

First Call for Papers

Title: The Consortium of Middle East National Resource Centers' Virtual Language Workshop

Meeting dates: April 8-10, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting, University of Arizona Center for Middle Eastern Studies

Field(s): Language learning/acquisition, language pedagogy, instructional technology

Subject Languages: Middle East Languages (Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Hebrew, and other related languages)

Call Deadline: 29-Jan-2021

Meeting Description:

The Center for Middle East Studies (CMES) at the University of Arizona is glad to inform you that the Consortium of Middle East National Resource Centers' Virtual Language Workshop, will take place online, on April 8-10, 2021. The title of this year's workshop is *Transformative Paradigms in the Middle East Language Classroom: Learning, Pedagogy, and Curriculum Development*. The 2016 Western Consortium Middle East Language Workshop saw the importance of preparing language learners to operate in an environment enriched with digital technologies. The 2021 Middle East National Resources Centers Virtual Language Workshop seeks to build on this knowledge and examine the transformative paradigms emerging as we move more and more into the online realm. Transformative pathways in pedagogy go beyond instrumental innovations to address social issues and multilingualism in the classroom. The evening of April 8th will feature an opening keynote address. Then the Friday and Saturday of the event will feature guest speakers, presenters, who will present research advances and classroom practices in their contexts, and break-out rooms to workshop some of the new practices learned.

Proposals are invited for presentations describing research and descriptive reports on the Middle East language learning and pedagogy. We welcome presentations that relate to the following: *approaches to curriculum development including genre; heritage-language learners; multi-literacies; language skills and instructional strategies; intercultural communicative competence; teacher education and professional development; and testing and assessment.*

Guest Speakers:

- Dr. Yass Alizadeh (Lecturer of Persian, New York University)
- Dr. Emma Trentman (Associate Professor of Arabic, University of New Mexico)

Submission Guidelines:

Abstracts should be in English and no longer than 300 words. There should also be a 50-word summary of the abstract. Each paper presentation should be 20 minutes long. All presentations will be discussed in a Q and A session at the end of each panel. No more than one single-authored and one co-authored proposal are allowed per person.

Deadline and Notification of Acceptance:

The deadline for the submission of abstracts is January 29, 2021.
Notification of acceptance will be sent out on February 21, 2021

Submission Link:

Abstracts can be submitted through this link: [ME NRC Lang Workshop Abstract Submission and Registration](#)

Organizing committee:

- Dr. Anne Betteridge (University of Arizona)
- Dr. Julie Ellison-Speight (University of Arizona)
- Dr. Narges Nematollahi (University of Arizona)
- Dr. Jeanette Okur (University of Texas Austin)
- Dr. Mahmoud Azaz (University of Arizona)

Contact information:

If you have any questions or queries, please write to jellison@arizona.edu

Co-Sponsors include:

The UArizona (UA) Center for Educational Resources, Culture, Language and Literacy, the UA School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies, The Center for Middle Eastern Studies at the University of California Berkeley, The Center for Middle Eastern Studies at The University of Texas at Austin, and The Middle East Center at the University of Washington.