

DR. HAMSA MAHAFZA

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CAREER OBJECTIVE

Building a long-term career as a college professor dedicated to teaching courses in teacher education, with opportunities to serve the academic community and conduct educational research, with an emphasis on service-learning and heritage/world language education, specifically in relation to teacher preparation.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- Ph.D. Culture, Literacy and Language (CLL)**
Department of Bicultural-Bilingual Studies
College of Education and Human Development
The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), May 2012
Dissertation Title: *“Enrolling Arabic Heritage Language Learners in Texas Community-Based Schools: Examining the Attitudinal and Motivational Factors Impacting Parental Choice.”*
- Cumulative GPA: 4.00
- M.A. Curriculum and Instruction (C&I) Concentration**
Department of Interdisciplinary Learning & Teaching
College of Education and Human Development
The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), May 2007
Nominated for the Outstanding Graduate Student Award –fall 2006
Thesis Title: *“Learning about Cultures Other than your Own. Arab-American Students in U.S. Public Schools: Assessing Educators’ Cultural Awareness and Perceptions.”*
- Cumulative GPA: 4.00
- B.S. Bachelor of Science in Mathematics**
The University of Jordan, Amman-Jordan

CERTIFICATION(S)

- Teacher Certification Program (EC– 4)**
The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA)
College of Education and Human Development (2005-2007)
- Distinguished Achievement Candidate
 - TEXES 100: Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR) EC-4
 - TEXES 101: Generalist EC-4
 - Teacher Certification Program (ESL, EC-12)
 - TEXES 154: ESL/Supplemental (EC-12)
 - Texas Certification to Teach Languages Other Than English (EC-12)
 - ACTFL 605: LOTE: Arabic Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI)

- ACTFL 600: LOTE: Arabic Writing Proficiency Test (WPT)

The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)

- Quality Education Practices Online (QEPO)
- CITI Training
- Continuous Improvement in Educator Preparation (CIEP)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

In addition to service-learning in teacher preparation, my research focuses on world language and Heritage Language (HL) education, particularly in the context of school choice (private vs. public schools), examining language attitudes, motivation, language use, and identity construction. My broader agenda includes:

- Applied Linguistics – World Languages
- Foodways Through an Educational Lens
- Multicultural Children’s Literature
- Contextualized Teaching and Learning (CTL)

HONORS & AWARDS

- Recipient of the 2024 Martin Luther King Jr. Service Award | MGSA – The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)
- [Honors College Faculty Fellow](#) (2022 – 2024) | The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)
- Recipient of 2022 AWLA “Friend of Languages” Award | The Alabama World Languages Association (AWLA)
- Nominee for 2022 Student Organization “Advisor of the Year” | The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)
- Recipient of “Five Years of Service” Award 2022 | The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)
- Candidate for "Higher Ed" Board of Directors | The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), 2021
- Fellowship Award: Culture, Literacy and Language (CLL) Program – UTSA, 2009-2012
- First Place Doctoral Award: Student Research Colloquium – UTSA, 2011
- Nominated for the “Outstanding Graduate Student” Award – UTSA, 2006

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Fall 2022 – Present: Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
College of Education, Sport, and Human Sciences (CESHS) – UAH

Undergraduate Courses

- ED 307: Multicultural Foundation of Education
- ED 425: ED 425: Methods of Teaching World Languages (MID & HS)
- ED 435: Differentiated Instruction in World Language Classroom

Graduate Courses

- ED 530: Applied Multiculturalism
- ED 535: Introduction to Applied Educational Research
- ED 565: Introduction to Differentiated Instruction

Fall 2024 – Present: UAH Honors College

- HON 101: Intro to Honors Research
- HON 301: HON SEM - Diversity and Food

UAH Honors College Faculty Fellow (2022 – 2024)

- HON 101: Intro to Honors Research – Diversity
- HON 301: HON SEM - Diversity and Food

Fall 2016 – Spring 2022: Full-time Lecturer in Teacher Education

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

College of Education, Sport, and Human Sciences (CESHS) – UAH

- ED 307: Multicultural Foundation of Education
- ED 425: Methods of Teaching World Languages (MID & HS)
- ED 435: Differentiated Instruction in World Language Classroom
- ED 530: Applied Multiculturalism
- ED 535: Introduction to Applied Educational Research
- ED 565: Introduction to Differentiated Instruction
- ED 635: Using Assessment to Guide Differentiated Instruction

2015- Summer 2016: Part-time Lecturer

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

College of Education, Sport, and Human Sciences (CESHS) – UAH

- ED 565: Introduction to Differentiated Instruction, Spring 2015 and Summer 2016
- ED 530: Applied Multiculturalism, Summer 2016
- ED 696: ESOL P-12 Internship, Fall 2015

2012–2013: Instructor of Record | College of Education and Human Development

Department of Bicultural-Bilingual Studies - The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA)

Taught a major undergraduate course for pre-service teachers in the UTSA teacher certification program:

- BBL 3403: Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in a Pluralistic Society
- Designed meaningful syllabi to embody course goals, standards, policies, and expectations
- Planned and implemented online and computer-based activities
- Applied the principles of culturally responsive teaching & learning
- Organized field placement activities
- Managed service-learning projects
- Designed and implemented various CRT teaching methods

2010 –2012: Adjunct Professor of Arabic | The Department of Modern Languages St. Mary's University-San Antonio, Texas

- Topics in Language-Advanced I: Arabic (LN3311IS-FL11)
- Topics in Language-Advanced II: Arabic (LN3312IS-SP12)
- Introduction to Arabic I – (AB1311)
- Introduction to Arabic II (AB1312)
- Second Year Arabic I (AB2311)
- Second Year Arabic II (AB2312)
 - Developed culturally responsive curriculum
 - Designed effective teaching strategies in language learning (e.g., field trips, technology)

- Constructed theory-based measure to assess students' language proficiency levels
- Served as an academic advisor for the Muslim Student Society (MSS) – Student Organization

**2005 – 2012: Teaching / Research Assistant | College of Education and Human Development
Department of Bicultural-Bilingual Studies - The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA)**

- Instructed and taught two sections (in total 60 undergraduate pre-service teachers)
- Assisted in grading and developing course exams and assessment/evaluation
- Created effective online activities for students
- Assisted in conducting educational research
- Worked collaboratively with professors in publishing research-based manuscripts
- Assisted in conducting performance evaluations/writing suggestions for improvements
- Assisted in writing educational departmental reports

2003– 2005: The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), Texas

Second Grade and Kindergarten classrooms – UTSA Teacher Certification Program (EC- 4)

- Planned and taught lessons in the areas of reading, math, science, and social studies using a variety of instructional methods and curriculum models including cooperative learning, motivation, learning centers, service-learning curriculum, differentiated instruction, individualized web-based curriculum, and integrated curriculum
- Implemented principles of student-centered approach. Promoted motivation, creativity, and positive engagement in learning among students
- Applied group mentoring, and provided individualized tutoring, motivation, reinforcement for daily lessons
- Solved discipline problems / applied effective classroom management plans
- Developed and implemented lesson plans that fulfilled the State academic standards
- Worked cooperatively with faculty and staff as needed to meet classroom goals and curriculum objectives
- Developed and conducted a variety of assessment methods

SUPERVISION & MENTORSHIP

Fall 2025 – Present: Faculty Adviser for World Languages (6-12)

Department of Curriculum and Instruction - CESHS

- World Languages Undergraduate Secondary Education Program –Teacher Education

Spring 2025: UAH Honors Capstone Director

- Thesis Title: *The Influence of Food-Themed Literature on Student Representation and Cultural Awareness in the Classroom*
- Undergraduate Student: Lorelai Daniel

Spring 2025: UAH Honors Capstone Director

- Thesis Title: *From Fear to Fluency: Exploring and Overcoming Foreign Language Anxiety*
- Undergraduate Student: Addison Re

Spring 2025: Capstone Committee Member

- Justice & Equity Studies (JES) Minor Capstone Committee
- Undergraduate Student: Tucker Quering

Summer 2024: Research and Creative Experience for Undergraduates(RCEU) | Director

- RCEU Project Title: ["Bringing Imagination to Life: An Animated Tale of "The Arabian Cinderella and the Secret of the Woven Threads"](#)
- Undergraduate Student: Matthew Machazire

Fall 2023 – Summer 2024: Doctoral Dissertation | External Committee Member

- University: Texas A&M University-Kingsville - Teacher and Bilingual Education Department
- Dissertation Title: *Exploring the Experience of Arab Mothers Raising Children in South Texas: Maintaining Arabic Heritage Language and Cultural Identity.*
- Graduate Student: Amal Almuhlafi - Doctor of Education

Spring 2019 – Fall 2019: UAH Honors Capstone Director

- Thesis Title: *Fostering Cultural and Language Visibility by Integrating Multicultural Literature in the Classroom: A Case Study*
- Undergraduate Student: Anna Rodgers

Fall 2018: UAH Honors Contract Supervisor

- Project Title: *Cultural and Academic Challenges as Thought of by an Asian American Parent: A Case Study*
- Undergraduate Student: Elizabeth Thomas

Fall 2018 – Present: Faculty Adviser (Present)

- INCLUDE Club – C&I UAH Registered Student Organizations
- Perpetua – The UAH Journal of Undergraduate Research

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

2015 – 2016: Principal of a Community-Based School in Huntsville, Alabama

Provides leadership to implement school policies, instructional programs, and professional development initiatives, creating a learning environment that meets the needs of all students and advances heritage language education.

2005 – 2013: Consultant at the Bilingual/ESL Department at the North-side Independent School District (NISD) – San Antonio, Texas

Collaboratively worked with NISD specialists in developing an Arabic-English bilingual curriculum, instruction, and activities, and the following educational tasks and duties:

- Provided research-based teacher training and effective workshops at more than 10 public schools under the jurisdiction of the NISD (2006-2012), such as:
 - Walking in the Shoes of ESOL/ESL Students: Comprehensible Input Strategies
 - Fostering the Richness and Diversity of the Arab Civilization
- Reviewed and provided academic translation to official/academic documents into Arabic:
 - Portions of Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) & NISD Academic Standards (KG- 1st grade)
 - Chapter 89, “Adaptations for Special Populations (ESL students)”
 - The “Student Code of Conduct” manual
 - Northside district’s policies and procedures for parents and students
 - Official correspondence and documents, brochures and flyers
 - Home Language Survey (HLS)
- Item-analyzed and evaluated the Bilingual Verbal Abilities Tests (BVAT)
- Administered formal testing and conducted performance evaluations for ESL students
- Contributed to the following district-wide events:
 - “Parents’ Night” meeting (November 2007) hosted by three specialized academies (ALAMO, ITSA, & MTA) that offer two- year training programs
 - “Title III Parent Conference” (October 2007) and 2008
 - “Parents’ Night” meeting (November 2005) hosted by the Bilingual ESL department

- “Arabic Advisory Council Meeting” in the fall of 2005
- Assisted in selecting and evaluating Arabic books and instructional materials for public schools
- Solved problems related to students’ behavior and discipline and wrote official reports and recommendations in this regard
- Shared ideas about using Arabic songs in curriculum for choral music
- Suggested and planned the multicultural district-wide school museum
- Facilitated parental engagement by:
 - Conducting “*The Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC): Parents’ Training*” workshop at NISD.
 - Meeting with parents of English Language Learners (ELLs) to address school-related concerns and academic issues regarding their children’s education.
 - Participating in the “*Celebrating Arab Cultures*” conference and workshops at Texas A&M, College Station, Texas (Spring 2007).

SERVICE

UAH College of Education, Sport, and Human Sciences (CESHS)

- 2024 – Present: Teaching Effectiveness Committee | Member
 - 2025 – College-Wide Workshop | Coordinator
 - Workshop Title: *Enhancing Teaching & Learning with AI* by Beth Boswell, January 22, 2025, UAH
- 2023 – Present: CESHS Alumni Relations Committee | Member
- 2023 – Present: The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Committee – CESHS Faculty Focus Group | Member
- 2018 – Present: Continuous Improvement in Educator Preparation (CIEP) Team – UAH CESH

CESHS – Department of Curriculum and Instruction

- 2025 – Present: M.Ed. Program Design Working Group | Member
- 2025 UAH At a Glance – UAH Admissions
- 2024–Present: C&I Social Committee | Member
- 2023 – Present: C&I "Education Day" | Member – Event Follow-up Survey & Coordination with Dining services
- 2022 – 2024: UAH Graduate Council Representative, College of Education | Member
- 2023 – Present: Site Visits for Intensive Week Field Experience | C&I Faculty
- 2018 – Present: UAH CoEd Research Day Committee | C&I Member

CESHS – C&I | Special Programs

- 2025 – Present: “Hello UAH” – Languages Unite: One Campus, Many Voices | Founding Director & Organizer
- 2025 – Present: [Hop into Learning-A Bunny Discovery Educational Day](#) | Founding Director & Organizer
- 2023 – Present: [Teach 2 INCLUDE Conference](#) | Director & Organizer
 - 2024 Theme: “[Inspiring Change with Learning Technologies](#)”
 - 2023 Theme: “[Leading with World Languages](#)”
- 2018 – Present: [INCLUDE Club](#), Registered Student Organization | Sponsor & Faculty Advisor

- 2025 – 2026: Honors College Dean Search Committee | Member
- 2023 – Present: UAH Salmon Library Committee | Member
- 2024 – Present: UAH Culinary Council | Member
- 2018 – Present: Faculty Advisor | Perpetua - UAH Journal of Undergraduate Research
- 2023 – Present: Fulbright Campus Committee Evaluation (CCE) | Member
- 2023 – Present: SACSCOC Reaffirmation 2026 Subcommittee - Education Policies, Procedures & Practices | Member
- Spring 2024: Fifth-year Director Review Committee | Member
- 2023 – 2024: Honors College Dean Search Committee | Member
- 2023 – 2024: Graduate Poster Session, UAH Graduate School | Judge
- 2023 – 2024: Honors Council, UAH Honors College | Member
- 2023 – 2024: Graduate Council – UAH's Joint Undergraduate Master's Program (JUMP)
- | Committee Member
- 2022 – Present: Fulbright Campus Committee Evaluation (CCE) | Fulbright Review Panel
- 2022 – 2024: "Executive Committee" of the Honors College Council | UAH Honors College Curriculum Committee Member
- 2022 – 2024: "Inclusive Syllabus" Project | Team Member – UAH Enhanced Teaching & Learning Center (ETLC)
- 2020 – 2023: "Inclusivity in the Classroom" Project | Team Member – UAH Enhanced Teaching & Learning Center (ETLC)

Professional Service

- The Alabama State Department of Education (ASDE)
 - 2026 – Present: Serving on the 2026 World Languages Course of Study Committee and Task Force for the ASDE | Team Member
- The Mountain Interstate Forum on Languages and Cultures (MIFLC) 75th Annual Conference,
 - 2025: Organizing Committee Member & Panel Chair
- Alabama World Languages Association (AWLA) – Board of Directors
 - 2026 – Present: AWLA liaison for UAH Teach 2 INCLUDE Conference
 - 2022 – 2026: Advocacy Director for AWLA
- The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE)
 - 2022– Present: World Language Advisory Member
- The Alabama Literacy Association: Special Education Council
 - Member of Council Leadership for the 2024 – 2025
- The Alabama National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) (Four- Year Term Voting Member)
 - Board Member: 2023 – 2026: NAME Board of Directors
 - Chairperson: 2023 – 2026: Nominating Committee
- Madison County Schools (MCSS) District English Learners (EL) Advisory Committee
 - 2022– Present: Committee Member
- The Alabama State Department of Education (ASDE) Continuous Improvement in Educator Preparation (CIEP) Team
 - Summer 2022: CIEP Reviewer – World Languages (K -12) Class B & Languages Other Than English (K-12) – Alternative A
- The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
 - Candidate for ACTFL "Higher Ed" Board of Directors, 2021
 - 2022 – 2023: Past Chair – Officer – Heritage Languages (HL) SIG at ACTFL
 - 2018 – 2021: Chair – Heritage Languages (HL) SIG at ACTFL

Community Service

- International Society of Huntsville (ISH) - Huntsville, Alabama
 - 2019 – 2022: Board Member & Chair of the Education Committee

PUBLICATIONS

Children's Books

- **Mahafza, H.** (2025). *Hoppy Tales with Asal: The "Real" Helper Bunny*. A Children's Book Series Dorrance Publishing, Pittsburgh, PA.
- **Mahafza, H.** (2023). *The Arabian Cinderella and the Secret of the Woven Threads*. Children's book: Dorrance Publishing, Pittsburgh, PA.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- **Mahafza, H.** & Greene, M. (in press). Scaffolding success: the role of course syllabi in enhancing self-efficacy and classroom engagement. *Higher Education Studies*
- **Mahafza, H.** & Gonzales, S. (2023). Exploring World language pre-service teachers' perceptions of their service-learning experience: An action research project. *The Journal of Literature, Languages and Linguistics*, 98, 1-13
- **Mahafza, H.,** & Smith, H. (2022). The 4-C's model: Care theory for culturally responsive pedagogy. *Journal of Education and Practice*, 13 (21), 78-94
- **Aburumuh, H.,** Smith, H. L., & Ratcliffe, L. G. (2009). Educators' cultural awareness and perceptions of Arab-American students: Breaking the cycle of ignorance. *The Journal of Multiculturalism in Education*, 4, 1-29
- Cuero, K. K., & **Aburumuh, H.** (2007). Concurrent translation method. In J. M. Gonzalez (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Bilingual Education*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc

In progress

- **Mahafza, H.** (in progress). *Hoppy Tales with Asal: The Top Chef Bunny*. A Children's Book Series
- **Mahafza, H.** (in progress). Research Article: Food-Themed Children's Literature: A Pathway to Student Representation in K–12 Classrooms
- **Mahafza, H.** Research Article: Exploring the importance of including religious observances in the academic calendar: insights from university faculty and students
- Greene, M. & **Mahafza, H.** (in progress). Research-based Article: What if students wrote the syllabus? Empowering student voice through a standard syllabus
- **Mahafza, H.,** Jenkins, A., Daniel, L., & Ra, A. (in progress). Research-based Article: Each recipe has a story: Affirming cultural heritage and identity through foodways
- **Mahafza, H.** (in progress). Theory-based Article: Heritage languages: A new term emerges
- **Mahafza, H.** (in progress). Practice-based Article. Campus student organizations as a pathway to enhancing student engagement

NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

UAH Highlights

- Spring 2025: [Hopping into learning: UAH launches literacy event for young learners](#)
- Spring 2025: [Curriculum & Instruction Spring 2025 Newsletter](#)
- Spring 2022: [INCLUDE Club student organization celebrates third anniversary promoting languages and diversity](#)
- Summer 2019: [UAH alumna Traneshia Stoudemire passing on priceless knowledge](#)

- Fall 2018: [UAH education major's spark for foreign language began in the classroom](#)

Newsletter

- **Mahafza, H.** (2023). [HON 301 Seminar spotlight: Diversity and food](#). *Honors College Newsletter*, (10), 21-22
- **Mahafza, H.** (Spring, 2018). Defining heritage language (HL) learners. *ACTFL Heritage Languages SIG Newsletter*. 2.

Website

Founder: Mahafza, H. (2023, February 21). *My Multicultural Library (MML)*.

<https://mymulticulturallibrary.com/>

CONFERENCE PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

2026 – Presenter

- Alabama World Languages Association (AWLA) Conference 2026. February 7, Mobile, Alabama
 - Practice-based Presentation—Title: From Classroom to Campus: Advancing Intercultural Competence Through the Seal

2025 – Presenter & Panel Chair

- The Mountain Interstate Forum on Languages and Cultures (MIFLC) 75th Annual Conference, October 9-11, 2025, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Alabama.
 - **Panel Chair:** Purposeful Pedagogy in World Language Education: Assessments and Credentials
 - **Presenter:** Practice-based Presentation—Title: Contextualizing World Language Pedagogy: Empowering Learners for the Seal of Biliteracy and Beyond
- Alabama World Languages Association (AWLA) Conference 2025. February 01, 2025, Florence, Alabama.
 - Practice-based Presentation—Title: Foodways, Language Pathways: Cultural Connections in the World Language Classroom
- Alabama-Mississippi Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (AMTESOL) 2025 Conference. January 18, 2025, Montgomery, Alabama.
 - Practice-based Presentation—Title: Exploring Worlds Through Words: Enhancing ELL Learning with Multicultural Literature

2024 – Presenter

- Alabama World Languages Association (AWLA) Conference 2024. Alabaster, Alabama.
 - Practice-based Presentation—Title: Multicultural Children's Literature as a Tool for Language Contextualization

2023 – Presenter

- The National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) 2023 Conference. November 18, 2023, Montgomery, Alabama.
 - Research-based Presentation—Title: The Importance of Including Religious Observances in the Academic Calendar as Perceived by University Faculty & Students
- Southern Conference on Language Teaching (SCOLT) & AWLA/SEALLT 2023 Conference. March 23-25, 2023, Mobile, Alabama
 - Research-based Presentation—Title: Preparing Pre-service Language Teachers for Diversity through Service-Learning
- Alabama NAME Conference (2023): The Ties that Bind: Transformative Practices. March 10, 2023, Montevallo, Alabama

- Research-based Presentation—Title: What if Students Wrote the Syllabus? Empowering Student-Voice Through an Inclusive Syllabus |Co-presenter
- Alabama-Mississippi Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (AMTESOL) 2023 Conference. January 28, 2023, Huntsville, Alabama.
 - Practice-based Presentation—Title: Supporting Emergent Bilinguals and Multilingual Learners through Multicultural Service-Learning

2022 – Presenter

- Alabama Association of Higher Education Diversity Officers (ALAHEDO) Conference 2022: “Innovation for Inclusive Excellence.” October 26, 2022 - University of North Alabama, Florence, Alabama.
- Practice-based Presentation—Title: Inclusive Syllabus: Including Student Voice |Co-presenter
- Alabama World Languages Association (AWLA) Conference 2022: “Let’s Face it... Building Proficiency Beyond the Pandemic.” January 22, 2022, Birmingham, Alabama.
 - Research-based Presentation—Title: The Role of Service-Learning in World Languages Teacher Education (Postponed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic)

2021 – Presenter

- The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Virtual Conference - November 21, 2021
 - Research-based Presentation—Title: Using Service-Learning to Support Diversity & Foreign Language Education

2020 – Presenter

- The National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) 2020 Virtual Conference - October 8-10, 2020
 - Research-based Presentation—Title: Preparing Preservice Teachers for Diversity: The Power of Service-Learning in Promoting Multiculturalism & Social Justice

2018 - Lead Presenter

- Business meeting- ACTFL Convention held November 16, 2018, in New Orleans, Louisiana

2018- Presenter

- ALAHEDO 7th Annual Fall Conference: “Beneath the Surface: Achieving Excellence and Opportunity through Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.” Friday, November 2, 2018 - University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama
 - Presentation Title: Supporting Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Learners in the Mainstream Classroom.
- Alabama Association of Teacher Educators Conference. May 01, 2018-Athens State University, Athens, Alabama
 - Presentation Title: Walking in the Shoes of ESOL Students: Moving Theory into Practice

2017- Presenter

- ACTFL 2017 Annual Convention & World Languages Expo. November 17- 19, 2017, Nashville - Tennessee
 - Research-based Presentation—Title: Arabic Heritage Language: Examining the Attitudinal/Motivational Factors Impacting Parental Choice
- ALAHEDO 6th Annual Fall Conference: "Seize the Day-Change the Future: The Power of Equity, Inclusion, and Community." November 10, 2017, Birmingham, Alabama
 - Poster presentation Title: Arabic Heritage Language Learning in Community- Based Schools: Examining the Attitudinal & Motivational Factors Impacting School Choice.
- TexLER Conference: February 17-18, 2017, San Antonio, Texas Research-based

- Presentation Title: Arabic Heritage Language: Examining the Attitudinal/Motivational Factors Impacting Parental Choice.

2014 – Chair

- Roundtable Session at AERA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 7, 2014
 - Session Title: “Arab and Muslim Experiences in School Contexts”

2013 – Presenter

- The American Association for Applied Linguistics Conference. March 16- 19, Dallas, Texas
 - Poster Presentation Title: Arabic Heritage Language Learning in Community- Based Schools as Opposed to Public Schools: Examining the Multiple Factors Impacting Parental Choice.

2012 – Presenter

- Extolling Arabic Heritage Language Learners in Texas Community- Based Schools: Examining the Attitudinal and Motivational Factors Impacting Parental Choice. December 2012, Arizona State University, Arizona
- Sheltered Instruction: An Effective Approach for Developing Language Proficiency and Increasing Core Content Comprehensibility. October 27, 2012, St. Mary’s University, San Antonio, Texas
- Presentation Title: Sheltered Instruction: An Effective Approach for Developing Language Proficiency and Increasing Core Content Comprehensibility. Trinity University. October 26, 2012, San Antonio, Texas
- TABE Conference. October 26, 2012, San Antonio, Texas
 - Research-based Presentation—Title: Arabic Heritage Language Learning in Community- Based Schools: An Examination of Factors Impacting Parental Choice.
 - Sheltered Instruction: An Effective Approach for Developing Language Proficiency and Increasing Core Content Comprehensibility. Trinity University. September 07, 2012, San Antonio, Texas
- Third Annual Student Research Colloquium at UTSA. April 25, 2012 San Antonio, Texas
 - Poster Presentation Title—Enrolling Arabic Heritage Language Learners in Texas Community-Based Schools: Examining the Attitudinal and Motivational Factors Impacting Parental Choices
- Fostering the Richness and Diversity of the Arab Civilization: Arab- American Students in U.S. Public Schools at the North- side Independent School District (NISD). 2006-2012, San Antonio, Texas
- Walking in the Shoes of ESOL/ESL Students: Comprehensible Input Strategies at the North-side Independent School District (NISD). 2006-2012, San Antonio, Texas
- Student Research Colloquium, Students showcase research with faculty, and students. UTSA, San Antonio, Texas. April 21 -22, 2011.
 - Poster Presentation Title — Educators’ Cultural Awareness and Perceptions (E- CAP) Survey: Reliability and Validity Analysis. **FIRST PLACE DOCTORAL AWARD**

2010 – Presenter

- Dual Language: A Wave of New Instruction Connecting Education ~ Connecting Languages ~ Connecting Lives. Region 20. November 2010, San Antonio, Texas
 - Presentation Title — Walking in the Shoes of ESL Students.

2009 – Presenter

- TextESOL II Fall Conference TESOL – The Field of Dreams! UTSA, October 3rd, 2009, San Antonio, Texas

- Presentation Title — Walking in the Shoes of ESOL Students.

2007 – Presenter

- The 3rd Annual Research Symposium at the University of Texas at San Antonio. November 2007, San Antonio, Texas
 - Presentation Title — Learning about Cultures Other than your Own: Arab- American Students in U.S. Public Schools

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- The Alabama World Languages Association (AWLA)
- The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
- The National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME)
- Alabama Association of Teacher Educators (AATE)
- American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL)
- American Educational Research Association (AERA)

PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS, TALKS & EVENTS, WORKSHOPS

University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)

- **2025 – Presenter**
 - Presentation Title: Bridging Teaching, Service, and Research – Spotlight on My Current Work
 - Event Title: CESHs Lunch & Learn
 - Date: November 21, 2025
 - Organized by the College of Education, Sport, and Human Sciences (CESHS) – UAH

University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)

- **2024 – Supervisor**
 - Event Title: [“One World, Many Plates”](#)
 - Date: November 13, 2024
 - A service-learning project organized by the HON 301-HO3 seminar in collaboration with the UAH Library, UAH SASE, ED 307, and the UAH INCLUDE Club. This project aimed to promote diversity through foodways on campus.

University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)

- **2024 – Organizer**
 - Event Title: [Unity in Diversity: International Education Day](#)
 - Date: January 24, 2024
 - INCLUDE Club & “Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship” presentation by fellowship & Graduate School advisor Ms. Jennifer Staton, hosted by the UAH Salmon Library

University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)

- **2023 – Supervisor**
 - Event Title: [“Tastes of the World”](#)
 - Date: November 13, 2023
 - A Service-Learning Project Organized by HON 301- HO2 class "SEM: Diversity & Food," along with UAH INCLUDE Club, UAH SOAR & UAH SAS
 - Hosted by the UAH Salmon Library

University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)

- **2023 – Presenter**
 - Event Title: [Book Talk: The “Arabian Cinderella and the Secret of the Woven Threads”](#)
 - Date: April 21, 2023

- Hosted by the UAH Salmon Library

National Council for Languages and International Studies | The Joint National Committee for Languages (JNCL)

- 2023 – An Alabama Official Delegate (OD), advocating for World language teaching/ learning on Capitol Hill
 - Event Title: Virtual Language Advocacy Days 2023
 - Building Opportunity through Multilingualism
 - Date: February 08-10, 2023

University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)

- 2022 – Supervisor
 - Event Title: [“Diversity is Everywhere”](#)
 - Date: November 16, 2022 @ CTC & Charger Union
 - A Service-Learning Project Organized by HON 301- HO5 class "SEM: Diversity & Food," and UAH INCLUDE Club

The University of Central Arkansas (UCA)

- 2021 – Presenter
 - Workshop Title: “Teaching for Religious Diversity & Inclusion”
 - Date: January 15, 2021, professional development hosted by the UCA College of Education

University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)

- Semester-based Workshop (2020 - ongoing) –Presenter
 - Semester-based Workshop Title: “Walking in the Shoes of ESL Students: Moving Theory into Practice”
 - Hosted by the UAH College of Education – Department of Curriculum & Instruction

The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)

- 2021 – Panel Coordinator & Moderator
 - Webinar Title: “Heritage Language Development: The advantages, the problem, and the solution” by Dr. Stephen Krashen
 - Date: **December** 14, 2021, hosted by ACTFL Heritage Languages (HLs) SIG
- 2020 – Presenter
 - Workshop Title: HL SIG Meet-and-Greet – Showcase HLSIG
 - Date: October 30, 2020, hosted by ACTFL Heritage Languages (HLs) SIG
- 2020 – Panel Coordinator & Moderator
 - Webinar Title: “Activities Developed by a Team of FL Pre-service Teachers while Exploring the ACTFL World”
 - Date: **October** 26, 2020, hosted by ACTFL Heritage Languages (HLs) SIG
- 2020 – Panel Coordinator & Moderator
 - Webinar Title: “Keeping Heritage Language Learners Motivated and Engaged While Remote.”
 - Date: June 23, 2020, hosted by ACTFL Heritage Languages (HLs) SIG
- 2019 – Organizer
 - Service-Learning Project Title: “Passport to Diversity”
 - Date: November 4, 2019, hosted by CoEd and Mt. Carmel Elementary
- 2019 – Panel Coordinator & Moderator: Hosted by ACTFL Heritage Languages (HLs) SIG
 - Webinar Title: “NCLB to ESSA: Prospects and Challenges for HL Education” by Dr. Wayne Wright
 - Date: June 6, 2019, hosted by ACTFL Heritage Languages (HLs) SIG
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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **2025 – Participant**
 - Assessment 101 for Academic Programs by Dr. Keston Fulcher, September 19, 2025, UAH
 - Recognize and Prevent Hazing - September 11, 2025, United Educator - UAH
 - AWLA Online PD Series on the 3-Modes of Communication, The Alabama World Languages Association(AWLA), July 14-16, 2025
 - Working Smarter, Not Harder: Applying SLA Theory to AI Use in Language Education presented by Austin Pack (Brigham Young University-Hawai'i), Webinar CERCLL-The University of Arizona, June 18, 2025
 - Grants 101: The UAH Grant Lifecycle, CESHS – Lunch & Learn, April 18, 2025
 - Understanding the Clery Act, March 6, 2025, United Educator - UAH
 - Enhancing Teaching & Learning with AI by Beth Boswell, January 22, 2025, UAH, January 22, 2025, UAH CESHS (Coordinator & Participant)
- **2024 – Participant**
 - Teach GPT Practical AI for Educators in Higher Ed, September 20, 2024, UAH
 - Adult Mental Health First Aid 2nd Edition Tommie Sanders, Huntsville, March 28, UAH
- **2023 – Participant**
 - OIT 2023 UAH Annual Cybersecurity Training – Online UAH Workshop
 - Online 2023 Mandatory Title IX Training for Employees – Online UAH Workshop
 - Faculty Interdisciplinary Humanoid Robotics Workshop, September 8, 2023 – UAH
 - Fulbright “Campus Committee Evaluation (CCE)” Training, August 2023 – UAH Honors College
 - Co-Teaching with ChatGPT: Using AI in the Classroom, October 16, 2023 – UAH
 - “Exploring the Potential Uses and Implications of AI and ChatGPT in Education” – Online Workshop, June 13, 2023 – UCA College of Education
 - JNCL-NCLIS Pre-Conference Webinar & Virtual Training– January 26, 2023 – The National Committee for Languages (JNCL), Seattle, WA
 - Qualtrics Training – Online Workshop, Thursday, January 19, 2023, UAH
- **2022 – Participant**
 - “Diversity Training on Gender Identity & Expression” Workshop – November 03, 2022
 - “Budget Office Training: My Finance Self-Service” Workshop – October 21, 2022 - Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, Alabama
 - UAH Inclusive Hiring Workshop – July 19, 2022 & December 14, 2022 - UAH, Alabama
 - Virtual Summer CIEP Reviews – June 20-24, 2022 – The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE)
 - “Dr. Delois Smith - CoEd Diversity” Workshop – April 5, 2022 - College of Education - The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
 - Dr. Bruce Pieper - College Team-Building Workshop – January 21, 2022 - College of Education -The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
- **2021 – Participant**
 - “Small Teaching - Big Effects,” a workshop by Dr. James Lang – September 17th, 2021 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
 - ACTFL Strategic Plan Town Hall Series – Five one-hour virtual panel discussions, hosted by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
- **2020 – Participant**
 - ACTFL Assembly of Delegates - November 19, 2020. Virtual event hosted by the

- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
- Diversity and Inclusion: Putting Words into Actions
- Unconscious Bias: It's Striking Impact on the Individual and Society by Dr. David Williams – November 12, 2020. Virtual symposium hosted by the NSF ADVANCE Grant team at Oakwood University in collaboration with the ADVANCE Grant team at Alabama A&M University.
- Apart but Together: Expanding our Community- July 21-23, 2020. Three days virtual summit hosted by the National Foreign Language Center (NFLC) at the University of Maryland.
- Quality Education Practices Online (QEPO) – July 16, 2020 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
- Interactive Theater - Implicit Bias Training – March 13, 2020 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
- **2019 – Participant**
 - Mandatory Title IX Training: Mosaic: Prevent Sexual Violence Together Training – September 20, 2019 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
 - Budget Query Training – August 29, 2019 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
 - Fundamentals of Proposal Preparation/ Kualii – Friday August 23, 2019 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
 - Faculty Teaching “Collaborative Learning” Workshop - Brad Garner's shared resources. August 05, 2019 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
 - Alabama
 - The ALEX Educator Preparation Summit. March 07, 2019 at Hoover City Schools Board of Education, Alabama
 - Continuous Improvement in Educator Preparation (CIEP). February 05, 2019 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
- **2018 – Participant**
 - The ALEX Educator Preparation Summit. September 11th, 2018 at The University of Montevallo, Alabama
 - Dr. Sandra McGuire Workshops: (1) Increasing Student Motivation: Strategies that Work, and (2) Get Students to Focus on Learning Instead of Grades. August 24, 2018 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
 - Workshop on collaborative learning with Dr. Mark Taylor. August 8, 2018 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), Alabama
 - Fall 2018 - Participant: Registered Student Organization (RSO)
 - Spring 2018- Participant: New SIG Officer ACTFL Training
 - Fall 2018- Participant: Mandatory Employee Title IX Training
- **Fall 2017 – Participant**
 - Incorporating Collaborative Activities in the Classroom
 - Fall 2017- Participant: Proposal and Grant-Writing Training

LANGUAGES

- Classical and Modern Standard Arabic, and English

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Microsoft Office, Endnote, SPSS, Nvivo, Qualtrics, CANVAS