمية يوثق موقعه الإلكتروني ما يزيد عن 500 نصا كتبها منذ العام 1971 (www.adnanelamine.net)

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### Adnan El Amine

Holds a doctorate in Sociology of Education (1977) and a "Doctorat d'État es letters" (1991), from the Sorbonne University-Paris. He was full professor of education at the Lebanese university and lecturer at the American University of Beirut. Worked as UNESCO consultant on higher education. At present he is senior fellow and consultant of education and youth at Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs (IFI-AUB). A. ElAmine is co-founder of the Lebanese Association for Educational Studies-LAES (1995), and the Arab Educational Information Network-Shamaa (2007). He is the author of 29 books, 35 chapters and 31 articles published locally and internationally. His website (www.adnanelamine.net) archives more than 500 texts he wrote since 1971.

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**Amy Bennett-Zendzian**

Lecturer in the Writing Program at Boston University, where she teaches writing and research seminars with the topic of fairy tales, and strives to be an advocate for disability justice for both students and faculty. In 2021 she received the CAS Dean’s Award for Excellence in Part-Time Teaching. Her main areas of interest as writer, reader, and researcher are fairy tales, fantasy, and children’s and young adult literature. Her essay on the gift economy in *The Hunger Games* appeared in the edited collection *Critical Insights: The Hunger Games*. She is also a published poet and playwright.

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## Angela Massouh

Dr. Angela Massouh received her undergraduate nursing degree from the American University of Beirut [AUB] in 2004. She then received her graduate degree in Adult Care Nursing with a focus on Cardiology and Heart Failure in 2008. During her graduate studies, Angela worked for 5 years as a Registered Nurse in the Coronary Care Unit at AUB Medical Center [AUBMC]. She later joined AUB's School of Nursing (HSON) in 2009 as a Clinical Instructor. In 2011, she started a joint appointment as the Cardiology/Heart Failure Clinical Nurse Specialist at AUBMC where she currently co-leads its Heart Failure Multidisciplinary Disease Management Program and the Heart Failure Community Outreach Program. She also co-leads the Heart and Lung Transplant service at AUBMC.

In 2013, Dr. Massouh completed a 12 credit post-graduate degree in health research [Scholars in HeAlth Research Program] prior to pursuing her doctorate degree in Biobehavioral Nursing from the University of Colorado, Denver. Her research focus is Heart Failure Symptom Management and Self-Care. Her dissertation research, which later won the 2017 Distinguished PhD Dissertation Award, examined Determinants of Self-Care in a Sample of Lebanese Patients with Heart Failure. Her areas of clinical specialty are in Critical Care, Chronic Illness Management, Cardiology, and Heart Failure and her research focus is driven by a keen interest in narrowing the gap between research, theory, and clinical practice in symptom science and dyadic care. Her research is expected to provide new perspectives in understanding chronic illness symptomatology, self-care, and the effect of dyad engagement on chronic illness experience in Lebanon and the MENA region. Her research is well funded and in the past four years after graduation she was able to secure three funds [two intramural and one extramural fund].

Dr. Massouh's involvement in continuing education is her greatest passion where she had directed more than 20 certificate programs in the areas of advanced practice, cardiology, and critical care. She has led trainings in over 9 MENA countries and trained over 300 nurses (namely Lebanon, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Iraq, Egypt, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, and Jordan) in Heart Failure. She had coordinated the Critical Care certificate programs delivered by the Regional External Programs at AUB in United Arab Emirates. She also coordinated the Cardiovascular Module in the Nursing National Capacity Building Program at the Order of Nurses in Lebanon. She is currently the Nurse Leader for Research, Education, and Innovation at AUBMC overseeing the Clinical and Professional Development Center functions, heading the specialty continuing education courses, maintaining the American Nurses Credentialing Center Accreditation, and guiding the delivery of Advanced Practice Nursing.

With 13 years of academic expertise, Dr. Massouh is now an Assistant Professor of Adult and Critical Care Nursing and Chair of the Undergraduate Division's Assessment Committee as well as the Academic and Curriculum Committees.

Dr. Massouh is also the Immediate Past President of the Sigma Theta Tau Chi Iota Chapter in Lebanon, Nucleus Member in the Heart Failure Specialists of Tomorrow at the Heart Failure Association [HFA] of the European Society of Cardiology [ESC], Fellow of the HFA at the ESC, and Lebanon Ambassador at the Young Community of the Association of Cardiovascular Nursing and Allied Professions, ESC.





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### Carroll Beauvais

Lecturer in the Writing Program at Boston University, where she teaches academic writing through a storytelling approach grounded in the neuroscience of reading. Her poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction have appeared in numerous publications, with an excerpt from her in-progress memoir forthcoming in *Your Body Your Story Anthology* (Boston: Grub Street). Her research interests include differentiation for neurodiverse learners in the college classroom, via the pedagogical lens of twice-exceptional learners and through the inclusive practices for supporting executive function.



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### Christina Michaud

Has been a full-time instructor in the Writing Program at Boston University since 2003. She teaches academic writing classes for English language learner (ELL) students, and first-year and research writing sections on social and racial justice, as well as courses on ELL pronunciation and oral communication. She has co-authored an ELL pronunciation textbook, a TESOL teacher-training book on goal-driven lesson planning, and numerous articles and presentations in the areas of TESOL, applied linguistics, and teacher training. Broadly, her research interests span composition and rhetoric, experiential learning, antiracist pedagogy, language and literacy, feminist literature, and gender studies.

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### Dahlia Fouad

With a background of more than 25 years in the field of education, I have started my career as a teacher in schools and alternatively, an instructor for post graduate diploma and ESP for adults. Henceforth, a teacher trainer, then a vice principal to Middle & High School in an International School. Currently, I occupy the position of the Director of Educational Content and Training in the leading publishing company in the Middle East - Nahdet Misr for Publishing - overseeing all educational content development whether printed or digital. I have managed the development of the new Arabic, Religious Studies, Morals & Calligraphy books for the Egyptian Education Reform 2.0 in addition to several strategic educational projects in the general and vocational education in the Arab world. I am also an Instructor in the Professional Educational Diploma at the American University in Cairo, and English for Religious Purposes at Dar El Iftaa – top religious organization in Egypt since 2010. I am a certified instructor who holds a BA in Business Administration, an MA in TEFL, and a PhD in Education.



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### Eman Saleh

PhD.in applied Linguistics from the Lebanese University.  
Diploma of Training International Trainers, preparing masters in training too.  
Accredited international trainer at American TESOL Academy, and Hadara for Training and Consulting.  
English language teacher and coordinator  
Presented several educational workshops and shared in local and international conferences.

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### Issam Srour

A professor in the department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the American University of Beirut and founding director of the Abdulla Al Ghurair Hub for Digital Teaching and Learning. His research focuses on the use of quantitative techniques, circular economy, and sustainability principles to solve real-world engineering and construction management problems. His publications record includes more than 100 refereed journal articles, conference papers, and book chapters. Dr. Srour is an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the Lebanese Order of Engineers. He earned MS and PhD degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin. He also holds a BE degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the American University of Beirut.



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### Jessica Kent

Senior lecturer in the Writing Program at Boston University, where they teach writing and research seminars on graphic memoirs. They are also the Writing in the Disciplines consultant with BU's Economics Department and Undergraduate Program in Neuroscience, with whom they are currently co-teaching a new course on Neuroscience Communications. Their research interests include comics, queer literature, trauma-informed pedagogy, knowledge transfer, and accessibility in higher education.

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**Jumana Antoun**

**Associate Professor of Clinical Family Medicine at AUBMC**

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**Lina Nouwayhed**

In 1983, I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from American University of Beirut (AUB) and started working at American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC) as a registered nurse in the Coronary Care Unit. In 1990 I wanted to change from bed side care to academia and I had the chance to join Makassed University in Beirut /Faculty of Nursing and Health Science as a Community Health Nurse Educator (theoretically and clinically) till present time. In 2006 I earned my Master's degree in Health Services / Community Health through distance learning from Independence University (IU) USA, and in 2017 a PhD in Nursing Education from American University of London also through distance education. I am a member in Sigma Theta Tau /Chi Iota chapter and I have 3 publication at Sigma Repository.

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### Lyne Yamout

After graduating from AUB with a degree in Mechanical Engineering, Lyne is pursuing a Master's degree in the same major with a focus on the topic of engineering education. As a research fellow with AUB's interdisciplinary Design Practice Program, she also has a background in human-centered design and design thinking, and her research interests are student-centered instruction, problem-based learning, and educational makerspaces.



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### Maha Bali

Professor of Practice at the Center for Learning and Teaching at the American University in Cairo. She has a PhD in Education from the University of Sheffield, UK. She is co-founder of [virtuallyconnecting.org](http://virtuallyconnecting.org) (a grassroots movement that challenges academic gatekeeping at conferences) and co-facilitator of Equity Unbound (an equity-focused, open, connected intercultural learning curriculum, which has also branched into academic community activities Continuity with Care, Socially Just Academia, a collaboration with OneHE: Community-building Resources and MYFest, an innovative 3-month professional learning journey. She writes and speaks frequently about social justice, critical pedagogy, and open and online education. She blogs regularly at <http://blog.mahabali.me> and tweets @bali\_maha

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**Marie Satya McDonough**

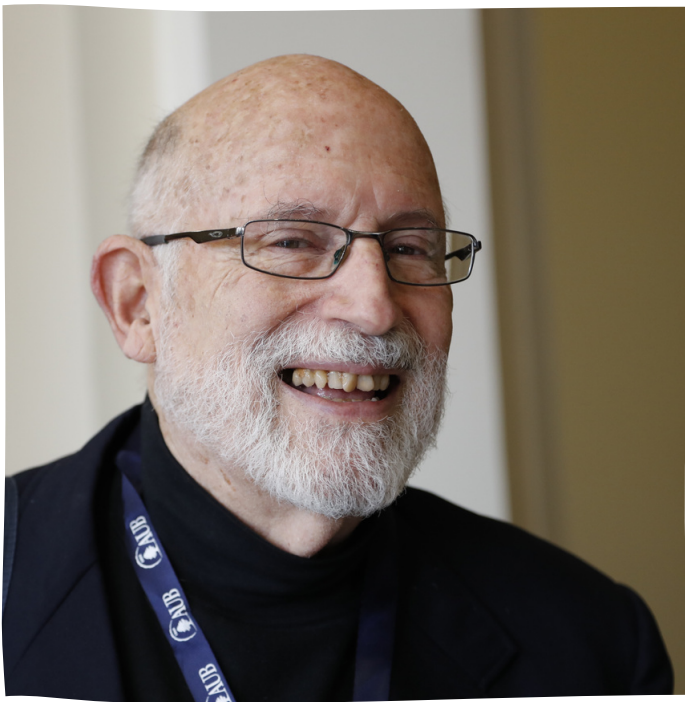
Senior Lecturer in the Writing Program and the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program at Boston University. Her research and teaching interests include comics, feminist and gender theory, Indigenous and critical race studies, and equitable assessment. She is the translator of *Young Foucault: The Lille Manuscripts on Psychopathology, Phenomenology, and Anthropology, 1952-1955* (Columbia UP, 2022) and of Michel Foucault's early course *Binswanger and Existential Analysis* (forthcoming from Columbia UP in 2024).



**Maya Ezzedine**

Dr. Maya Ezzedine has a PhD in Education, specifically Cultural Diversity and Classroom Management from USJ. She has earned her Masters degree in TESOL from the Lebanese American University. She is a lecturer at the English department at AUB and at NDU. She has participated in different international conferences with research papers around topics related to technology in education and cultural diversity. She is now working on the publication of a book about instructors' cultural backgrounds and their relation to classroom management.





### Milton D. Cox

Founded and directed the Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching at Miami University where in 1980 he developed the first faculty learning community (FLC) and led a 40-year FLC Program featuring over 200 FLCs. In 1990 he founded and served as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal on Excellence in College Teaching, the first multidisciplinary journal publishing the scholarship of teaching and learning. He initiated and directed the annual Lilly Conference on College Teaching, now in its 42nd year. Dr. Cox has been project director and systems convener of state and federal grants, visiting over 100 institutions in the U.S. and abroad to initiate FLC Programs and consult on issues in higher education. He received the certificate of special achievement from the Professional and Organizational Development Network (POD) in Higher Education in recognition and appreciation of notable contributions to the profession of faculty, instructional, and organizational development.



### Mohammad Harb

An assistant professor of mechanical engineering, the principal investigator of the smart structures laboratory, the founder and director of AUB makerspaces, and the faculty academic director of the interdisciplinary design practice program (IDPP) at AUB. An experienced researcher in design, prototyping, 3D printing, and sustainable and advanced materials. Actively promoting the build and make learning initiative and mindset and designing cutting-edge makerspaces in schools across Lebanon.







### Nadine Dandashly

A university instructor at the Lebanese University and the American University of Science and Technology. Nadine is a question writer in the team of Educational Leadership experts in the Educational Professional Licensure project in the Ministry of Education of U.A.E. She is one of the leadership experts for writing and vetting test questions for the computer-delivered Licensure test needed for school leaders specific school programs such as vocational schools to be certified. Nadine accomplished her PHD in Educational Sciences at the University of Saint Joseph. Her thesis studied the effects of blended learning strategies on the academic achievement of postgraduate university programs. Nadine is an academic and educator who believes that the world needs more critical thinkers, leaders, and decision-makers. She is an educational researcher who is passionate about examining the effects of new and current trends in teaching methods on developing critical thinking and leadership skills and increasing motivation in learning.



### Olga Fleonova

Holds a PhD in Linguistics from Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia. Currently, she is an Associate Professor of the English Language Center and the coordinator of the English courses at the Faculty of Philology, Shenzhen MSU-BIT University, a joint Russian-Chinese university in Shenzhen, China. She previously worked at the University of Balamand, Lebanon. She has taught courses in theoretical and applied linguistics at the undergraduate and graduate levels, academic writing, EFL and ESP. Her research interests include using multimodality in academic writing, employing simulations in English classrooms, second language acquisition through project-based tasks, learner autonomy and agency, discourse analysis, language and ideology, and language policies.





### Omar Adra

Assistant Professor in the Department of English Language & Literature and Department of Education at the University of Balamand (UOB), Lebanon. He is the Chairperson of the English Department, which houses the BA and MA programs for English majors, as well as service courses for all other university majors on UOB's Koura, Akkar, Dekwaneh and Souk-El-Gharb campuses. He teaches ELT graduate seminars, EFL Composition & Rhetoric, and sociolinguistics courses that emphasize academic writing and writing for different purposes. A UOB alumnus and a holder of a Doctorate of Education degree in Educational Leadership from Saint Louis University's School of Education, USA, his research interests include assessment of writing, feedback to academic writing, and multimodal composition pedagogy.



### Rania-Maria Khalaf

Homeroom teacher in Grand Lycée Ashrafieh with over twenty years teaching experience, has recently received her PhD in education, a field she continuously strives to excel in. She believes that art integration in French and Math classes, the main topic of her dissertation, is a conduit for sustainable motivation. Her creative and passionate teaching skills allow her to construct a dynamic and collaborative learning environment in her classes where the autonomous student is the focus.





## Rayan Fayed

Rayane is an accomplished Senior Manager for Learning Design at AUB, known for her exceptional leadership and expertise in e-learning. She has over a decade of experience in developing and implementing e-learning strategies in Higher Education institutions, making her a respected thought leader in the field. Rayane has worked tirelessly to develop instructional strategies that enhance the learning experience of students in Web-enhanced, Blended, and Online courses/modules. Her approach is grounded in an extensive understanding of the best practices of effective course design, which she has cultivated through her research on teaching methodologies. With a background in Computer Science and Online Education, Rayane has an exceptional understanding of the technological underpinnings of e-learning. She recently graduated from the Institute for Emerging Leadership in Online Learning, further strengthening her unwavering commitment to excellence in learning. Rayane firmly believes that Instructional Design is the key to unlocking the full potential of e-learning, and she continues to seek out innovative strategies that promote excellence in education. Her unparalleled expertise makes her a driving force in shaping the future of e-learning.



## Salam Sayagha

Nelson Mandela once said, “Education is the most powerful weapon for changing the world”. As I was born in a country where being safe is an everyday target, a burning land that fire refuses but to reside in, I completely believe that education is our only savior. Since then, a little seed was born inside my heart to bud later a desire for education that I realize won’t be extinguished until I attain at least my Ph.D. in Education which will be hopefully achieved soon.

As a full-time High School teacher, and part-time university instructor, a mother of two, and the caregiver of my little family of four, I can’t say my life’s routine is slow. However, perseverance, action plan, and pre-set goals have been restlessly framing my future. In addition, to my interest in writing short stories, essays, and books, I believe that research is not only the best way to unfold to a better world but also a moral duty to be offered to future generations in all fields.







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### Sawsan Agha Maktabi

Earned her BA and MA in English Literature from the American University of Beirut. She has been teaching Communication Skills courses since 1986. She has also taught other courses such as English Literature and Creative Writing courses.

•A member of the Steering and Curriculum Committees of the University for Seniors at AUB since 2016.

•A member of the Board of NextStep Program at AUB since 2014.

•A member of the Executive Committee for Zaki Nassif Music Program at AUB since 2006.



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### Shaunna Joannidou

Holds a PhD in Technology Enhanced Learning from Lancaster University. She has served as the Acting Director of the University of Cyprus Language Centre. She specializes in Continuing Professional Development, focusing on the implementation and integration of technology in foreign language instruction. Shaunna has delivered numerous teacher training seminars for the Ministry of Cyprus teachers and led virtual learning environments for professional development opportunities in education. Shaunna has been involved in various EU projects. In 2021 the CiELL EU Project (Comics for inclusive English Language Learning), won the British Council International ELTONs award for Digital Innovation and received a Judges' Commendation for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). She is currently involved in two EU projects developing AR applications for Open Educational Resources (OERs) for language learning and teacher training.

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### Zinnia Shweiry

An educator with extensive experience in teaching languages, communication skills, translation studies, and humanities in AUB and SGUB. She holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics, and degrees in Translation Studies and English Language and Literature. Her research interests include linguistic landscapes, use of L1 and L2, bilingualism, sociolinguistics, communication, language teaching, multidisciplinary, active learning and e-learning. She has served on several academic committees, reviewed articles for publication, and acted as a jury member on Master's defense.

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