

Abir Ward

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Education

- 2022 Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Ph.D. in English: Composition and Applied Linguistics
Dissertation: The Literacy Publishing Practices of
Multilingual Science Researchers and the Challenges Burdens of
Publishing in Lebanon
Dissertation Chair: Dr. David I. Hanauer
Defended: December 1, 2021
Graduation: May 6, 2022
- 2010 Lebanese American University
M.A. in Comparative Literature (Arabic/English)
Thesis: The Motifs of Eyes and Feet in Irish and Lebanese Poetry,
Dance, and Caricature: Resistance and Rebellion of the Suppressed
Voice.
- 2004–2005 San Jose State University
M.A. in English (degree not completed for dire family reasons)
- 2002 San Jose State University
B.A. in English Language and Literature (Honors in English)
Founder of the English Society
Founder of the Arab Club

Professional Experience

- 2022–Present Boston University
Lecturer at the Writing Program, College of Arts and Sciences.
- 2014–Present American University of Beirut

Full-time Instructor: Composition, technical and academic writing, executive communication, and English for international business. At the Department of English and the Olayan School of Business.

- 2007–Present Ward4Words
Speech writing and speech delivery coach
Reviewer, editor, copywriter, copyeditor, and technical writer
- 2013–2014 Solidère
Business English instructor
- 2013–2014 American University of Beirut
University Preparatory Program. SAT mechanics instructor
- 2007–2014 Lebanese American University
English language, world literature, rhetoric, and public speaking, instructor.
- 2000–2004 San Jose State University
Teaching Assistant to Dr. Linda Mitchell

Research Publications

- Bhuyian, N., Ward, A. (2022)
Dissertating in the Midst of Multiple Crises: A Collaborative Autoethnography of Two Transnational Doctoral Students.* (In press)
- Beydoun, A. et al. (2021)
Affirmative Action: Genuine Inclusion or the Ultimate Hollywood Camera Trick. * (Under review)
- Ward, A. (2020)
Learning ownership through the use of photovoice in the production of an academic reader. In C. Chen & L. Wilkes (Eds.), *The Proceedings of the Annual Computers and Writing Conference 2019* (pp. 57-69). Fort Collins, Colorado: The WAC Clearinghouse. doi: 10.37514/PCW-B.2020.1039.2.05*
- Ward, A. (August 2020)
Social justice pedagogy: Crossing the borders of self and language-

*Double blind peer reviewed

teacher identity. *TESOLers for Social Responsibility*.
<http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/tesolsris/issues/2020-08-06/4.html>**

Ward, A. (2009)

Women of the Lebanese Mountains: A fight for edification. *Women's Studies International Forum*, Elsevier, 32(5).

General Publications

- 2018 Ward, Abir, Hodeib, Heba, Lincoln, Kathryn, Moughabghab, Emma, Rantisi, Rima, Sinno, Zane. Eds. *Pages Apart*. Educart, Print.
- 2015 Sinno, Zane, Bioglu-Karkanawi, Lina, Fleszar, Dorota, Jarkas, Najla, Moughabghab, Emma, Nish, Jennifer, Rantisi, Rima, and Abir Ward. Eds. *Shifting Narratives*. Educart, 2015. Print.
- Nov. 5, 2011 Ward, Abir. "The Gender Politics of Lebanese Pop Music." *Newsletter*. Lebanese American University.

Academic Presentations

- Ward, A. & Moghabghab, E.
(2022, May 19-21)
Social Media Activism as a Form of Multiliteracy in the Lebanese Uprisings
Computers and Writing, East Carolina University Greenville, North Carolina, United States.
- Ward, A (2022, May 19-21)
CCCC Wikipedia Initiative for Knowledge Equity in Writing Studies in Coverage
Computers and Writing, East Carolina University Greenville, North Carolina, United States.
- Ward, A (2022, Apr 8)
Representation of Arab Women on Wikipedia: Student Engagement in Culture-Oriented Writing Projects
12th International Conference on Effective Teaching and Learning.
American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon.
- Ward, A (2022, Jan 28)
Using Community Building Exercises to Teach Digital Writing Skills

** Invited and peer reviewed

GSOLE Online Conference 2022

Ward, A (2021, Oct 8-10)

2Rath: To Digitally Preserve Arab Literary Heritage.
WikiConference North America 2021

Ward, A (2020, May 14-17)

Preserving Literary Heritage: A Collaboration between Wikipedia, AUB Libraries, and the Communication Skills Program as a form of Activism.
Computers and Writing, East Carolina University Greenville, North Carolina, United States. <https://candwcon.org/2020/> [Cancelled due to Covid-19]

Ward, A. & Charafeddine, F. (2020, January 15-18)

Love Triangle: A Collaboration between Wikipedia, AUB Libraries, and Communication Skills Courses in Teaching Academic Writing.
American International Consortium for Academic Libraries. Kuwait City, Kuwait

Ward, A. (2019, June 20-22)

How Students Learn Ownership through the Use of Photovoice. Computers and Writing. Michigan State University, Michigan, United States.
http://www.digitalwriting.org/CWCON_FINAL_PROGRAM.pdf

Ward, A. (2019, February 15-16)

Photovoice in the Compilation of a Locally Produced Academic Reader. The Ninth International Conference on Effective Teaching and Learning. American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon.

Jarkas, N. Fakhreddine, J. & Ward, A. (2017, February 11-12)

Digitally Enhanced Collaborative Research Writing and the Question of the Author. The Seventh International Conference on Effective Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon.

Academic Poster Presentations

Ward, A (2022, Mar 11)

2Rath: When Heritage Revamps Traditional Writing Classrooms
Digital Praxis CCCC Chicago, IL 2022

Invited Keynote/Guest Presentations

Ward, A (2022, May 17)

When the Sum of All Knowledge Doesn't Quite Add Up: How Students are Tackling Knowledge Equity on Wikipedia
Wikipedia Education

Ward, A (2022, April 29)

The Cultural Politics of Representation
International Biodiversity Day at the American University of Beirut

Courses Taught

Courses taught at the Lebanese American University

English 002: Intensive English

Skills taught: reading, writing, listening, and mechanics.

English 003: Intensive English

Skills taught: reading, writing, listening, and mechanics.

English 009: Remedial English

A required course designed to establish effective reading and writing skills. Emphasis is on the paragraph format ending with the essay format. Oral/aural work and relevant study skills are integrated. Academic style and task-based work are stressed.

English 009: Lab

English grammar and mechanics.

English 101: English I

A course designed to establish effective reading, writing, oral/aural, and study skills. Emphasis is on the essay. Academic style and task-based work are stressed.

English 102: English II

A required course designed to develop advanced reading and writing skills associated with academic work. Emphasis is on analytical and critical reading of texts as well as on writing in a variety of modes including basic argumentation. Students select a topic, learn to formulate researchable questions, locate appropriate resources in the library and electronic media, organize their findings and cite sources following academic conventions in writing an analytic research paper.

English 202: Sophomore Rhetoric

Sophomore Rhetoric is a course for practice in reading and writing (formal and/or creative), critical analysis, evaluation, and formulation of written opinions based on the best possible evidence; and in the methods of formal argumentation. The purpose of the course is to develop critical reading, critical thinking, and critical writing; develop formal argumentation strategies, and source-based argument analysis; develop skills of literary analysis, and argumentative analysis based on essays

and literary texts. The course aims at reinforcing and sharpening the students' analytical reading and writing skills as well as expanding their ability to critique, analyze literary texts, and synthesize information from a variety of disciplines and for argumentative purposes.

English 203: Fundamentals of Oral Communication

A course on the fundamentals of oral communication along with practice in platform speaking in exposition and persuasion. Emphasis is placed on the use of correct and effective language as well as organizational skills in preparing, delivering, and evaluating different types of oral presentations.

English 211: Survey of English Literature I

This course offers a critical study of literature from the ancient world through the Renaissance with emphasis on the European and Mediterranean traditions. Readings chosen emphasize themes that continue to resonate in the present.

English 212: Survey of English Literature II

This course offers a critical study of literature from the Renaissance to modern times with emphasis on the European and Mediterranean traditions.

Courses taught at the American University of Beirut

UPEN 002

Preparatory courses in critical reading, writing, structure, listening, and speaking. University Preparatory Program.

UPEN 003

Preparatory courses in critical reading, writing, structure, listening, and speaking. University Preparatory Program.

English 102: English Composition

English 102 is designed to upgrade students' overall proficiency level in English and enrich their exposure to a range of discourse. It develops fluency and accuracy of communication through reading and writing for critical thinking. Freshmen students should expect their final grade in the course to count toward their GPA. Sophomore students' final grade will only be counted toward their GPA in the semester they take the course and will later be dropped from their record.

English 203: Academic Writing

English 203 is a sophomore level academic writing course designed specifically for the AUB student who will think, read, and write critically about contemporary themes and texts provided in its custom reader, *Pages Apart*, edited by AUB Instructors for the Anglophone Middle Eastern student. Throughout the semester, students explore the various stages of the writing process, learn how to invent and develop ideas, write multiple drafts, review peers' essays, and evaluate and reflect on their own writing, which should demonstrate the use of key rhetorical devices and

rich content that are inherent in effective writing. This course seeks to develop students' intellectual viewpoints and a writing voice through open class discussions; self-reflection developed through regular journaling; and reflective pieces on their writing. Combining a stronger self-knowledge with the understanding of the conventions of academic writing, students will produce approximately 40 pages of both formal and informal writing that ask questions and investigate possible answers through reflection, analysis, and synthesis.

English 204: Advanced Academic Writing

English 204 provides training in writing analyses, syntheses and critiques of advanced college-level texts. Throughout the semester, students polish their research skills by examining and evaluating different aspects of argumentation. The course culminates in an argumentative research paper.

English 206: Technical Writing

English 206 immerses engineering students in the best practices of technical communication for their discipline. It focuses on making complex information accessible to different audiences while emphasizing evidence-based argumentation appropriate for specific contexts. Special attention is given to style, conventions, the recursive technical writing process, research methodology, and collaboration.

English 208: English for International Business

This course introduces business students to English as practiced in international business situations. Students are trained in effective business communication of different types and purposes. Through critical thinking, information literacy, collaborative work, and ethical consideration, students will have the opportunity to use appropriate and distinctive business style, tone, and format while reacting to audience and purpose.

EMBA 581: Executive Communication for the Executive Master of Business Administration program

This course is designed to help executives further refine their communication delivery and style to different audiences and settings. Specifically, the course focuses on the interpersonal level of communication, by highlighting the knowledge and skills necessary for delivering better presentations to team or larger groups, as well as for providing one on one feedback to peers or subordinates. This course adopts a practical approach and provides a hands-on experience using virtual reality in order to help participants further refine their communication skills.

Professional Activity

Feb 2, 2022

Organizer of Lebanon's second Art + Feminism Edit-a-thon part of 2Rāth's effort to bridge the gender gap in representation of Arab women on Wikipedia. In collaboration with CCCC Wikipedia, MEPI, AUB Libraries, AUB Press, and Women and Gender Studies (AUB).

- Nov 18, 2021 Organizer of Lebanon’s first Art + Feminism Edit-a-thon part of 2Rāth’s effort to bridge the gender gap in representation of Arab women on Wikipedia.
- 2021-2022 CCCC Wikipedia Graduate Fellow. Mentor: Dr. Charles Bazerman.
- 2021 Emirates Literacy Foundation collaborator. 2021. Creating 15,000 Wikipedia pages about Arab authors.
- 2021-2022 Wikipedia Education mentor. 2021-2022.
- Feb 2020 Peer reviewer. Peer-reviewed an article for the WPCT--Inspiring Pedagogical Connections (an academic journal that publishes articles on the intersections of composition, applied linguistics, and pedagogy).
- Mar 2019 Peer reviewer. Peer-reviewed two articles for the WPCT--Inspiring Pedagogical Connections (an academic journal that publishes articles on the intersections of composition, applied linguistics, and pedagogy).
- 2016-2019 Writer and Assessor of the English Entrance Exam. AUB.
- 2013 Public speaking trainer. Effet.
- 2007-2008 Copywriter, translator, & editor. Bank of Beirut.
- 2006 Executive Coordinator of the international conference “Discrimination and Tolerance in the Middle East,” Lebanese American University. Humanities Division. 2006.
- 2006-2007 Graduate Assistant. Lebanese American University. Department of English.
- 2000-2002 Teaching Assistant. San Jose State University. Department of English.

Professional Editing

- 2013 Translator. Intercal Mondiale Limited. Management consultancy for the telecommunications, media, and IT sectors.
- 2013 Reviewer and editor. Lebanese American University: Academic Catalog.

- 2013 Compiler. *Read, Reason, Write: An Argument Text and Reader* (LAU Special Edition).
- 2015 Book reviewer. *The Third Sex*. Joumana Haddad. Al-Saqi.
- 2012 Reviewer. *Superman is an Arab*. Joumana Haddad. Westbourne Press.
- 2010 Translator and editor. United Nations Development Program. Mainstreaming conservation of migratory soaring birds into key productive sectors along the Rift Valley/Red Sea Flyway.
- 2007 Data collector and reviewer. *Masculine Identity in the Fiction of the Arab East since 1967* by Samira Aghacy.

Service Activities/Community Projects

- 2018-2020 Participant with English 203, 204, 206 students in the 13th, 14th, & 15th annual IBDA A poster forum. In collaboration with the Nature Conservation Center, IBDA A addresses a sustainable development goal affecting Lebanon and the region through youth innovation and ideation.
- 2019-Present Member. Women Faculty Alliance. AUB.
- 2020-Present Member. eLearning Committee at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. AUB.
- 2019-Present Wikipedia Project. This project's aim is to digitize the Lebanese and pan-Arab literary heritage by researching and producing articles about Lebanese and Arab authors who have no digital presence on the Web. This is in collaboration with JAFET Librarians at AUB and English 203 students.
- 2019 Judge. AUB's 25th Annual Science, Mathematics, and Technology Fair.
- 2016-Present Co-curator and speaker trainer. TEDxAUB.
- 2016 Organizer. Spoken word poetry workshops with Dasha Kelly Hamilton (Spoken Word Poet of the Year).
- 2017-Present Faculty Advisor. Toastmasters, AUB Chapter.

2017-Present	Faculty Advisor. Health Club at AUB.
2013-Present	Faculty Advisor. Syrian Cultural Club at AUB.
2016	Faculty Advisor: Live Love AUB.
2015	Organizer. AUB's Student Academic Conference (with Kathryn Ruth Lincoln).
2016-2017	Chair. Celebration of Student Writing. AUB.
2014	Member of the Committee. Celebration of Student Writing. AUB.
2012-2016	Speaker trainer & member of the organizing committee. TEDxLAU.
2011-2013	Initiator, curator, and trainer. Haas Mroue Creative Writing Workshop. Lebanese American University.
2009-2010	Organizer of creative writing workshops. Center for Lebanese Heritage (Henri Zoghaib).
2007	Founder and organizer. LAU's Annual Poetry Competition. Lebanese American University.
2005	Tenure Compiler for Professor Linda Mitchell. San Jose State University.
2001	Founding member of the English Society at San Jose State University.
2000-2005	Organizer of poetry readings and cultural events. San Jose State University.

Trainings/Workshops Conducted

Mar 5, 2022	Trainer. "Public Speaking for Professional and Business English." MBA program at the Olayan School of Business, AUB.
Feb 26, 2022	Trainer. "Public Speaking for Professional and Business English." Online MBA program at the Olayan School of Business, AUB.
May 4-7, 2021	Trainer. "Writing & Editing your Research." Continuing Medical Education Office (CRI), AUB.

Feb 6, 2021	Trainer. “Public Speaking for Professional and Business English.” Online MBA program at the Olayan School of Business, AUB.
Nov 6, 2020	Workshop facilitator. Science Writing Seminar. School of Nursing, AUB.
Jan 10, 2020	Trainer. AMENAH II. Communication Skills Training for Peer Educators and Community Workers. American University of Beirut.
Feb 2019	Trained Hassan Slika, AUB’s representative, for the English-Speaking Union’s National Public Speaking Competition that took place at the Lebanese American University.
Nov 2017	Trainer. “Communication and Writing Skills for Graduating Seniors.” Department of Industrial Engineering. AUB.
Apr 4, 2017	Trainer. “Communicating Across Cultures.” The Leadership Program at the Office of Student Affairs. AUB.
2015	Trainer. United Lebanon Youth Project (ULYP). Helped prepare and train 90 Palestinian students from various UNRWA schools to take and pass the SAT.
May 10, 2014	Workshop facilitator. “Trash Poetry.” The 4 th Annual Haas Mroue Creative Writing Workshop. Lebanese American University.
June 10, 2011	Founder/facilitator/trainer. The Annual Haas Mroue Creative Writing Workshop. Lebanese American University.
2010	Workshop facilitator/trainer. Creative writing workshops at the Lebanese American University as part of Beirut World Book Capital. Center for Lebanese Heritage. Lebanese American University.
May 15, 2009	Founder/organizer/trainer. Lebanese American University’s First Annual Poetry Competition.

Professional Training Received (2019 Onward)

October 22, 2021	Getting Started with WikiProject Writing Workshop
September 1, 2021	Writing a Wikipedia Assignment (Webinar). Facilitated by Helaine Blumenthal (Senior Program Manager at Wikipedia Education).

August 31, 2021	Publishing in academic Journals: How to increase your chance of acceptance (Webinar). Taylor and Francis. Facilitated by Victoria Babbit.
May 4-7, 2021	Publishing your Medical Research. Continuing Medical Education Office (CRI), AUB.
November 5, 2020	Grant writing workshops. Part of IUP's Professionalization Workshops (Webinar). Facilitated by Matthew Vetter & Melanie Holm.
Fall 2019 & 2020	Teacher-training session in how to use and implement Wikipedia component in one's classrooms. Wikipedia Education.
April 25, 2020	Trust-building and criticality. Lebanese American University. Facilitator: Reine Azzi.
March 7, 2020	Teacher knowledge and identifying assumptions and givens (Standard English and native speaker fluency). Lebanese American University. Facilitator: Reine Azzi.
May 9, 2020	<i>Languageing</i> and common fallacies. Lebanese American University. Facilitator: Reine Azzi.
May 16, 2020	Course material and target culture. Lebanese American University. Facilitator: Reine Azzi.
May 23, 2020	Critical 'political' teacher training and development. Lebanese American University. Facilitator: Reine Azzi.
May 4-5, 2019	Collaborative Digital Liberal Arts Pedagogy: Integrating Projects and Methodologies into Your Course—Jeff McClurken. Digital Humanities Institute, Beirut.
May 3, 2019	Introduction to Digital Editing Using TEI—Till Grallert. Digital Humanities Institute, Beirut.
Spring, 2019	The Scholarly Identity workshop part of IUP's professionalization workshops. The workshop illuminated the arts of CV writing by explicating the difference between résumés and CVs, explaining the structure, rhetoric, ordinality of categories and CV list hierarchies, and exploring strategies for building and tailoring CVs to jobs and contexts.

Conferences, Forums, and Symposia Attended (2017 onward)

2019	Member of Phi Kappa Phi, Indiana University of Pennsylvania Chapter
July 12, 2019	Composition and Applied Linguistics Summer Program Research Forum held at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
2019	Symposium on Teaching and Learning held at the Rafic Hariri University (HRU).
Feb 15-16, 2019	<i>The Ninth International Conference on Effective Teaching and Learning.</i> American University of Beirut.
2018	Symposium on Teaching and Learning held at Université-Saint Esprit de Kaslik (USEK).
2017	Symposium on Teaching and Learning held at University of Balamand.
February, 2017	<i>The Seventh International Conference on Effective Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.</i> American University of Beirut. Beirut, Lebanon.

Grants and Fellowships

2021-2022	Wikimedia Foundation. \$1500. Rapid grant for the Art + Feminism Edit-a-thon organized at AUB in November 2021 and February 2022.
2021-2022	United States Department of State Middle East Partnership Initiative and the AUB Tomorrow's Leaders Gender Scholars Program (MEPI-TLS). \$5000. Research grant for gender and women's studies.
2021-2022	CCCC Wikipedia Graduate Fellowship Program. \$2000.
December 2020	Ford Foundation. \$1 Million. Collaborated on the writing of the proposal with PI Wassim el-Hajj, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences.
March 25 2020	Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Student Scholarship of \$3000.
January 2020	AMICAL. American International Consortium of Academic Libraries. \$1500. Travel and accommodation grant to attend AMICAL 2020 held at the American University in Kuwait.

- June 2019 American University of Beirut. \$1500. Travel and accommodation grant to attend the Computers and Writing Conference at Michigan State University.
- July 2019 Indiana University of Pennsylvania. \$750. Travel and accommodation grant to attend a conference of choice.

Academic Awards, Honors Received

Academic Awards and Honors Received

- 2005 James D. Phelan Literary Award (Metrical Poetry).
- 2002 James D. Phelan Literary Award (Metrical Poetry).
- 2002 San Jose State University. Outstanding Achievement in Diversity Award.
- 2002 San Jose State University. Mentor Program Award.
- 2001 San Jose State University. Outstanding Achievement in Diversity Award.
- 2001 San Jose State University. Mentor Program Award.

Acknowledgments Received

- 2009 *Contemporary Matriarchies in Cameroonian Francophone Literature*. Cheryl Toman
- 2006 *Letter-Writing Manuals from Antiquity to the Present*. Ed. by Carol Poster and Linda C. Mitchell. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press
- 2001 *Grammar Wars: Language as a Cultural Battlefield in Seventeenth-and Eighteenth-Century England*. Aldershot, England: Ashgate Press.

Membership in Professional Organizations

2020-Present	Quality Matters: A faculty-driven peer-review process used to ensure the quality of online and blended course design.
2020-Present	Global Society of Online Literacy Educators (GSOLE).
2020-Present	American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL).
2019-Present	American Consortium for International Academic Libraries (AMICAL).
2019-Present	Wikipedia Education.

Collaborations

Transnational Writing Projects

Spring 2019	Collaborated with Krista Sarraf from Indiana University of Pennsylvania on an email exchange project between my English 203 students in Beirut and her English 101 students in Indiana, Pa. Students discussed assigned articles using email and wrote a reflection paper at the end of the collaboration. Students experienced writing as a social activity, gained familiarity with the most common workplace communication tool, practiced intercultural communication, gained genre knowledge by writing for an authentic situation, and negotiated meaning by sharing the burden of communication.
Fall 2019	Collaborated with Jennifer Mackenzie from City University of New York (CUNY) on a WhatsApp exchange project between our students during the Lebanese October Revolution of 2019. This collaboration assisted CUNY students in understanding US media bias and misrepresentation of the Middle East in general and Lebanon in specific. The work culminated in collaborative reflection pieces.