

MUNA AMR

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Dr. Muna Amr (PhD, MPhil, MA, BA) is an assistant professor of special education, Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Jordan and Co-director /Research associate at Footage Foundation for Youth Studies. Her work involves teaching various courses in special education and learning difficulties and participating in various projects, academic events and research activities undertaken in the field of education in Jordan and the Middle East. Her doctoral research involved using quantitative and qualitative methods to examine the effect of the visual aspects of Arabic language script on dyslexia. She received her PhD, MPhil from the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge in 2009 where she received extensive training in educational research. Muna's interests include literacy, learning difficulties, special education, inclusion and teacher training

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy

Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge (UK)

Thesis: 'Dyslexia in the Arabic language: Graphical features of the Arabic text and reading accuracy in the context of teaching reading in Jordan'

The PhD research focused on the reading ability of children with and without dyslexia and teachers' various classroom activities, teaching methods and tools. The aim was to understand students' learning process and the difficulties associated with reading in Arabic. Significantly, in a further action-based phase, results from this examination were used to help teachers in developing and adjusting their educational practices with correspondence to their students' needs and the nature of the taught subject and its various cognitive skills. In order to achieve that, a range of methods and research tools and interventions were utilized including; testing, classroom observation, interview, document and curriculum analysis.

MPhil Educational research

Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge (UK)

Dissertation: 'Identifying the predominant difficulties among students with learning difficulties in Jordan'

This course provided training on undertaking research that aims at improving the educational practices in the different learning areas. It involved intensive training on the various research traditions including: in particular, action research, classroom-based and teacher-led research, participatory research, case studies, surveys and experiments, utilizing an array of research methods such as interviews, observation, questionnaires, etc.

Master in Special Education (Hons)

Faculty of Education, University of Jordan (Amman/Jordan)

Dissertation: 'The effect of prior knowledge activation strategy in enhancing the reading comprehension of students with learning difficulties'

BA in Special Education

Faculty of Education, University of Jordan (Amman/Jordan)

PUBLICATIONS

- Amr, M., Al-Natour, M., Al Abdallat, B., Al-Khamra, H. (2016). Primary school teachers' Knowledge, attitudes and views on barriers to inclusion in Jordan. *International Journal of Special Education*, v31 n1 pp 67-77.
- Al-Abdallat, B., Amr, M., Al-Mahyyrah, A. (accepted). Professional competencies of resource room teachers in Amman from their own perspective. *Dirrasat*.
- Al -Natour, M., Amr, M., Al-khamra, H., & Al-Zboon, E. (2015). Collaboration between resource room teachers and regular teachers in Jordan: practices and constraints. *International Journal of inclusive Education* v30 n1 pp 64-77.
- Amr, M. (2011). Teacher education for inclusive education in the Arab World: The case of Jordan. *Prospects: Quarterly Review of Comparative Education*, v41 n3 pp399-413.

- Amr, M., & Al-Natour, M. (2006). The effectiveness of using the prior knowledge activation strategy in enhancing the reading comprehension among students with learning difficulties in Amman. *Dirrasat*, v33 n1 pp113-123. [In Arabic].

- Elbehiri, G., Al-Natour, M., Al-Menaye, N., Everatte, J., Al-Khamrah, H., Amr, M., (Submitted). Orthographical processing and reading comprehension in adult Arabic speaking students. *Reading and writing quarterly*.