

Rania Al-Sabbagh
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Education

Ph.D. Linguistics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2015.
Dissertation title: A Unified Framework to Identify and Extract Uncertainty Cues, Holders, and Scopes in One Fell-Swoop
Advisors: Dr. Roxana Girju and Dr. Jana Diesner

MA. Linguistics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2011.

MA. Linguistics, Ain Shams University, 2008.

B.A. English Language and Literature, Ain Shams University, 2003.

Employment

01/2021 – present	Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Department of Foreign Languages, University of Sharjah, UAE
01/2016 – 12/2020	Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Department of English Language, Faculty of Al-Aksun (Languages), Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt.
09/2017 – 12/2020	Adjunct Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Department of Applied Linguistics, American University in Cairo, Egypt.
09/2015 – 05/2017	Adjunct Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Faculty of Language Studies, Arab Open University, Cairo, Egypt.
06/2014 – 05/2015	Graduate Fellow, Department of Linguistics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA.
08/2010 – 05/2014	Graduate Research Assistant, Beckman Institute of Advanced Science and Technology, IL, USA.
08/2009 – 05/2010	Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Linguistics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA.
08/2004 – 05/2009	Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of English, Faculty of Al-Aksun, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt.

Teaching Experience

Classes Taught

Ain Shams University

1. ENG 300: Technology Tools for Translators, Spring 2020.
2. ENG 571: Introduction to Corpus Linguistics, Spring 2019.
3. ENG 345: Corpus-Based Translation Studies, Fall 2018.
4. ENG 331: Corpus-Based Stylistics, Fall 2019.
5. ENG 242: Advanced Academic Writing, Spring 2006.
6. ENG 201: Arabic/English Translation, Fall 2006.

American University in Cairo

1. APLN 5304: Second Language Acquisition, Spring 2020.
2. LING 2201: Languages of the World, Spring 2019.
3. LING 2200: Introduction to Linguistics, Fall 2018.

Arab Open University

1. EL 099: Progressive Skills in English (combined skills), Summer 2015.
2. EL 111: Intermediate ESL, Summer, 2016.
3. EL 112: Advanced Academic Writing, Summer 2017.
4. EL 120: Introduction to Linguistics, Summer 2016.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

1. ARAB 150: Language and Culture of Arab World – Fall 2013
2. ARAB 201: Elementary Standard Arabic I. Fall 2009 – 2013
3. ARAB 202: Elementary Standard Arabic II. Spring 2009 – 2013
4. ARAB 403: Intermediate Standard Arabic II. Spring 2009 – 2013
5. ARAB 404: Intermediate Standard Arabic II. Spring 2009 – 2013
6. ARAB 405: Advanced Standard Arabic I – Summer 2010, 2011, 2012
7. ARAB 210: Colloquial Arabic I. Spring 2012.

Tutorials

1. “Using Mega Online Corpora for Translation Teaching.” Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University. March 10, 2019.
2. “Writing Successful Personal Statements.” Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University, May 16–18, 2017.
3. “Programming for Linguists.” Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University. January 20–23, 2016.

Teaching Service

1. As a member of the Curriculum Development Committee in the Department of English Language at the Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University, I developed new courses, including Introduction to Corpus Linguistics, Corpus-Based Stylistics, and Computer-Assisted Translations. Furthermore, I helped other colleagues develop their courses such as Research Methods in Linguistics.
2. As a member of the Quality Assurance Committee in the Department of English Language at the Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University, I participate in mentoring the quality of the final exams in the linguistics program to guarantee that they satisfy Bloom’s taxonomy of educational learning objectives. This is a crucial requirement for Al-Alsun to get international accreditation by 2021.

Research Experience

Research Areas

- My primary research area is corpus linguistics.
- I am interested in creating annotated dialectal Arabic corpora and lexicons.
- I am also interested in corpus-based approaches to sociolinguistic studies and narrative analysis.
- Finally, I work on creating basic language processing automatic tools for dialectal Arabic such as morphological analyzers, part-of-speech taggers, and shallow parsers.

Citation Metrics

Citations 228; h-index 7; i10-index 6. [Google Scholar](#) (Last accessed 01/28/2021).

Documents per author 7, Citations 74, h-index 4. [Scopus](#) (Last accessed 01/28/2021).

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Past Research Projects

1. “A Comparative Syntactic Description of Five Arabic Varieties.” Elabbas Benmamoun (PI), Rania Al-Sabbagh (research assistant), Mahmoud Abunasser (research assistant), and Abdelaadim Bidaoui

(research assistant). National Science Foundation, USA. \$312,897 total spread over five years (09/2009 – 02/2014).

2. “Multi-Dialect Speech Recognition and Machine Translation for Qatari Broadcast TV.” Mark Hasegawa-Johnson (PI), Elabbas Benmamoun (co-PI), Roxana Girju (co-PI), Eiman Mustafawi (co-PI), Rehab Duwairi (co-PI), Mohammed Elmahdy (post-doc fellow), and Rania Al-Sabbagh (research assistant). University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, and Qatar National Research Fund. \$400,000 total spread over three years (2010– 2014).

Research Advising and Examination

I have served as the advisor/supervisor of the following master’s students:

1. Nesma Diab. Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University, 2019. (accepted) [with Dr. Soheir Mahfouz, Associate Professor of Translation Studies, Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University]
Thesis title: Statistical vs. Neural Machine Translation: Translation Quality Assessment of English-Arabic Translation of User-Generated Content.
2. Youmna Breikaa. Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University, 2019. (proposal) [with Dr. Soheir Mahfouz, Associate Professor of Translation Studies, Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University]
Thesis title: Introducing Daftar: A Problem-Solving Strategy in Consecutive Interpreting of Medical and Economic Discourse.
3. Reem Elkashef. Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University, 2017. (defense) [with Dr. Khaled Tawfik, Professor of Translation Studies, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University]
Thesis title: A Corpus-Driven Approach to the Detection of Gender-Oriented Linguistic Bias in Arabic and English Wikipedia Biography Articles.

I have served as an examiner for the following master’s students:

1. Heidi Badr. Department of Applied Linguistics, American University in Cairo, December, 2019.
Thesis title: Teachers’ Perceptions of Professional Identity and Communities of Practice.
2. Salah Mohammed. Department of Applied Linguistics, American University in Cairo, December, 2019.
Thesis title: A Historical Discourse Analysis of Sexual Harassment Testimonials: A Case Study of the Hill-Thomas and Ford-Kavanaugh Senate Hearings.

Industrial Experience

11/2018 – 01/2021 Arabic linguist (a remote position), Lausanne Business Solutions, PA, USA.

Professional Training

September 29 – 30, 2017 Teaching Enhancement Certificate I, Center for Learning and Teaching, American University in Cairo.

November 11 – 12, 2019 Teaching and writing for transfer workshop, Center for Learning and Teaching, American University in Cairo.

Publications

Journal Articles

1. Benmamoun, E., Abunasser, M., **Al-Sabbagh, R.**, Bidaoui, A. & Shalash, D. (2013). The Location of Sentential Negation in Arabic Varieties. *Brill’s Journal of Afroasiatic Languages and Linguistics*, 5 (1):83-116. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1163/18776930-00501003>

Conference Proceedings

1. Diab, N., **Al-Sabbagh R.** & Mahfouz, S. (2019). A Corpus-Based Error Analysis of Statistical and Neural Machine Translation Output from English into Arabic. *Proceedings of the 36th International Conference of CDELT 36th International Conference: Humachine in ELT*, November 2 – 3, 2019, Cairo, Egypt.
2. **Al-Sabbagh, R.**, Girju, R. & Diesner, J. (2015). A Unified Framework to Identify and Extract Uncertainty, Cues, Holders, and Scopes in One Fell-Swoop. In A. Gelbukh (Ed.) *Computational Linguistics and Intelligent Text Processing. CICLing 2015. Lecture Notes in Computer Science* (pp. 310-334). Springer International Publishing Switzerland. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-18111-0_24
3. **Al-Sabbagh, R.**, Girju, R. & Diesner, J. (2014). *3arif*: A Corpus of Modern Standard and Egyptian Arabic Tweets Annotated for Epistemic Modality Using Interactive Crowdsourcing. In J. Tsujii & J. Hajic (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 25th Conference on Computational Linguistics* (pp. 1521-1532). Dublin, Ireland: Dublin City University and Association for Computational Linguistics.
4. **Al-Sabbagh, R.**, Girju, R. & Diesner, J. (2013). Using the Semantic-Syntactic Interface for Reliable Arabic Modality Annotation. In R. Mitkov & J. C. Park. (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 6th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing* (pp. 410-418). Nagoya, Japan: Asian Federation of Natural Language Processing.
5. **Al-Sabbagh, R.** & Girju, R. (2012). A Supervised POS Tagger for Written Arabic Social Networking Corpora. In J. Jancsary (Ed.), *Proceedings of the 11th Conference on Natural Language Processing* (pp. 39-52). Vienna, Austria: University of Vienna.
6. **Al-Sabbagh, R.** & Girju, R. (2012). YADAC: Yet Another Dialectal Arabic Corpus. In N. Calzolari, K. Choukri, T. Declerck, M. U. Doğan, B. Maegaard, J. Mariani, A. Moreno, J. Odijk & S. Piperidis. *Proceedings of the 8th Language Resources and Evaluation Conference*, (pp. 2882-2889). Istanbul, Turkey: European Language Resources Association.
7. **Al-Sabbagh, R.** & Girju, R. (2010). Mining the Web for the Induction of a Dialectal Arabic Lexicon. In N. Calzolari, K. Choukri, B. Maegaard, J. Mariani, J. Odijk, S. Piperidis, M. Rosner & D. Tapias. *Proceedings of 7th Language Resources and Evaluation Conference*, (pp. 288-293), Valletta, Malta: European Language Resources Association.

Workshops

1. **Al-Sabbagh, R.**, Girju, R. & Diesner, J. (2014). Interactive Annotation for Event Modality in Modern Standard and Egyptian Arabic Tweets. In L. Levin & M. Stede (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 8th Linguistic Annotation Workshop* (pp. 139-148). Dublin, Ireland: Dublin City University and Association for Computational Linguistics.
2. **Al-Sabbagh, R.**, Girju, R. & Diesner, J. (2014). Unsupervised Construction of a Lexicon and a Pattern Repository of Arabic Modal Multiword Expressions. In V. Kordoni, M. Egg, A. Savary, E. Wehri & Stefan E. (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 10th Workshop of Multiword Expressions* (pp. 114-123). Gothenburg, Sweden: Association for Computational Linguistics.

Oral Presentations

Invited Talks

1. “A Multimodal Discourse Analysis of the UNICEF Book of Self-Narratives *Lives Beyond Figures*”, the 2nd International Conference on Literature, Linguistics, and Translation, speaker and organizer, Faculty of Al-Alsun (Languages), Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt, March 20 – 22, 2018.
2. “Computational Linguistics: Basics, Approaches, and Applications”, a talk at the Department of Simultaneous Interpretation, Al-Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt, April 1, 2017.

3. “Sequential Labeling Approaches for Identifying Uncertainty in Arabic Tweets”, the 8th Quarterly Linguistics Seminar, Faculty of Arts, Cairo, University, Cairo, Egypt, February, 25 – 26, 2017.
4. “Automatic Identification of Gender in Social Media Texts”, International Conferences of New Prospects in Arabic Sociolinguistics, the American University in Cairo, Egypt, December 14 – 15, 2016.
5. “Current Status for Egyptian Arabic Corpora and Computational Linguistics”, the 1st Workshop on Arabic Dialect Technologies, New York University, Abu Dhabi, UAE, November, 14 – 16, 2016.

Service

Conference Reviewing

1. The 3rd International Conference on Arabic Computational Linguistics, UAE, 2017.
1. The 2nd International Conference on Advanced Intelligent Systems and Informatics, Egypt, 2016.
2. The 15th International Conference on Intelligent Text Processing and Computational Linguistics, Nepal, 2014.
3. The 5th International Conference on Social Informatics, Japan, 2013.
4. the 24th International Conference on Computational Linguistics, Mumbai, India, 2012.
5. The 12th International Conference on Intelligent Text Processing and Computational Linguistics, Japan, 2011.

Journal Reviewing

1. Jordanian Journal of Computers and Information Technology, 2016.
2. Journal of King Saud University - Computer and Information Sciences, 2014.

Conference Organization

1. Co-organizer of the 2nd International Conferences on Literature, Linguistics, and Translation, Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University, Egypt, March 20 – 22, 2018.
2. Co-organizer of the 1st International Conferences on Literature, Linguistics, and Translation, Faculty of Al-Alsun, Ain Shams University, Egypt, March 20 – 22, 2017.

Fellowships, Awards, and Honors

June 2015	Chen W. Kim Award for the Best Dissertation Project, Department of Linguistics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.
May 2014	Graduate College Dissertation Fellowships, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.
May 2014	Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence Awards 2014, Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.
April 2014	School of Literature, Cultures, and Linguistics Dissertation Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.
April 2014	The Kibbee Prize for the most outstanding dissertation project, School of Literature, Cultures, and Linguistics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.
May 2010	Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence Awards 2010, Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.

References

Prof. Amira Agameya
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Dr. Manar Shalaby
Associate Professor of Linguistics

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Dr. Ghada A. Aziz
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