Curriculum Vitae

Sahar Riyad Hamzah

Assistant Professor

Digital Education
Innovation and Technology Management

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Background:

Dr. Sahar R. Hamzah is an Assistant Professor of Digital Education and Innovation and Technology Mangement responsible for course design and delivery at the Arabian Gulf University in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Previously an Assistant Professor of Media Production at the University of Houston, Dr. Hamzah is a subject matter expert in pedagogies for digital education, Generative AI, media innovation, media production, film adaptation, and a researcher of digital transformation and technology management.

Education:

- **Ph.D. in Media and Communication,** Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, UK, 2017
- **Certificate in Facilitating Learning and Teaching**, Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, UK, 2015
- **B.F.A in Media and Performing Arts,** Savannah College of Art and Design, Georgia, USA, 2009

Work Experience:

February 2023 – present: Assistant Professor – Arabian Gulf University (AGU), Kingdom of Bahrain:

- Teach graduate courses in the Digital Education and the Innovation and Technology Management program.
- Serves on AGU's Internal Audit Committee

- Serves on the Quality Assurance and Accreditation Committee
- Serves on the Artificial Intelligence Policy and Research Ethics Committee at the Arabian Gulf University.
- Serves on the Strategy Committee responsible for strategic planning and creating the new strategic plan for the future of the university.

August 2018 – August 2022: Assistant Professor - University of Houston (UoH), Houston, TX, USA

- Led UoH to become the first DaVinci Resolve Certified training center in Texas.
- Served on the Student Media Advisory Committee to create and implement strategy for all student media output from the university, including its newspaper, radio, and television stations.
- Served on the Undergraduate Studies Committee responsible for creating and upholding policies to assess quality of courses, implement strategies to positively impact student satisfaction.
- Taught courses in advanced non-linear editing, documentary filmmaking, preproduction management, screenwriting, media fundamentals.
- Producer and host of the college's podcast Valenti Press Play.

2019 – present: Blackmagic Design Ambassador, Houston, TX, USA

- Selected by the company to provide training to elite clients.
- Selected to represent Blackmagic Design at the largest tradeshow of its kind, 2020 NAB Show (National Association of Broadcasters) in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.
- Certified to provide certification training for candidates to become Blackmagic Design professionals in DaVinci Resolve, Advanced Color Correction, Fairlight, and Fusion.

2013 – February 2023: Owner of Chimerical Films, Houston, TX, USA

- Worked with clients such as Avon, Edinburgh Fashion Week, and Coast London offering a unique blend of technical production ability and film analysis, history, and to take concepts from the development stage through the postproduction process to delivery.

2015 – 2015: *Photographer / Videographer - IMG Visual, Edinburgh, U.K.*

- Freelance photographer and videographer for corporate and personal occasions travelling around the U.K. My quality of work and attention to client

needs helped to generate repeat business and new leads based on my clients' recommendations.

2004 – 2011: *Producer - Al-Wa'ad for Media Production,* Manama, The Kingdom of Bahrain

- Communicating with diverse international audiences to deliver corporate and commercial videos.
- Translation, subtitling, editor, producer.

Research Interests:

- Generative AI in Education
- Pedagogies for Digital Education
- Media Innovation
- Digital Transformation
- Media Studies

Publications:

Book Chapters:

1. Aging, Death, and Legacy in Star Trek: The Next Generation and Star Trek: Picard (Accepted) Adaptation and Aging, Palgrave Macmillan, UK April 2025
2. Empirical Data: Evolving Portrayals and Societal Perceptions of Artificial Intelligence (Accepted), Star Trek, Sixty Years of Impact, University of Mississippi Press, USA October 2024

Journal Papers:

3. Mahmood, Asif., Hamzah, Sahar., Afaf Bugawa, A. Fairouz M Aldhmour and Odeh Al-Jayyousi (2025). Big Data Analytics Capabilities and Corporate Sustainability: Exploring The Mediating Role of Business Model Innovation in Bahraini SMEs
4. Hamzah, S., (2025). "Pedagogy of All-Women Universities in AI-Powered Digital Leadership" Springer Conference Procceedings, Women in Society Research Conference, Royal University for Women, Kingdom of Bahrain, May 11, 2025
5. Hamzah, S., (2025). "The Implications of Generative AI on Pedagogy for Executive Function Support in Students with ADHD" Springer Conference Procceedings, Women in Society Research Conference, Royal University for Women, Kingdom of Bahrain, May 11, 2025

6. Hamzah, S., (2023). "Symmetry and Centrality as Power: The Use of Mise-en-scéne to Create Power in Sir Kenneth Branagh's Murder on the Orient Express and Death on the Nile", Mise-en-scéne: The Journal of Audio and Visual Narration 2023 Issue 8, Number 1, June 2023

7. Hamzah, S., (2022). "Confinement and Duplicity: Mise-en-scène in Sir Kenneth Branagh's Murder on the Orient Express", Mise-en-scène: The Journal of Film and Visual Narration, Issue 6, March 2, 2022, pp. 67-79. https://journals.kpu.ca/index.php/msq/article/view/1599

8. Hamzah, S., (2021). "Ghost Story as Social Commentary: A look at Mati Diop's Atlantics", Journal of African Media Studies, Volume 13, Number 1, 1 March 2021, pp. 125-127. https://doi.org/10.1386/jams_00038_7

9. Hamzah, S., (2021) "Digital Kenya", Journal of African Media Studies, Volume 13, Number 1, 1 March, 2021.

Conference Presentations:

1. A Gypsy Rose by Any Other Name: The Haunting of Naming, Narrative, and Pop Culture (accepted) for presentation at the Literature/Film Association Annual Conference, September 25-27, Savannah, Georgia, USA, Septemeber 25-27 2025

2. Architectural Storytelling and Spatial Adaptation of Viking Mythology in Motiongate Dubai Theme Park's How to Train Your Dragon Area presented at the Annual Association of Adaptation Studies Conference, June 4-6 2025, Bigli University, Istanbul, Turkey, June 4-6 2025

3. Aging, Death, and Legacy in Star Trek: The Next Generation and Star Trek: Picard Presented at the Annual Literature/Film Association and Association of Adaptation Studies Conference, Online, 27 February 2025

4. Pedagogical Implications of Generative AI for Young Learners presented at the Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education: The Impact of Disseminating Quality Practices on Implementation in Early Education Institutions, Kingdom of Bahrain, January 27, 2025

5. Adapting Sesame Street for the Middle East: Technological Innovation, Linguistic Innovation, and Cultural Adaptation in Iftah Ya Simsim and Ahlan Simsim presented at the Annual Association of Adaptation Studies Conference 5-7 June 2024, Poland

6. Enhancing Screenwriting Pedagogy: The Impact of Adaptation Theory on Curriculum Design and Student Writing presented at the Annual Literature Film Association and Association of Adaptation Studies Conference: Adaptation in and Out of the Classroom February 22, 2024

7. The Role of Digital Communication in Digital Media Production in the Remote Era: Utilizing Innovative Learning Techniques presented at the International Conference on Open Innovation and Digital Transformation, February 9, 2023

8. Hamzah, S. and Madrid-Morales, Dani, (2021). Digital Kenya, feature-length documentary presented at the International Association for Media and Communications Research (IAMCR), Nairobi Kenya, 11-15 July, 2021.

9. Hamzah, S. and Madrid-Morales, Dani, (2020). Digital Kenya, feature-length documentary presented at the Global Communication Summit on Digital Africa, Houston, Texas USA, 27-28 February, 2020.

10. Hamzah, S., (2017). The Forgotten Hypotext: Origins of Star Trek and the United Federation of Planets, presented at the Annual Association of Adaption Studies Conference, DeMontfort University, Leicester, U.K., 18-19 September, 2017

Other Activities:

1. Hamzah, S. (2025) Workshop in Managing Your E-Learning Course, Arabian Gulf University, May 2025

2. Hamzah, S. (2022) Workshop in Preproduction Management at the Brazosport Art and Media Festival (BAM), Lake Jackson, Texas USA, April 22-23, 2022.

3. Hamzah, S., (2019-2022). Judge for the Brazosport Art and Media Festival, Lake Hamzah, S., (2019-2022). Judge for the Central Film Festival, Springfield, Missouri USA, April 4, 2022.

4. Jackson, Texas USA, 22-23 April, 2022.

5. Hamzah, S. (2021) Judge for the Telenovela Scriptwriting Hack-a-Thon, Houston, Texas USA, November 13, 2021.

6. Hamzah, S., (2018-2021). Panelist and presenter at the Wonderworks Summer Program, Houston, Texas USA, June 16-21, 2021.

7. Hamzah, S., (2021). Panelist for the Wild About Houston Film Festival, Houston, Texas USA, 18 November, 2020.

8. Hamzah, S., (2020). Panelist for the Citizens Environmental Coalition Film Screening, Houston, Texas USA, 23 July, 2020.

Courses Taught:

Graduate Courses:

1. Digital Transformation Management
2. Innovation in Digital Education
3. Managing your E-Learning Course
4. Technology Selection and Aquisition
5. Managerial Communication
6. E-Commerce

7. Scientific Writing
8. Technology Transfer
9. nterprise Social Media

Undergraduate:

1. Non-Linear Editing
2. Advanced Non-Linear Editing
3. Introduction to Screenwriting
4. Advanced Screenwriting
5. Documentary Filmmaking
6. Preproduction Management
7. Introduction to Color Grading
8. Hollywood Directors Seminar – Alfred Hitchcock
9. Media Performance
10. Media Fundamentals
11. Valenti Production House