

RESEARCH EXPERTISE AND INTERESTS

- Political ecology; Environmental policy analysis and management; Environmental Justice
- More than ten years of university teaching experience

WORK EXPERIENCE

2014 – current **ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, ASFARI INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY AND CITIZENSHIP**
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT; LEBANON

Supported the development of the Institute from an idea into a center for research and advocacy on civil society and citizenship in the Arab region; supported and contributed to academic research on labor unions, civil society, and environmental justice. Awarded funding for a 3-year international collaborative project on environmental justice and transformative change (2016-2018); leading the research on the Arab region

2005 - 2014 **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**
CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (*CHAIR: SEPT 2011 – AUG 2014*)
FACULTY OF SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF BALAMAND; EL-KOURA, LEBANON

Developed the undergraduate and graduate programs in the Department of Environmental Sciences. Developed and taught ten undergraduate and graduate environmental science courses, many of which were linked the natural sciences with the environmental humanities and social sciences.

(Leave of Absence from February 2012 to May 2013)

2012 - 2013 **ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY POLICY SPECIALIST**
REGIONAL BUREAU FOR ARAB STATES, REGIONAL CENTRE IN CAIRO
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM; CAIRO, EGYPT

Encouraged integrated and holistic public policies in the region, including the centering of environmental issues within a livelihood agenda and the advancement of energy and water conservation. Advised on policy options for food-insecure countries in the region. Reviewed analyses on socioeconomic roots and the impact of the Syrian crisis. Contributed to the Arab Development Challenges Report. Contributed to successful grants and directed ongoing project activities on ‘supporting constituencies for social justice in Arab transition countries.’

2002 - 2004 **DIRECTOR, SOUTHERN PEACE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER**
INSTITUTE FOR SOUTHERN STUDIES
NORTH CAROLINA, USA

Researched impacts of U.S. governmental policy on economic, environmental, and social issues. Tied U.S. foreign policy in the Arab world to U.S. domestic policies, particularly on the US South. Presented analyses through various vehicles (newspaper and journal writing, television and radio media, and public presentations). Conducted more than one hundred media engagements and more than one hundred thirty speaking engagements.

FORMAL EDUCATION

2001	DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY, FORESTRY NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY	RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, USA
1995	MASTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DUKE UNIVERSITY	DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA, USA
1993	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, CONSERVATION NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY	RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, USA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- * *Political Ecology and Social Change: Focus on the Arab region (American University of Beirut):* This graduate course contextualizes political ecology within the Arab region, and, using this framework, examines both the environmental issues facing the region, and the different manners through which civil society organizes around those issues.
- * *Exploring Environmental (In)Justice (American University of Beirut):* This graduate course examines issues of environmental quality and social justice, and the complexity of both environmental injustices and the struggle for environmental justice. Four pillars are explored: Principles of Environmental Justice, with a cursory understanding of political ecology; principles of Transformative Change and Power Analysis; overview of issues in the Arab region: economic, social, environmental, political; and the tools and strategies used by organizations and communities for environmental justice, with a focus on the Arab region.
- * *General Ecology (University of Balamand):* This course explores: origin and evolution of the biosphere, introduction to climates, ecosystems and biomes; the interrelations of organisms and their environments; and principles of growth, regulation, distribution, structure and energetics of populations and communities.
- * *Environmental Communication Approaches (University of Balamand):* This course is based on cooperative learning activities. Students will learn how to organize environmental workshops and will get introduced to the theories and skills of alternative dispute resolution approaches, citizen participation strategies, public participation structures and dynamics, public policy decision making and implementation, risk communication, leadership styles and small group dynamics.
- * *Writing for Environmental Professionals (University of Balamand):* This course introduces students to the principles and practice of writing skills required of environmental professionals. Students will develop proficiency in determining the purpose of a document, analyzing the audience; selecting, developing and organizing the information in an appropriate design, and writing clearly, precisely, and effectively.
- * *Introduction to Environmental Sciences (University of Balamand):* This course will introduce the principles of basic-science and technology involved in processes of environmental change, pollution and protection of natural resources, and their implications to economic and human systems. (For Freshman students only).
- * *Environmental Economics and Development (University of Balamand):* Significant environmental destruction is caused by insufficient and incorrect attention to economics. Examples include subsidized prices for natural resources, neglect of external costs and benefits, and an excessive commitment to GNP growth and its neglect of the biophysical system in which the economy is embedded. In this class, students will be introduced to basic micro- and macroeconomics, distribution and trade, and the application of economic and social science principles and techniques to production, consumption, and valuation of natural resources. Students will also study differences between standard economists and the more interdisciplinary ecological economists.
- * *Natural Resource Management and Policy (University of Balamand):* Students will study scientific, environmental, social and institutional factors affecting planning and policy making, with a focus on community-based natural resource management. The course focuses on ecosystem based planning and policy issues through development of a multiple-use plan. Sources and use of environmental data are discussed and illustrated. A general overview of environmental laws on the national scale will be attempted.

- * *Ecotourism Planning and Development (University of Balamand)*: This course offers students a study of the fundamental concepts of nature based tourism planning and its contribution to community development. The course emphasizes the negative and positive economic, social, and environmental impacts of nature based tourism.
- * *Climate Change: The Science and Local Impact (University of Balamand)*: This graduate course will tackle the science of climate change, drawing attention to the latest research and evolving patterns of scientific data on climate that has emerged in recent years. Emphasis will be given to the scientific aspects of the elements of climate change, measurements, natural and human causes of climatic variations, past and current climates, future projections, economic and ecological impacts, analyzing the social changes and adaptations that human communities have already made and those they will most likely have to make as the Earth's climate continues to change in the coming years. Special attention will be given to the mitigation
- * *Environmental Management and Policy (University of Balamand)*: The graduate course will examine the principles, procedures and methods of good environmental management against the background of Lebanese, European Union and international policy requirements and market instruments. Students will be provided with an opportunity for more in-depth study of selected areas of environmental management, as related to current needs. They will be enabled to develop the research and management skills required to collect, analyze and present information in the context of environmental policy, monitoring and auditing.
- * *Speech Writing (Lebanese American University) Note: I developed this course and taught LAU faculty how to teach the course.* This undergraduate course gives instruction and practice in the art of speechwriting. Students explore what works in speech writing, what does not, how to make points clearly and maintain the audience's interest, as well as how to develop good speech delivery. Students examine great speeches, and learn how to approach specific audiences, research, structure, and write key genres of speeches, as well as deliver a message, soundbites, or policy.

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS

- * Contributor. "UNDP Arab Development Challenges Report 2011: Towards the Developmental State in the Arab Region." Second Revised Edition. Published March 2013. UNDP Regional Centre For Arab States.
- * Technical Group. "Environment Outlook for the Arab Region: Environment for Development and Well-being." UNEP. 2010. <http://www.unep.org/dewa/westasia/eoar/>
- * Abu-Ismaïl, K., A. Moustafa, and R. Masri. "Development Challenges in the Arab Countries: Food Security and Agriculture." Volume 2. December 2009. League of Arab States and UNDP.
- * Contributor. "Food Security in the Arab World." UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States. June 2008.
- * "Development" -- *At What Price? A review of the environmental management of Lebanese authorities (1992-1998)*. Arab Studies Quarterly. Volume 21. No. 1. 1999.
- * "Environmental Challenges in Lebanon." Challenging Environmental Issues – Middle Eastern Perspectives. Ed. by Joseph Jabbara and Nancy Jabbara. Journal of Developing Societies, Volume XIII – fasc. 1. June 1997. Brill Academic Publishers. The Netherlands. 1997.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, SECURITY, AND POLITICS

- * *Thirsty in Lebanon*. Submitted to the 'Environment and Security Issues in the Southern Mediterranean' Workshop. March 25-27, 2009. Barcelona, Spain
- * Darwish, R., N. Farajallah, and R. Masri. "The 2006 war and its inter-temporal economic impact of war on agricultural production." *Disasters*. 33: 4. Pages 629-644. 2009.
- * *Drought, Thirst, and Hunger*. Al-Adab Magazine. September 2007. Beirut, Lebanon.
- * *Iraqi Food Security?* Al-Adab Magazine. November-December 2005. Beirut, Lebanon.
- * *The Price of War Games*. Southern Exposure 32 (Winter 2005). Institute for Southern Studies. Durham, NC. USA.

- * “Assault on Iraq’s Environment: Radioactive Waste and Disease – The effects of depleted uranium weaponry and blockade.” Iraq: Its History, People and Politics. Ed. by Shams Inati. Prometheus Books. 2003.
- * “Iraq: Reconstruction or Deconstruction?” Iraq - a Liberated Country? (Der Irak – ein befreites Land?) Edited by Michael Schiffmann, Rüdiger Göbel, and Joachim Guilliard. Papyrossa Verlag (Germany). 2003.

SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, IMPACTS OF WAR, MEDIA

- * *Teaching Amid Despair: Global Warming and Israeli Wars on Lebanon.* Environmental Communication: A Journal of Nature and Culture. Volume 1. Number 2. November 2007. Routledge. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/.U3Tq7F7HjSw>
- * “The Al-Aqsa Intifada: A natural consequence of the military occupation, the Oslo accords, and the ‘peace process.’” The Struggle for Palestine. Ed. by Lance Selfa. Haymarket Books. 2002.
- * Abunimah, Ali and Rania Masri. “The Media’s Deadly Spin on Iraq.” Iraq Under Siege: The Deadly Impact of Sanctions and War. Ed. by Anthony Arrove. South End Press. Co-Published by Pluto Press in London. 2000. Second Edition – 2002.
- * *Combating Racism – Only together with our arms locked.* International Socialist Review. Issue 19. July – August 2001. <http://www.isreview.org/issues/19/RaniaMasri.shtml>
- * How many more must die? Voices of a People’s History of the United States. Ed. By Howard Zinn and Anthony Arrove. Seven Stories Press. 2000.
- * *US Coverage of Iraq: Breaking the sanctions on truth.* Media Development Special Issue. Media Development. Journal of the World Association for Christian Communication. June 2001.
- * Open Forum. (Response to Richard Garfield and Kwesi Dugbatey’s article on the role of NGOs in Iraq). Humanitarian Affairs Review. Autumn 2000. Belgium.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND PUBLIC POLICY

- * *‘Freeing’ Iraq’s Economy – for its occupiers. Special Issue on Iraq.* Swans Commentary. Swans.com February 2004. <http://www.swans.com/library/art10/iraq/masri.html>
- * *Paying More, Getting Less: The Impact of Proposed Changes to Corporate Incentive Programs in North Carolina for Fairness, Effectiveness and Accountability.* August 2002. Institute for Southern Studies. Durham, NC. USA

ENVIRONMENT AND LITERATURE

- * *Review of ‘Joel Weishaus’ Forest Park: A Journal.’* "Rhetorics of Place." Reconstruction: Studies in Contemporary Culture. Vol.5. No.3. <http://reconstruction.eserver.org/Issues/053/masri.shtml>

FORESTRY

- * *Masri, T. and R. Masri. Optimizing the provision of ecosystem goods from Pinus pinea forest plantations in Lebanon - Constraints and perspectives.* Poster. International Congress on Cultivated Forests. October 3 – 7, 2006. Bilbao, Spain.
- * *Masri, R., B. Goldfarb, and S/ Surles. 1997. Juvenility and Maturation of Hedged Stock Plants of Loblolly Pine (Pinus taeda, L.): Effect of age and serial propagation on cutting morphology, rooting performance, and growth and development of rooted cuttings.* Poster. XI World Forestry Congress. October 13-22, 1997. Antalya, Turkey.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

Presented in hundreds of speaking engagements at universities and centers around the world. Topics have centered on issues of environmental justice, human rights, governmental policy, economic justice, and environmental health and security.

MEDIA EXPERIENCE

Twenty years' experience engaging across various media platforms (TV, print, radio, Internet). Contributed to the production of two documentary videos: 'About Baghdad' (2004) and 'Silent Weapon: The Embargo Against Iraq.' (1999)

ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND AWARDS

Native bilingual speaker of English and Arabic.

Received seven awards in recognition of service and commitment to social justice.

REFERENCES - AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST: