

CURRICULUM VITA  
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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

Feb. 2002 – Present: Present: President, EISSA & ASSOCIATES, Inc.:  
*Arabic & Islamic Consulting and Education.*

Summer 2007 – Present: Team Leader, STARTALK (as Independent Consultant).

Jan. 2013 – May 2014: NEH Professor of Humanities- Colgate University  
Hamilton, New York

October 2006 – Jan. 2013: Lecturer, Department of Near Eastern Languages and  
Cultures, University of Chicago, (On leave Jan. 2013 - May  
2013).

Winter 2003 – Spring 2003: Visiting Professor, Illinois Institute of Technology,  
Chicago  
Fellow with the National Middle East Language Resource Center  
at Brigham Young University.

Jan. 99- June 99: Visiting Teaching Professor, Brigham Young University

Jan. 98 – Jan. 99: On Leave. Research and translation projects

1982-Jan. 98: College Lecturer in Arabic, College of Arts & Sciences,  
Northwestern University (on leave)

1985-1992: Director, Program of African & Asian Languages

1979-1982: Arabic Language & Culture Consultant, ARABICO, Inc., Los  
Angeles, California

1967-1981: Senior Arabic Language Teacher, Center for Arabic Studies, The  
American University of Cairo

#### PUBLIC/COMMUNITY SERVICES:

June 2019: Chairman of the Board of Trustees, *Al-Azhar Islamic Foundation-*  
Barrington, IL

1999-Present: Founder and Religious Advisor *Al-Azhar Islamic Foundation-*  
Barrington, IL

2014-2019: Chairman of the Board of Directors and member of the Board of  
Trustees *Al-Azhar Islamic Foundation-*Barrington, IL

#### EDUCATION:

	INSTITUTION	MAJOR	DEGREE
1984	Univ. of California at Los Angeles, Dept. of Near Eastern Lang. & Cultures	Arabic Lit & Culture	<b>C. Phil.</b>
1978	Al-Azhar Univ. (Cairo) Faculty of Arabic Lang. History Dept.	Islamic Hist. & Civilization	<b>Ph.D.</b>
1968	Al-Azhar Univ. (Cairo) Faculty of Arabic Lang. History Dept.	Islamic Hist & Civilization	<b>M.A.</b>
1966	Al-Azhar Univ. (Cairo) Faculty of Arabic Lang. History Dept.	Islamic Hist. & Civilization	<b>B.A.</b>
1979-1982	In various institutions including:  UCLA, British Council, Cairo University, and the American University in Cairo in the subject areas listed below:		

*Materials Development, Contrastive/Error Analysis, Functional Language Teaching, Methods of Teaching a Foreign Language, Phonetics and Phonemics, Testing and Evaluation in Language Teaching, Resources for Teaching a Foreign Language (Audio-Visual Aids), and Culture Orientation in Foreign Language Teaching.*

**LANGUAGE COMPETENCE:**

- Arabic (native language),
- fluent English,
- fair research command of: French, Spanish, and Persian

**COURSES QUALIFIED TO TEACH:**

- Arabic as a foreign language: literary (modern & classical) and spoken, at all levels and all language learning skills.
- Arabic literature: classical and modern; in Arabic and in translation (English)
- Classical Arabic texts: reading strategies and text analyses.
- Arab Culture in Context: through literature, art, history and socio-political research.
- Arab Media: language training and text analysis
- Methods and Pedagogy of Foreign Language Teaching: teachers' training and professional development.
- Islamic History & Civilization, and related topics on Islamic religious studies with specialization on Muslim Spain and North Africa in the Middle Ages.
- Islamic Studies in the areas of Qur'an, Hadith and Shari'a.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (other than classroom teaching):**

**PEDAGOGY OF FOREIGN/SECOND LANGUAGE TEACHING AND LEARNING:**

Actively engaged in the dynamic movement in the field of foreign/second language teaching and learning. Participated in developing ACTFL Standards for Arabic and currently continuing with the steering committee to modify and align it with the ACTFL World Readiness Standards for Language Learning. As a team-Leader/Site Visitor with STARTALK initiative, I have gained the insight and participated in the developmental process of the guiding principles for both teachers' and students' programs.

Lead and shared leading tens of language teachers' professional development workshops in the US and overseas. Gained and shared experiences with teachers in higher education and K12 educators on various language teaching/learning of foreign/second languages.

Over a course of three years I have worked on creating a program of teaching Arabic as a foreign language in Sao Paolo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The experience included professional development of the teachers, curriculum mapping and guiding selecting/creating instructional materials.

#### CURRICULA AND MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT:

Developed materials for courses on: Muslim Historiography, Selected Topics in Islamic History and Literature, Sources of Islam, Studies in the Qur'an and Tafsir, Arabic Literature in Translation, Arab cultural identity, and materials for Arabic language teaching and testing including language tapes for various levels and skills; materials for teaching Arabic through subject matters.

#### TRAINING:

- Certified Tester of Arabic proficiency by ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages ( ACTFL)
- Training Teachers of Arabic as a foreign language

#### ADMINISTRATION:

- Directing academic units (Program of African & Asian Languages)
- Directing Summer Arabic Institute for training teachers of Arabic as a foreign language ,(curriculum, budget, personnel, and student affairs)
- Directing Summer Study Abroad in Alexandria, Egypt (95-present)

#### COUNSELING AND ADVISING :

- Foreign students at al-Azhar University, in the City of Islamic Missions (foreign students administration), and at the American University in Cairo.
- Freshmen Academic advisor at Northwestern University 1994-1998)
- Faculty Advisor: Muslim Culture Student Association and Arab Students Organization of NWU.
- Faculty Associate (1983-present) and Associate Master of the International Studies Residential College of Northwestern University (1995-1998).
- For cross-cultural communication (American-Middle Eastern) in business and education:

**OFFICES HELD:**

- Associate editor: Islamic Translation Series published by Brigham Young University.
- Associate Editor: Al-`Arbiyya (The academic Journal of the American Association of the Teachers of Arabic)
- Member of the Executive Board of the American Association of Teachers of Arabic (Jan. 1, 1987 Dec. 31, 1989 and 1996 - 1999).
- President, the Amer. Assoc. Teachers of Arabic (98/90).
- Member, Editorial Board of "AL-ARABIYYAH", The academic AATA journal (1984-1994).
- Member, Executive Board, Arab Cultural Council of America.

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIP:**

- American Association of Teachers of Arabic (AATA)
- Middle East Studies Assoc. of North America (MESA)
- Center for Middle Eastern Studies(Univ. of Chicago)
- American Research Center in Egypt

**HONORS AND GRANTS RECEIVED:**

- Awarded a grant by the Moroccan-American Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange (Fulbright) at the status of "Distinguished Lecturer". The goal was to visit, lecture, evaluate and consult Moroccan academic institutions on the issues of Arabic as a foreign language.
- Travel Research Grant from Northwestern University to examine Al-Khushani's manuscripts in Spain & Morocco, 1987
- Fellowship at UCLA (1978-1982)
- First Prize Award, Supreme Council of Islamic Affairs (Egypt), 1967. Research Project: "The role of Al-Azhar in the Islamic World."

**OTHER RELATED ACTIVITIES:**

Frequent public speaker in various community colleges and centers of religious and secular nature on issues related to Islam, Arabs and the Middle East.

## PUBLICATIONS:

### A. Books:

- "Islamic Civilization in the Western Basin of the Mediterranean" (Arabic) Accepted for Publication by the Egyptian National Book Organization.

### B. Articles:

- Co-author "Egypt: Promoting Tolerance, Defending Against Islamism", a chapter in *Teaching Islam: Textbooks and Religion in the Middle East*, Rienner, 1977.
- "Arabic Computer Assisted Learning: The case of Islamic Curriculum" Proceedings of the 3rd International Conference and Exhibition on multi-lingual Computing; University of Durham, 1992.
- "Towards a Concept of Islamic Civilization and an Attempt to Apply It", *Journal of Historical Research*, July, 1979 (Arabic)
- "Responsibility of al-Azhar Towards Teaching Arabic to Non-Arabs," *Majallat al-Azhar*. May, 1974 (Arabic)

### C. Book Reviews:

- "Mansour Ajami, The Alchemy of Glory", *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, (forthcoming)
- "Mahmoud Ayoub, Qur'an and Its Interpreters"; *The Middle East Studies Assoc. Bulletin*, Dec., 984
- "Mahmoud Mansy: The Italian Campaign on Libya" *Journal of Historical Research*, July, 1980 (Arabic)
- "Raji Rammuny: Advanced Business Arabic" *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt*, Vol.XXVI, 89.
- "M. M. Badawi: (ed.) Modern Arabic Literature", *The Middle East Studies Association Bulletin*, 1988.
- "Ibn kamal Pasha: Al-Tanbiih edited by Mohammed Sawaie" *Al 'Arabiyya*, 1998.
- "golden Age of Islam" by Linda George for *MESA Bulletin*, forthcoming

D. Translation and reviews of translated works:

- Translation Reviewer: “*Al-Qushauri’s Epistle on Sufism*” (*Al-risala al-qushayriyya fi `Ilm al-Tawawwuf*); translated by Alexander Knysh, Garnet, 2007.
- Translation Reviewer the English translation of “*Al-Irshad*” of Imam al `aramayn al Juwayni. Translated by Paul Walker., Garnet, 2004
- Co-translation with Professor Mahmoud Elgamal of Rice University: (Arabic to English): *Al-Fiqh al-Islaami wa ‘adillatuhu* by Dr. Wahba al Zuhayli. (Islamic Financial Transaction) Vol. I.
- "Reymond, Mauny: Pre-Arab Trans-Saharan Trade Route Between Libya and Nigero-Chadic Savannas" Journal of Historical Research, Tripoli, Libya, Jan. 1981.(Arabic)
- Michael Brett: Two Fatwas of the Late Fourth Century A.H. Dealing with Trans-Saharan Trade”, Journal of Historical Research, Jan. 1981 (Arabic)
- Richard Burke, Use of Radio in Literacy Education; translated by Dr. Salah al-Arabi) Published by the Arab League, 1977. (Arabic)

CONFERENCE PAPERS:

- ACTFL Pre-conference workshop: Putting the Arabic Standards to Work: Curriculum and Material Development", November, 07
- Education Forum of Islamic Society of North America (ISNA): Pre-conference workshop "Beyond the Textbook: Selecting and Developing Good Arabic teaching materials" March 08
- NECTFL presentation: "Bringing Arabic Standards to Classroom Activities", March 08 [this presentation is a runner up for the 'best presentation of NECTFL 08'] March 2008.
- NCLCTL (National Council on Less Commonly Taught Languages): STARTALK 07: Lessons Learned from Arabic & Chinese Programs of Summer 07. March 2008.
- School of Creative Science, Sharjah UAE: Teachers' training on Defferentiation in Teaching Arabic in a Multi-Proficiency Classroom. (August 2007)

- " Computer Assisted Language Learning and Arabic for Special Purposes: the Case of Islamic curriculum ", 3d International Conference and on Multi-lingual Computing, University of Durham, England, October 1992.
- "Arabic as a Foreign Language in the Islamic Context". Formal presentation in the Symposium held in celebration of the Inauguration of the Institute of Islamic & Arabic Studies, Washington D.C., January 24, 1993.
- "Innovative approaches to Islamic Education: Arabic and the Curriculum, a presentation within the context of a seminar on "Islamic Education in the year 2,000" organized by the Board of Education of the Muslim Community Center of Chicago, October 17, 1992.
- "African Riwaq at Al-Azhar: A Training Ground for fiUlama." Conference on Islam and African: The Changing Role of the fiUlama. Northwestern University, Evanston, IL. March, 1984
- "Qur'an and Sira: Biographical Notes, "Conference of American Academy of Religion. Chicago, IL. December, 1984.
- Organizing and chairing a workshop on "Integrating non-conventional materials into the conventional curricula: Culture presentation in language classes", MESA, November 1991.

#### WORK IN PROGRESS:

- Designing and seeking to implement complete Arabic Curriculum for Special K-12 learners in Multi-Language Environment.
- Pending grant approval: Designing a complete Arabic curriculum for Chicago Public Schools.
- Study of modern Quran translations and how they influence or being impacted by modern concepts such as globalization, feminism, inter-faith dialogs human right's movements.