

# Dr Mohammedwesam Amer

- **Dean of Faculty of Mass Communication and Languages, Gaza University**
- **Head of the Middle East Chapter, Marie Curie Association, EU-Horizons 2020**
- **Member of the UK national Commission for UNESCO Team: Reviewer of Newton Prize projects**  
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My principal professional teaching interests and academic research lie in the field of mainstream and social media, mass communication, as well as linguistics. I usually focus on conflicts, wars and 'hot' contemporary politics, e.g. terrorism, security, radicalization, in their relation to the Middle East and beyond. My professional teaching competences and research experiences, attained during my postdoctoral research, PhD and MA, in various Arab, European and British environments, have allowed me to develop new models and tools in teaching, as well as in investigating mass communication/media, social media, digital discourses in the Middle East and beyond.



## Qualifications and Education

- 2015 PhD in media studies, Hamburg University, Germany (Distinct/Magnum Cum Laude)  
2009 MA in linguistics, Anglia Ruskin, Cambridge (UK)  
2001 BA in English Literature & Education, Al-Azhar University, Gaza (Palestine)

## Previous Teaching Experiences (UK, Germany and Palestine)

- 03.2020 – 06.2020 Assistant professor of Media translation and discourse studies, Al Aqsa University-Palestine  
03.2020 – 06.2020 Part-time lecturer in English linguistics, Al Quds Open University-Palestine  
01.2018 – 06.2018 Teaching participant in the Module MCH3085: Digital Discourses and Identity, Newcastle University (UK)  
01.2018 – 06.2018 Guest Lecturer in the Model MCH3077: Politics, Power and Communication, Newcastle University (UK)  
Summer Semester 2013 Teaching associate for the module 'Qualitative Methods in the Social Sciences: Approaches and Application of Discourse Analysis', University of Hamburg (Germany)  
Winter Semester 2012/2013 Teaching qualitative and quantitative methods at the Erasmus Mundus Master's in Journalism, Media and Globalization Module 3: Research Module in Journalism Studies in cooperation with Prof Dr. Irene Neverla, University of Hamburg (Germany)  
07.2009 – 12.2009 Student advisor and consultant at Student Services and International Office, Anglia Ruskin University-Cambridge (UK)  
06 2008 – 06.2009 Examinations invigilator, University of Cambridge, Cambridge (UK)  
09.2009 – 03.2011 Full-time lecturer – Department of English, Faculty of Humanities, Al Aqsa University– Gaza (Palestine)  
09. 2010 – 03.2011 Part-time lecturer – Department of Humanities, University College of Applied Sciences – Gaza (Palestine)  
01.2010 – 03.2011 Part-time lecturer- English Department, The Islamic University of Gaza, Gaza  
2003- 2008 Full-time English language teacher at UNRWA, Gaza (Palestine)  
06.2006- 12.2006 Part time-lecturer at the Continuing Education Department, Al-Azhar University-Gaza  
2000-2001 Linguistics instructor at Gaza Training Collage (GTC), UNRWA

## Research Positions

- 02.2019 - 06.2020 Fellow Researcher in social media communication and terrorism studies, Newcastle University, UK
- 02.2017 – 01.2019 EU-Marie Curie Fellow and Post-doctoral Researcher, Newcastle University (UK)  
Project: ‘Media Warfare and the Discourse of Islamic Revival: The Case of the Islamic State’ <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/707482>
- 05.2017 – 08.2017 Visiting Researcher, Hamburg University (Germany):  
Project: Discursive and linguistic strategies of Islamist movements
- 06.2012 Right Livelihood College Workshop Alumnus, University of Bonn, the Campus of the Laureates of the ‘Alternative Nobel Prize’. <https://www.zef.de/1741.html>
- 07.2014 Associate Member, Centre for Media and Communication, Hamburg University
- 10.2015 – 10.2016 Project: Islamist, Radical Movements and Social Media: analysis of rhetoric propaganda of Islamist movements.

## Research Projects, Groups and Initiatives

- 12.2018 – 02.2019 Research associate for ERC Consolidating Grant Project, Newcastle University  
Project Title: ‘Techno-Discursive Analysis of Digital Discourses: Right wing populism, misogyny and Islamophobia in cyberspace (TeDADD)
- 11.2018 – 12.2018 Research associate for Consortium Project, Newcastle University  
Project: European (dis)union: digital radicalization, nationalism in Europe’s public sphere
- 10.2017 Coordinator of Newcastle Discourse Group (NCDG). NCDG aims to address issues concerning the relationships between language, politics, media and culture
- 2013 - 2014 Coordinator, Graduate School Media and Communication, University of Hamburg
- 05.2012 – 05.-2015 Founder and co-organizer, War Interdisciplinary Studies Academy (WISA), University of Hamburg in cooperation with Prof Dr. Irene Neverla
- 10.2011 – 10.2015 Founder and coordinator: an academic exchange and partnership, media and communication research center at University of Hamburg and Universities from the Arab World in cooperation with Prof Dr Uwe Hasebrink and Prof Dr Andreas Stuhlmann

## Reviewing Experiences

April 2019 – now Member of the UK national Commission for UNESCO Team: Reviewer of Newton Prize projects and applications

Reviewer for these peer-review international journals:

- Palgrave Communications <https://www.nature.com/palcomms/>
- Australian Journal of Linguistics <https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/cajl20>
- Critical Discourse Studies <https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rcds20>
- Social Media + Society journal <http://journals.sagepub.com/home/sms>
- Journalism Journal <https://journals.sagepub.com/home/jou>
- Journals of Discourses (Majalat Khitabat in Arabic)  
<https://independent.academia.edu/MajalatKhitabat>

## Supervision Experiences

### Cross-disciplinary Interests for PhD and Post-doctoral research supervision

Critical Discourse Analysis, Social Media Critical Discourse Studies, Digital Discourse Analysis, Multimodal Discourse Analysis, Political Communication, Politics, Power and Communication and Mass Communication Studies in relation to the Middle East, extremism, terrorism and beyond.

### **First Supervisor for Completed MA Dissertations at Newcastle University: Examples,**

- A study of how companies use social media on brand management and its impact
- An investigation of how supervision is used on social media by public opinions
- The Development Tendency of Media in China-New Media
- The role of paid media on Sina microblog (Weibo)
- Exploring Media use: Overseas Chinese master students and their parents on WeChat

### **Second Marker for Completed MA Dissertations at Newcastle University: Examples,**

- The study of social media on shaping and changing personal culture in China, taking WeChat and Weibo
- The Study of Self-representation on Different Social Media, Taking WeChat and Weibo
- Social Media, the Emergence of 'Meme Culture' and the effect on political discourse
- Real Key Opinion Leaders or just King of Like? An exploration of the rise of KOL engagement in Hong Kong
- Glocalisation and Advertising in Africa

### **Research Scholarships and Awards**

2017 - 2019	EU-Marie Curie Fellowship: Post doctorate Fellowship, Newcastle University (U.K.)
2016-2017 (I have rejected it)	Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships, Post doctorate Fellowship, Neuchâtel University, Switzerland
04.2011 –10.2015	DAAD scholarship, PhD Study, University of Hamburg
2014	Right Livelihood Campus, grant through DAAD, University of Bonn, Centre for Development Research (ZEF)
2008 – 2009	MA Grant, MA Study in Linguistics Anglia Ruskin University-Cambridge

### **Journalistic and Other Professional Experiences**

2017	Paydesk-UK, Reporting, covering and corresponding for several news agencies on G-20 in Hamburg, Germany
2016 - 2017	Expert of Media and Communication, Vielfalt Company in Germany, Vielfalt Company in cooperation with Jugenamt (Government Department of Youth), Pinneberg District, Germany: Media and Refugees
2016 - 2016	Social Worker: German Red Cross, Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany
2010 - 2011	Co-founder, Mashahid Company for Media Production and Training, Gaza
1998 - 2003	Fixer and Editor at Arabic Press center, Gaza

### **Professional Membership and Partnership**

- Since
- 2018, European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA)
  - 2016, Critical Approaches to Discourse Analysis across Disciplines (CADAAD)
  - 2016, Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA)
  - 2015, DAAD Alumni Association (DAAD-AA)
  - 2011, Hans-Bredow Institute (HBI)
  - 2015, Research Center for Media and Communication
  - 2012, German Middle East Studies Association for Contemporary Research and Documentation (DAVO)
  - Adyan Foundation, Beirut, Lebanon
  - 2016, The Royal Institute for Inter Faith Studies (RIIFS)
  - 2017, The American University in Cairo, Dr Reem Bassiouney
  - 2012, Arab Union of Photographers Association (Hamburg, Germany)
  - 2014, Creative Center for Training and Integration Association, Hamburg, Germany
  - 2010, Palestinian Association for Educational Researches & Community Training, Gaza
  - 2008, Palestinian National Association for Youth " P.N.A.Y"

## Publications

- Majid KhosraviNik & Mohammedwesam Amer (2020) Social media and terrorism discourse: the Islamic State's (IS) social media discursive content and practices, *Critical Discourse Studies*, DOI: [10.1080/17405904.2020.1835684](https://doi.org/10.1080/17405904.2020.1835684)
- Amer, Mohammedwesam (2020) Terrorism and Social Media Discourse Studies: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities. In H. Wu Lee & M. Van de Logt (Eds.), *Liberal Arts Perspectives on Globalism and Transnationalism: Within the knot* (pp. 148-166). Cambridge Scholars Publishing: Lady Stephenson Library, Newcastle Upon Tyne.
- Amer, Mohammedwesam (2018 unpublished) Media Discourse of US-Led Strike on Syria in April 2018, *Middle East Eye*
- Amer, Mohammedwesam (2017a) Critical discourse analysis of war reporting in the international press: the case of the Gaza war of 2008–2009, *Palgrave Communications*, 3 (13). Available at <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-017-0015-2>
- Amer, Mohammedwesam (2017b): Critical Discourse Analysis of Journalistic Practices in the US and UK Press: The Case of the Gaza War of 2008-2009 in 'Reporting from the Wars 1850 – 201', Turner, Barry; Ibáñez, Daniel Barredo and Grattan, Steven James, *VernonPress*. Available at <https://vernonpress.com/book/137>
- Amer, Mohammedwesam (2017c) 'Palestinian refugees in Iraq: Unsteady Situations', *Journal of Palestinian Refugee Studies*, 2(7), p.9-15. Available online at <https://prc.org.uk/upload/jprs/files/JPRS72.pdf>
- Amer, Mohammedwesam and Khalaf, Mai (2017d) 'Hashtag of Palestine 2016', *7amla, the Arab Centre for the Advancement of Social Media*, published on May 4, 2017. In Arabic. Available at <https://socialstudio.me/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Hashtag2016arabic.pdf>
- Amer, Mohammedwesam (2016): War Reporting in the International Press: A Critical Discourse Analysis of the Gaza War of 2008-2009. PhD Thesis. Department of Language, Literature and Media. University of Hamburg. Available online at <http://ediss.sub.uni-hamburg.de/volltexte/2016/7899/>
- Amer, Mohammedwesam (2009, unpublished): The Coverage of the Israeli Siege of the Gaza Strip (Palestine) in the British Press. MA. Department of English and Media, Anglia Ruskin University. English, Communication, Film and Media.

## Organising Conferences/Symposiums

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| 31.10.2020 | Electronic Learning across Countries during the Coronavirus Pandemic: Palestine, Greece, UK, Oman and Malaysia<br>Gaza University<br><a href="https://sites.google.com/view/guiivs/home">https://sites.google.com/view/guiivs/home</a> |
| 09.2020    | Coverage of the Arab and International Media for the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, Gaza University   |

## Selected Presentations at Academic Conferences

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| ECCREA 2018                        | Presentation: 7 <sup>th</sup> European Communication Conference (ECC) "Centres and Peripheries: Communication, Research, Translation"<br>Title: Conflict and Social Media Discourse Studies: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities/Solutions   |
| CADAAD conference<br>4-6 July 2018 | Presentation: Social Media Critical Discourse Studies - Discursive construction and dissemination of Conflict & Terror, Hate Speech and Identity on participatory digital platforms<br>Title of Paper: ISIS Multimodal Discourse of Identity and Legitimacy on Social Media: A Social Media Critical Discourse Analysis |
| 04 – 06 February 2018              | Presenter and Panelist: Liberal Arts International Conference, Local Dreams, Global Vision: Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives<br>Title: Social Media Discourse and Terrorism: Critical Analysis of the Islamic State's Social Media Practices, Texas A&M University (Doha)  |

28 – 30 July 2017	Presenter and Panelist: Invited Presentation at Social Media & Society, Canada Title: Terrorism and Social Media Discourse: The Case of the Islamic State (IS)
28– 03 July 2014	Presenter: giving a presentation on my PhD dissertation at Global Media Forum and workshop on Media and Development: From Individual Participation to Mass Mobilization, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany Title: War Reporting in the International War: The case of Gaza war 2008-09
28-30 September 2013	Presenter: Invited Presentation at the language in media conference, London Title: Gaza War in the UK Press
29 July - 02 August 2013	Organization assistant: Participating and presenting at the Summer School 2013: Repeat, Remix and Remediate, University of Hamburg
24– 27 October 2012	Presenter: Invited Presentation at the ECREA conference, Istanbul, Turkey Title: War reporting in the International Press
02–10 June 2012	Presenter: Workshop on Mobilization for Change: Social Movements in a Developing World, Centre for Development Research (ZEF)
11-12 November 2011	Presenter: The Humanities Perspectives conference, University of Hamburg Title: A Comparative Analysis of US, UK, Israeli, and Arab Media Coverage of Three Wars in the Middle East

### Participations in Summer Schools and Workshops

July 19- July 27, 2018	<b>ECREA Doctoral Summer School 2018</b> - Media Warfare and the Discourse of Islamic Revival: The Case of the Islamic State (IS) - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan, Italy
Oct. 2015- March 2016	<b>Course: Islam, Diversity and Peace building</b> - Adyan Foundation, Beirut, Lebanon - The course “Islam, Diversity and Peace building” is part of a larger program at the Adyan Institute entitled Counter Extremism Interreligious Alliance (CEIA), funded by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.
4-8 July 2016	<b>Course: Topics in Violent Online Political Extremism</b> - VOX-Pol Network of Excellence - CEU Summer University
29 July – 2013 02 Aug. 2013	<b>Summer School 2013: Repeat, Remix and Remediate</b> - Organization, Participating and presentation University of Hamburg
RLC 02–10 June 2012	<b>Workshop on Mobilization for Change: Social Movements in a Developing World</b> - War Reporting in the International Press: A Comparative (linguistic and media) Analysis of Middle East Wars - University of Bonn, Centre for Development Research (ZEF) <a href="http://www.zef.de">www.zef.de</a>
12-25 Aug. 2012	<b>ECREA Doctoral Summer School: Media in/and society – present trends and developments</b> - The overall theme for the programme provides just one of the many topical focal points of the summer school and will not be used as a main criterion for participant selection. - Ljubljana, Slovenia