

Shatha Yahya Amin Arafat

s.arafat@najah.edu | 00970-598699951 | Nablus, Palestine

PROFILE

PhD researcher in Accounting and Finance with a specialization in the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for detecting greenwashing in corporate reporting. Accounting instructor with extensive experience in higher education teaching, curriculum development, and AACSB accreditation processes. Research interests focus on ESG disclosure, sustainability reporting, and the use of data-driven methods to enhance transparency and reduce information asymmetry.

EDUCATION

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| 2026 - Current | PhD in Accounting and Finance (Ongoing)
Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Spain
<i>Research focus: AI-based detection of greenwashing in corporate reporting</i> |
| 2017-2018 | MSc Accounting and Finance
The University of Winchester, UK
GPA: 71/100, Distinction. |
| 2013- 2016 | BA in accounting
An-Najah National University, Palestine
GPA: 3.98/4. |

PUBLICATIONS & research

Conference papers

- Arafat, S., Teoh, L.K. and Tan, S.M. (2019) Financial Ratio Disclosure of Non-Financial Firms: Empirical Evidence from FTSE100. BAFA Annual Conference 2019, Birmingham, 8 - 10 April.
- Assaf, R., Taha, A., Abu Shoaib, L., Arafat, S., Abdeljawad, I. & Abu Alia, M. (2025) The Impact of Gender Diversity in Corporate Governance on Information Asymmetry. BSE MENA 2025 Conference, Palestine, 7-8 May.

Research in progress

- AI-based detection of greenwashing in corporate disclosures (PhD dissertation)

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Technical Skills

- Python (data analysis and basic machine learning applications)

Accounting & Finance

- Financial reporting and analysis
- SME accounting systems and bookkeeping
- Bank reconciliation and financial statement preparation

Academic & Teaching

- Curriculum design and course delivery
- Research supervision (undergraduate level)
- Assurance of learning (AoL) processes

Tools & Software

- Bisan ERP, Shamel Accounting
- Microsoft Excel (intermediate/advanced), Word, PowerPoint

Project Management & Leadership

- Project planning, budgeting, and coordination
- Committee leadership and cross-functional collaboration

Communication & Debate

- Public speaking and academic presentation
- British Parliamentary debate (judging and competition)

Languages

- Arabic: Native
- English: Fluent (academic and professional)
- French: Basic
- Spanish: Basic

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Instructor – Accounting Department

An-Najah National University | Jan 2019 – Present

- Teach core accounting courses including Accounting Theory, Managerial Accounting, and SME Accounting
- Deliver Accounting Principles courses to non-major students
- Instruct Industrial Accounting for Engineering students
- Supervise undergraduate research projects, including research design and data analysis
- Contribute to curriculum development and continuous improvement initiatives

Leadership & Accreditation Roles

- Head, International Relations and Projects Committee
- Head, Quality Assurance Committee – Accounting Department (leading implementation and monitoring of AACSB Quality Assurance standards and processes)
- Lead, Quality Assurance Committee (curriculum alignment and accreditation compliance)
- Member, AACSB Accreditation Committee (Standards 1, 5 & 9: Strategic Planning, Faculty Qualifications and Sufficiency, and Societal Impact)

Accountant

Fury Trade & Contracting Company | Sep 2016 – Aug 2017

- Maintained financial records and ensured compliance with internal controls
- Prepared monthly and annual financial statements
- Conducted bank reconciliations and resolved discrepancies

Trainee Accountant

Middle East Investment Initiative | Sep 2015 – July 2016

- Managed bookkeeping for SMEs
- Assisted in preparing financial statements
- Supported financial training for SME staff

Accreditation and assurance experience

- Active contributor to AACSB accreditation processes
- Involved in Standard 1 (Strategic Planning), Standard 5 (Faculty Qualifications and Sufficiency), and Standard 9 (Engagement and Societal Impact).
- Supported alignment of curriculum with program learning outcomes (CLO–PLO mapping)
- Participated in preparation of accreditation documentation and reporting (e.g., ISER contributions)

Community engagement and leadership

Volunteer – Nablus Municipality Cultural Center

2010 – 2021

- Contributed to community outreach programs and event organization

Summer Camp Coordinator

2014 – 2017

- Managed volunteer teams and coordinated program activities

Debate & Public Speaking

- Judge, Palestinian National Debate Academy (2019)
- Judge, Palestine Open Debate Championship (2018)
- Judge, British Council Young Arab Voices Program (2017)
- 3rd place, National Debate Championship (2016)

References

- Dr. Saed Al Koni, Vice president of administration, An-Najah national university, old campus, Nablus | email: saed@najah.edu
- Dr. Rafat al Jallad, Dean of business and communication faculty, An-Najah National University, old campus, Nablus | email: rafat.jallad@najah.edu.
- Lim Teoh, MSc accounting and finance program leader, The University of Winchester, Winchester | email: Lim.Teoh@winchester.ac.uk
- Fawz Abuhijleh, business advisor, middle east investment initiative, Ramallah | email: fabuhijleh@meii.us