

Tagreed F. Abu Taleb, Ph.D.

Early Childhood Education and Development Specialist

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Education

- 1992** Ph.D. Early Childhood Education and Development, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, U.S.A.
- 1986** M.Ed. Guidance and Counseling, Ohio University, Athens. Ohio, U.S.A.
- 1984** B.S. Elementary Education, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, U.S.A.

Present Position and Related Professional Experiences

- 2001-Present:** Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education and Development, The University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.
- 2004-2008** Managing Technical Director of Early Childhood Education and Development (USAID). Main responsibilities included providing technical support to Ministry of Education and project staff in five major development areas: curriculum development, teacher training, refurbishment of kindergarten facilities, parent involvement program, and development of quality assurance framework and licensing standards.
- 1992-2001** Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education and Development, The University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.
- 2009-2010** Chairperson: Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Faculty of Educational Sciences, The University of Jordan.
- 2009-2010** Committee member for Graduate Studies: evaluation of graduate student technical proposals, College of Educational Sciences.
- 2007/2009** USAID Partnership Director-University based project in collaboration with Utah State University and Jordan's Ministry of Education. Managed pre-submission consultations with potential grant applicants for USAID/HED award recipients to enhance and improve the ECD undergraduate degree program at the University of Jordan, Amman.

Academic and Related Professional Experiences

1992-2013

Academic

- Led the design and development of the Early Childhood Education bachelor's level program for the University of Jordan's Faculty of Educational Sciences, Department of Curriculum and Instruction.
- Led the design and development of a proposed master level program in early childhood education.
- Teaching early childhood education and development courses such as: Introduction to early childhood education, kindergarten children's behavioral problems, kindergarten physical environment, preschool and kindergarten curriculum and programs, children's health, children's environment, children's literature, developmental psychology, current issues in the field of early childhood, child psychology.
- Supervision of graduate level student thesis.
- Committee member of graduate level thesis and dissertation defense.

Project Head and Professional Committees

- Project Head: Established the ‘National Interactive Kindergarten Curriculum’ for the Ministry of Education public-sector kindergartens.
- Project Head: Established the kindergarten licensing standards and regulations for Ministry of Education kindergarten programs.
- Project Head: Design, implementation, and evaluation of the ‘Parent Involvement Program’ in public-sector kindergarten programs.
- Ministry of Education committee member for the early childhood education and development component supported by the World Bank/USAID: Education Reform for Knowledge Economy (ERfKE).
- Supervised the development of kindergarten teacher public-sector kindergarten teacher training manuals and the implementation of trainings.
- Committee member: Established the national developmental standards for children from birth through age eight, UNICEF.
- Supervisor of Ministry of Education technical committee for the design and development of Kindergarten education quality assurance standards.
- Committee member for developing the national kindergarten teacher professional standards, Ministry of Education, department of Supervision and Training.
- Committee member for establishing developmental indicators for preschool children, Ministry of Education, Curriculum Department.
- Member of the Higher Technical Council for the evaluation and promotion of the early childhood education and development sector, the National Council for Family Affairs, Jordan.
- Higher Education Accreditation Authority: led the establishment of national standards for accrediting early childhood education undergraduate programs.
- Project coordinator for University of Jordan’s private-sector kindergarten principal and teacher workshop and establishment of Faculty of Educational Sciences early childhood research lab.
- Representative for Faculty of Educational Sciences at the University of Jordan’s President Committee.
- Board member for the University of Jordan’s campus-based school.
- University of Jordan’s campus-based educational consultant to provide technical assistance to kindergarten staff on developmentally appropriate activities, health care standards, educational pedagogy, teacher-child relations, and supervise implementation strategies.

Professional Publications

- Abu Taleb, T. F. (2013). Job satisfaction among Jordan’s kindergarten teachers: Effects of workplace conditions and demographic characteristics. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 41 (2), 143-152.
- Abu Taleb, T. F. & Al-Balawi, K. M. (2012). An Evaluative Study of the University of Jordan’s Early Childhood Education Bachelor’s Program. *Dirasat: Educational Sciences*, 39(2) 561-578.
- Abu Taleb, T. F. (2012). Parenting Styles and Children’s Social Skills as Perceived by Jordanian Mothers of Preschool Children. *Early Childhood Development and Care*. Published Online first: DOI:10.1080/03004430.2012.744988.
- Abu Taleb, T. F. (2013). Necessary School Readiness Skills for Kindergarten Success According to Jordanian Teachers. *Early Childhood Development and Care*. Published Online first:

DOI:10.1080/03004430.2012.759950

- Abu Taleb, T. F. (2012). "NAEYC's Key Attributes of Quality Preschool Programs" Applied to the Jordanian Kindergarten Context. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, Published Online first: DOI 10.1007/s10643-012-0550-9.
- Abu Taleb, T. F. (2012). Requirements of High Quality Kindergarten Programs According to Jordanian Parents: An Exploratory Study. *Journal of Research in Childhood Education* (Accepted for publication).
- Abu Taleb, T. F. (2003). Assessing the school readiness of Jordanian first grade children: A pilot study. *National Center for Human Resources Development (NCHRD)*. Publications Series No (113).
- Abu Taleb, T. F. (2002). *Nursery and Kindergarten Management*. Jerusalem Open University: Jordan (textbook co-author).
- Abu Taleb, T. F. (2001). The Prevalence of Physical Punishment Choice among Mothers of Kindergarten Children, the Types of Behaviors Identified as Deserving Punishment and the Relationship Between Punishment and Children Behavioral Characteristics. *Dirasat: Educational Sciences* 28 (1), University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.
- Abu Taleb, T. F. (2000) (co-author). Sources of Job Related Stress as Experienced by Kindergarten Teachers in Greater Amman Region, *Dirasat: Educational Science*, 27 (1), University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.
- Abu Taleb, T. F. (2000). Attitudes of Kindergarten Teachers towards Kindergarten Management in Greater Amman Area for the Year 1998. *Dirasat: Educational Sciences*, 27 (1), University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.
- Al-Omari, B. & Abu Taleb, T. F. (1997). Sources of Job Related Stress as Experienced by Kindergarten Administrators in the Greater Amman Region, *Dirasat: Educational Sciences*, 2, (24), University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.
- Abu Taleb, T. F. (co-author) (1996). Kindergarten Performance in UNICEF's' Expansion Project: A Field Study, *Dirasat: Educational Sciences*, 23 (2), University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.

Technical Papers & Presentations

- Abu Taleb, T. F. et al. University of Jordan's Bachelor's program: current position and future developments. Paper presented at the 1st international early childhood conference, Petra University, Amman, Jordan, 2012.
- Abu Taleb, T. F. et al. Evaluative study of the early childhood education program at the University of Jordan. Paper presented at the 1st international early childhood conference, Petra University, Amman, Jordan, 2012.
- Abu Taleb, T. F. Parent Involvement Initiative in Jordanian Ministry of Education Kindergartens. Paper presented at the 51st Annual Conference: Comparative and International Education Society, 2007.
- Klein, E., and Abu Taleb, T. F. Helping and Cooperating in the Kindergarten: Teacher and Peer Ratings and Naturalistic Observations of Prosocial Behavior in Relation to Children's Self Concept. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting, American Educational Research Association, Atlanta, 1993.
- Klein, E., and Abu Taleb, T. Self Concept and Prosocial Behavior in the Kindergarten. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting, Society for Research in Child Development, New Orleans, 1993.

Notable Consultancies

- 1994** *Sultanate of Oman*: (UNICEF): Comprehensive on-site evaluation of early childhood education programs followed by a technical report focusing on improving the quality of Oman programs.

- 2004** *Academy for Educational Development:* Evaluation of the technical proposal developed by the Academy for Educational Development (AED) for USAID’s early childhood education expansion project for improving public-sector program facilities.
- 2007-2008** *Jordan Pioneers:* Sesame Street Project (Hikayat SimSim). Content specialist for creating and adapting the program to the Jordanian context.
- 2008** *Academy for Educational Development:* Evaluation of the second phase of the technical proposal developed by the Academy for Educational Development (AED) for USAID’s early childhood public-sector expansion project.
- 2008** *Egypt:* Designed a comprehensive program for the Egyptian Ministry of Education to evaluate kindergarten teachers within the Education Reform Program (USAID). Assisted the Egyptian faculty of kindergarten in establishing internal quality assurance system through the development and review of National Reference Standards (NARS).
- 2008** *Egypt:* Developed training manuals and implemented kindergarten teacher training program for the Ministry of Education’s Education Reform Program (ERP) supported by USAID.
- 2008** *Egypt:* Kindergarten Teacher Pedagogy Standards. Supported the Egyptian Ministry of Education in the development of assessment tools, content and pedagogy related to kindergarten teacher training programs.
- 2009** *Egypt:* Reviewed and evaluated the kindergarten curriculum framework for the Egyptian Ministry of Education.
- 2010-2011** *UNICEF:* Designed and developed a proposed expansion program for Jordan’s “Better Parenting Program” to be implemented in the country’s governorates supported by UNICEF. Original contracting agency: The Wolfensohn Center for development at Brookings.
- 2011** *Chemonics International:* Part of proposal writing team with Chemonics International for USAID’s kindergarten learning environment Jordan-based project.
- 2012** *UNESCO:* Developed a proposed program for evaluating early childhood health and educational services in the Arab States.

Professional and Voluntary Affiliations
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- The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).
- Comparative and International Education Society (CIES).
- Soldier’s Welfare Society of Jordan.