

CAROLINE NAJOUR

SENIOR LECTURER

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

Education

- 2013 Ph.D. in the Humanities, Studies in Literature
University of Texas at Dallas
Dissertation title: *Counternarratives of Enlightenment Modernity: A Decolonial Reading of Westerners in Contemporary Arab Novels*
- 2013 Eighteen graduate credit hours in Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language
University of Texas at Austin
- 2001 M.A. in English Literature
American University of Beirut
- 1998 B.A. in English Language and Literature
University of Balamand, Lebanon

Academic Positions

Lecturer & Arabic Program Coordinator | University of North Texas | 2015- 2020

Senior Lecturer & Arabic Program Coordinator | Fall 2020- present

- Directed a three-week hybrid Arabic STARTALK Program, summer 2021
 - Wrote the grant proposal.
 - Administered the program, oversaw logistics, and coordinated all co-curricular activities.
 - Hired and supervised instructors and staff.
 - Led recruitment and local outreach efforts among high school students
 - Led student selection.
 - Created and oversaw the program budget.
 - Ensured all personnel are trained in the STARTALK methodology and that STARTALK principles are consistently upheld throughout the program.
 - Led daily debrief sessions, staff meetings, and course check-ins as well as facilitate peer mentoring.

- Developed the program curriculum, daily lesson plans, and age-appropriate assessment tools in line with STARTALK Principles for Effective Teaching and Learning as well as the NCSSFL and ACTFL proficiency-based guidelines.
- Developed and led a Study Abroad program to Morocco, summer 2022.
- Revised the Arabic language curriculum.
- Developed and taught courses in all levels of Arabic language and culture.
- Developed and taught a course on Arab Cultures in Film and Music (in English).
- Taught Arabic language courses online Spring and Fall 2020, and Spring 2021 (Zoom and Canvas).
- Coordinated Arabic sections and lab hours.
- Mentored and trained adjuncts, tutors, and lab teaching assistants.
- Strategized and participated in recruitment effort.
- Advised multiple student associations with varying foci.
- Promoted the Arabic program locally through outreach activities.
- Developed and implemented extra-curricular activities such as cooking workshops, fashion shows, calligraphy events, soccer matches, and visits to art exhibits and restaurants.
- Developed and assessed placement tests.
- Mentored new faculty.
- Mentored and advised students for competitive scholarships.
- Chaired the Lecturer's Affairs Committee (2021-2022).
- Elected to the University of North Texas Faculty Senate (2022).
- Elected to department Executive Committee member for a second term (2019-2023).

Instructor | Center for Arab & Middle Eastern Studies at the American University of Beirut,
Arabic Summer Program | Summers 2013, 2014

- Instructed 7 week intensive Intermediate Arabic courses.
- Created materials for a dialect language class.
- Planned and accompanied students on field trips.

Instructor | The University of Texas at Austin | Spring 2014

- Instructed Intensive Arabic II
- Collaborated with colleagues on writing lesson plans

Adjunct Lecturer | Lebanese University, Beirut | 1999-2002

- Taught translation, academic writing, and English as a Foreign Language courses for intermediate and advanced learners

Grants

“STARTALK 2020: Caravaning Through the Arab World,” Summer 2021.

A federal NSA grant for a three-week summer Arabic immersion, student-centered learning experience, offering 98 instructional hours of language and cultural exposure to local high school seniors and undergraduate students. The grant was received in 2020, but the program was deferred to summer 2021 because of the pandemic.

89,589 \$ | National Security Agency

“Rhythms of the Arab World,” Fall 2018

A semester-long project aimed to integrate global components into UNT’s classrooms and to enrich students’ classroom learning with hands-on, authentic experiences of Arabic music and instruments.

7000 \$ | Charn Uswachoke International Development Fund

3000\$ | Texas Muslim Women’s Foundation

3100 \$ | UNT College of Music and other UNT colleges and departments

Publication

Najour, Caroline. (2017). Teachers’ voices: Analysis of teachers’ speech and teachers’ perspectives in integrated Arabic classrooms. In Mahmoud Al-Batal (Ed.). *Arabic as one: Integrating the dialect within the Arabic curriculum* (pp. . Georgetown University Press.

Open Educational Resource Project

Linguistic Landscapes in Morocco: A Photo Database for Teachers and Researchers

Project Leaders: Caroline Najour & Lawrence Williams

<https://worldlanguages.unt.edu/~lfw/OERproject/>

Courses Taught at UNT

ARBC 1010 Elementary Arabic

ARBC 1020 Elementary Arabic

ARBC 2040 Intermediate Arabic

ARBC 2050 Intermediate Arabic

ARBC 3040 Advanced Topics in the Culture of the Middle East (several different topics)

ARBC 3060 Advanced Topics in Arabic Language (several different topics)

ARBC 3065 Advanced Arabic Conversation

WLLC 3010 - Global Diversity

WLLC 3100 - Arab Cultures in Film and Music

WLLC 3110 - Exploring the Arab World

Service

For the Department

- Arabic Program Coordinator
- Advertising and Recruiting Committee
- Executive Committee
- Lecturer Affairs Committee

For the University

- Faculty Senate (Group I, elected)
- Faculty Senate Committee: Budget Committee
- Faculty Senate Committee: Committee on Committees

For the Profession

- Advisor & Reviewer, Critical Language Scholarship Program (U.S. government)
- Advisor & Reviewer, Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship Program (U.S. government)

Student Awards and Scholarships

Critical Language Scholarship :

- Rachel Schaffer (2018)
- Susanna Strange (2019)
- Abril Caraballo-Marin (2021)
- Mckinnon Rice (2023)
- Chloe Moubarak (2024)

Fulbright Scholarship

- Rachel Schaffer (2019)

Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship:

- Abril Caraballo-Marin (2021)
- Ameerah Suleiman (2021)
- Mckinnon Rice (2023)
- Anjy Dunlap (2023)
- Mae Ahmed (2023)
- Selin Tokel (2023)
- Chloe Moubarak (2024)

- Mirka Bravo (2024)
- Joey Moubarak (2024)

Languages

- Arabic (Levantine): Native
- Arabic (Moroccan Darija): Intermediate
- English: Superior
- French: Superior
- Danish: Intermediate