

**Curriculum Vita**  
Qais Ibrahim Almeqdad, *PhD*.



**Professor in Special and Inclusive Education**  
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**Google Scholar Citations : 665 – updated 8/17/2021**  
**Ranked : 50 among 600 University researchers on Google Scholar**

### Summary

I am **Senior Advisor** in the field of special and inclusive education with over 24 years of experience. Throughout my academic and professional journey, I developed a robust knowledge and experience on how to work with service providers and policy makers; implementing best evidence-based practices and professional standards to meet the unique needs of children, their teachers and families. **Additionally, I was assigned a member of the Advisory Council for People of Determination, UAE, 2017-2020.**

Prior rejoining the Jordanian University of Yarmouk working as Professor in Special & Inclusive Education, I worked as **Associate Professor in Special and Inclusive Education and the Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies at Zayed University- UAE**; teaching both undergraduate and graduate students and providing consultations to several local and regional organizations. I also published several articles in local, regional and international journals. At Yarmouk University, I had served as the **Director of Speech and Hearing Center at Yarmouk University, Jordan**. I am usually invited to plan, deliver and review training programs for teachers, parents and other staff on local and regional levels on a variety of topics relevant to assessment and evaluation, special education, gifted and talented, children's rights and child protection.

Before completing my MPhil in Educational Research (2005) and PhD in Special Education from **the University of Cambridge UK** (2008), I worked for a 7-years period as the **Head of Assessment and Evaluation Unit**, at Nazik Al- Hariri Center for Special Education, Jordan; during which I was privileged to work with and lead a multi-disciplinary team in conducting a comprehensive approach of diagnosing individuals with special needs, planning their Individualized Educational Programs accordingly and providing family consultations and efficient hands-on support for their teachers.

Having a highly responsive approach towards learners and a thriving force for learning about people with special needs have always been leading me to explore new venues in this profession and accept new challenges the aim of which is leading and making the change in attitudes and educational practices from a special to an inclusive education wherein Every Student Succeeds.

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**Education:**

<b>Ph.D.</b>		<b>2008, University of Cambridge, UK</b>
	<b>Dissertation Title</b>	Self-explanation in Children with Learning Difficulties
	<b>Emphasis</b>	Naturalistic Metacognitive Interventions for Teaching Children with Cognitive Disabilities Mathematical skills, and Teachers' Training and Perceptions
<b>MPhil.</b>		<b>2005, University of Cambridge, UK</b>
	<b>Thesis Title</b>	Self-explanation in Children with Learning Difficulties: Pilot Study
	<b>Emphasis</b>	Metacognitive Interventions for Children with Cognitive Disabilities
<b>M.A.</b>		<b>2000, University of Jordan</b>
	<b>Thesis Title</b>	The Effect of a Training Critical Thinking Program on Creativity Characteristics and Self-esteem Amongst Eleventh Grade Students
	<b>Emphasis</b>	Training on Critical Thinking and Enhancing Creativity for Gifted
	<b>Major</b>	Special Education
<b>B.A.</b>		<b>1997, University of Jordan</b>
	<b>Major</b>	Special Education

**Professional Experience:**

*University and Academic/Research Related;*

Aug. 2021- Now		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching different courses at both B.A. and M.A. levels</li> <li>• Conducting research</li> <li>• Supervising &amp; Examining Master's and Doctoral Degrees students</li> <li>• Consultations to local community and international agencies</li> </ul>
Feb. – Jul. 2019	<b>Associate Professor</b> in Special Education, <b>Yarmouk</b> <b>University, Irbid –</b> Jordan	
Jan. 2015 to Jan. 2019	<b>Associate Professor</b> in Special and Inclusive Education, College of Education, <b>Zayed University,</b> <b>AUH- UAE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies</b></li> <li>• Graduate Program Coordinator of Special Education</li> <li>• Teaching different courses at both B.A. and M.A. levels</li> <li>• Conducting research</li> <li>• Consultations to local community</li> <li>• Member of inclusive practices group</li> <li>• Research consultant for School for All evaluation program, Ministry of Education, UAE</li> <li>• Committee Head of Ministry of Education team for reviewing Standards of Early Childhood Curriculum, UAE</li> <li>• Member of training and research team for improving inclusive practices at schools of Dubai, Al Jalila Foundation /ZU project</li> <li>• Committee Member for Developing B.A program in SEN at ZU</li> <li>• Committee Member for Developing Diploma Programs in SEN,</li> </ul>

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		<p>Gifted &amp; Talented, and Learning Disabilities at ZU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee Head for Developing Diploma Program in Learning Disabilities at ZU</li> </ul>
May 2013 Jan. 2015	<b>Associate Professor</b> in Special Education, <b>Yarmouk University</b> , Irbid – Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching different courses at both B.A. and M.A. levels</li> <li>• Conducting research</li> <li>• Supervising &amp; Examining Master's and Doctoral Degrees students</li> <li>• Consultations to local community</li> </ul>
Sept. 08 until May 2013	<b>Assistant Professor</b> in Special Education, <b>Yarmouk University</b> , Irbid - Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member of Degree Committee, Scientific Committee, and High Studies Committee</li> <li>• Committee Head for establishing B.A program in SEN</li> <li>• Committee Member for establishing M.A program in Speech and Language Disorders</li> <li>• Rapporteur of preparatory conference committee: "Special Education and Learning Disabilities in the Arab World"</li> <li>• Reviewer of Math National Curriculum (1-4 grades) in Jordan</li> </ul>
June 2012 until June 2014	<b>Director, Speech &amp; Hearing Center</b> , <b>Yarmouk University</b> , Irbid – Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning the research and services policies for the SHC and ensuring they run properly in corporation with other parties in the university and local community.</li> <li>• Budget Planning</li> <li>• Evaluating and diagnosing children with special needs</li> <li>• Coordinating services provided in the SHC.</li> <li>• Committee Head for developing BSc. program in Speech and Hearing Sciences</li> </ul>
Feb.-Sept. 2011	<b>Assistant Dean of student affairs</b> , <b>Yarmouk University</b> , Irbid – Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participating at different committees</li> <li>• Leading a multidisciplinary team working towards achieving personal growth, wellness, intellectual development, academic achievement and career success of each individual student</li> </ul>
Jan. – Mar. 08	<b>Research Assistant</b> , (CindLe Project) <b>University of Cambridge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting up research projects</li> <li>• Coding and analyzing of policy document, video data, and writing up research reports</li> </ul>
Oct. – Dec. 07	<b>Research Assistant</b> , (Primary Review) <b>University of Cambridge</b>	

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*Clinical/Practice Related;*

27 Aug – 3 Sep 2014	Visiting Training Expert, The Teachers and Parents Counsel, Ajaman, UAE	Planning and providing training workshops on child protection, the rights of children with disabilities, behavior modification, evaluation of disabilities and evidenced based practice approach.
24-26 Aug 2014	Visiting Training Expert, The Rosary School- Abu Dhabi, UAE	Planning and providing training workshops on child protection
11-12 Mar 2014	Visiting Training Expert, Dubai Police- Dubai, UAE	Planning and providing training workshops on child protection and the rights of children with disabilities
Oct. 09 until now	Community Consultant, The Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities (HCAPD), Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• External Audit: Investigating the needs and services of centers working in the field of SEN in relation to quality indicators and professional standards</li> <li>• Providing consultations to local community</li> <li>• Planning and providing training for professionals working in the field of SEN</li> <li>• Participating at different committees forming the evaluation and diagnosis standards in the field of SEN</li> </ul>
2001	Member of legislation committee (Legislation & Opinion Bureau- Prime Minister Office)	Developing professional standards for Special Education Teachers in Jordan
July 2001	Instructor, The Arab Gifted and Talented Council	Providing training for teachers and program managers of the gifted children in the Arab gulf countries, on methods of identification of gifted and talented children
1st-21st April 2002	Visitor Consultant, Bahraini Institute for Special Education, Manama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluating and diagnosing children with special needs</li> <li>• developing Individual Education Programs for these children</li> <li>• Providing Bahraini teachers training on the use of academic tests and referral methods</li> </ul>
Sept. 97 – Dec. 03	Head of Assessment & Evaluation Unit, Nazik Al- Hariri Center of Special Education, Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching children with SEN</li> <li>• Diagnosing and evaluating children with SEN</li> <li>• Planning the IEPs for children with SEN &amp; assuring that they run properly</li> <li>• Planning and providing teachers training</li> <li>• Providing Families of children with SEN with appropriate consultations</li> <li>• Leading and Participating at different committees</li> <li>• Establishing Resalatona Magazine (i.e. the first periodical journal in Jordan which covers issues related to children with SEN)</li> </ul>

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*Sample of the Community Service;*

October 2019- Now	Member of the Higher Technical Committee, Princess Taghreed Center for Evaluation,	Providing technical support on the best practices of assessment of children in special and inclusive settings in Jordanian schools
April 2017- Now	Member, the Advisory Council for People of Determination, UAE, 2017-2021	Policy development to support UAE government, e.g. UAE Disability Guide 2018.
March- April 2017	Academic Reviewer, Zayed Higher Organization, UAE	Reviewing the Abu Dhabi Disability Classification Guide 2107, before it's approved by Abu Dhabi Executive Council.
Feb 29, 2017	Invited Speaker	Invited by the Supreme Council of Motherhood and Childhood to give a talk on persons with disabilities participation's rights, in one of the Youth Circles organized by Ministry of Youth Affairs
October 17, 2016	Session Chair	Charing a session on Quality Assurance in Education in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> International Conference of Khalifa Award for Education
October 29, 2016	Invited Speaker	Invited by the Family Development Organization to give a talk on Safe Childhood to parents of children with special needs enrolled in Zayed Higher Organization for Special Needs and Humanitarian Care
April 2016	Invited Speaker	Invited by the Supreme Council of Motherhood and Childhood to give a talk on dyslexia in AUH Book Fair
May- 2015 until now	Team Member; research consultant	Evaluating the School for All Program implemented by MOE (2009-2014)
May- June 2015	Committee Head	Reviewing Standards of Early Childhood Curriculum, Ministry of Education, UAE
Feb- May 2015	Mentor and Reviewer	Mentoring and reviewing training materials for Al Jalilah & ZU Project aimed at providing teachers with experiences to enhance their inclusive education practices
Sept. 2009 until 2015	Community Consultant, Al-Aman Fund for the Future of Orphans, Jordan	Running workshops the aim of which is enabling the orphans of becoming more academically self-regulated university students at different Jordanian cities
May 2010	Community Consultant, Community Based Rehabilitation Program (CBRP), Mutah University	Providing the in-service teachers in north of Jordan with the latest developments in the field of teaching the children with Special Educational Needs

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**Conferences:**

- The Teaching and Learning Conference in the Arab World, Yarmouk Uni - Irbid, Jordan, April 2019.
- The 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of Arab Council for Gifted and Talented; The Educational Reform and Gifted Education, Jordan, 8-9 Nov. 2015.
- Invited keynote speaker at Special Education and Learning Disabilities in the Arab World Conference organized by the Union of Arab Universities, Jordan, 22-23 Nov. 2013.
- Planning and participating in "Evaluation of Hearing and Speech Services at the Jordanian Northern Provinces" workshop, Feb. 2013.
- Developing Practice for Teachers of Autistic Children Conference, The Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities (HCAPD) in corporation with National Autistic Society- UK, 23-26 May 2010.
- The 13<sup>th</sup> Biennial EARLI Conference: Fostering Communities of Learners, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 25-29 August 2009.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Conference of EARLI Special Interest Group 16: Metacognition: Ioannina, Greece, 13-16 May 2008.
- The 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial EARLI Conference: Developing Potentials for Learning, Budapest, Hungary, 28 August– 1 September 2007.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Conference of EARLI Special Interest Group 16 Metacognition:. Cambridge, The United Kingdom, 19–21 July 2006.
- Educational and Learning Problems Conference, Al- Hariri Foundation, Lebanon, 2-6 May 2003.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> Conference for Specialists in the Field of 'Deaf Education', Al-Sharjah City for Humanitarian Services, United Arab Emirates, 26-29 November 1999.
- The National Conference for Evaluating the Needs of Pupils with Special Needs in Jordan, Nour Al- Hussein Foundation, Amman, 2-4 March 1998.

**Research Interests:**

- Individuals with special educational needs
- Families of children with disabilities
- Inclusive education practices and independent learning
- Pre and in-service training of people working with students with disabilities
- Community awareness regarding issues of persons with disabilities

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***On going Research projects;***

- Evaluation of School for All in the UAE
- The Exploration of the Relationship Between Prenatal Self-efficacy and Stress for Parents of Children with Special Educational Needs.
- The Relationship between Metacognition and Self-esteem among University Students with Different Special Educational Needs.
- The Effectiveness of Using 'Reflective Journal' to Enhance Academic Self-regulation among M.A. Degree Students Special Education.

**Publications:**

❖ ***Refereed Journal Articles, Research Report & Book Chapters;***

- Almeqdad, Q.,** Zboun, A. Sloan, L., & Muhaidat, M. (2021) The Quality of Media Coverage on Issues Regarding People with Disabilities: Perspectives of Journalists and Teachers in Jordan. *International Journal of Disability, Development and Education*, 1-16. DOI: [10.1080/1034912X.2020.1870667](https://doi.org/10.1080/1034912X.2020.1870667)
- Mohaidat, M., Al-Odat, A. & **Almeqdad, Q.** (2020). Inclusive Education Practices for Refugee Children with Disabilities in Jordanian Schools. *The International Journal of Early Childhood Special Education*. 12(2), 147-153. DOI: [10.9756/INT-IECSE/V12I2.201066](https://doi.org/10.9756/INT-IECSE/V12I2.201066)
- Younis, N., Al-Masadeh, M., Homidi, M., **AlMeqdad, Q.** & Almekanin, H. (2020). The role of the Jordanian media in addressing the issues of persons with disabilities from the perspective of their families. *Journal of Educational and Social Research*. 10(6), x. DOI: [10.36941/jesr-2020-0108](https://doi.org/10.36941/jesr-2020-0108)
- Almeqdad, Q.,** & Al-Bawaneh, E. (2019) *The Effectiveness of a Training Program Based on Drama on Developing Social Skills among Intellectually Disabled Children in Province of Irbid*. Paper presented at the International Conference of Teaching and Learning in the Arab World: Irbid, Jordan, (2) 915-938.
- Almeqdad, Q.,** Al-Hamouri, F., A. Zghoul, R., Al-Rousan, A., & Whitebread, D. (2016). Cross Cultural Indicators of Independent Learning in Young Children: A Jordanian Case. *The Spanish Journal of Psychology*. 19, (eX), 1–11. DOI: [10.1017/sjp.2016.35](https://doi.org/10.1017/sjp.2016.35)
- Alshqran, H., **Almeqdad, Q.,** Alshraifeen, A., & Mehidat, M. (2015). Counseling Students Perceptions of School Counselor's Duties towards Students with Special Needs. *An-Najah University Journal for Research – Humanities*. 29 (3), 482-512.
- Almeqdad, Q.,** & Kana'aneh, M. (2014). The Effectiveness of Pictured Letters Mnemonics Strategy on Learning Similar Arabic Language Letters among Learning Disabled Students in Jordan. *Jordan Journal of Educational Sciences*. 10 (2), 145-159.

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- Muhaidat, M., & **AlMeqdad, Q.** (Accepted: 2020). The degree to which Parental Stress contribute to predicting the perceived need for social support among mothers of children with autism spectrum disorder in Jordan. *Mu'tah Lil-Buhuth wald-Dirasat Journal*.
- Mehidat, M., **Almeqdad, Q.**, & Tashtoush, R., (2014). The Possession degree of Knowledge Competencies and Required Skills for Teachers of Autistic Children in Jordan. *The Sharjah Journal for Humanities and Social Sciences*. 11 (2), 67-104.
- Tashtoush, R., Momani, F., Alshqran, H., & **Almeqdad, Q.** (2014). Counselor's Image among Students in the Faculty of Educational Sciences at the University of Yarmouk. *The King Khalid University Journal*. Vol (21).319-352.
- Almeqdad, Q.**, & Al-Jarah, A. (2013). The Level of Self-Regulated Learning among Gifted and none Gifted Students in Jordan. *Mu'tah Lil-Buhuth wald-Dirasat Journal*.
- Almeqdad, Q.** (2013). Learners with Learning Disabilities: Translated Chapter: **In Hallahan, D. L., Kuffman, J. M., & Pullen, P. C. (12<sup>th</sup> Edition) Exceptional Learners: An Introduction to Special Education.** Dar Alfiker Publishing & Distributing: Amman. (83-124).
- Almeqdad, Q.** (2013). The Degree of CEC Standards Available in the University Special Education Programs According to Jordan Universities Faculty Members. *The Educational Journal. Ain-Shams University*, 37 (3), 790-823.
- Almeqdad, Q.**, Alzaraa, N., Yunis, N., & Abu-Foudeh, B. (2012). The Effectiveness of a Training Program Based on Multi-media Social Stories Methods on the Development of Social Behaviors among a Sample of Students with Mild Mental Retardation in Jordan. *The Association of Arab Universities Journal for Education & Psychology*.
- Almeqdad, Q.**, Bataineh, O., & Al-Jarah, A. (2011). The Level of Social Skills amongst Students with and without Learning Disabilities in Jordan According to their Teachers. *Jordan Journal of Educational Sciences*, 7 (3): 253-273.
- Whitebread, D., **Almeqdad, Q.**, Bryce, D., Demetriou, D., Grau, V., & Sangster, C. (2010). Metacognition in young children: current methodological and theoretical developments. **In Efkliides, A. & Misailidi, P. (eds) Trends and Prospects in Metacognition Research.** Springer.
- Almeqdad, Q.** (2010). Evaluation the Needs and Services of Special Education Centers in Jordan. Research Report: *The Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities (HCAPD), Amman- Jordan.*
- Whitebread, D., **Almeqdad, Q.**, Bryce, D., Demetriou, D., Grau, V., & Sangster, C. (2010). Metacognition in young children: current methodological and theoretical developments. **In: Efkliides, A. & Misailidi, P. (eds.) Trends and Prospects in Metacognition Research, Chapter 11, pp 233-258,** Springer, New York, USA.
- Whitebread, D., Coltman, P., Pasternak, D., Sangster, C., Grau, V., Bingham, S., **Almeqdad, Q.** & Demetriou, D. (2009). The development of two observational tools for assessing metacognition and self-regulated learning in young children. *Metacognition and*



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*Learning*. 4: 63-85.

❖ ***Selected Conference Articles;***

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2013). Challenges and aspirations of special educational needs in Arab countries. Special Education and Learning Disabilities in the Arab World Conference organized by the Union of Arab Universities, Jordan, Nov. 22-23.

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2009). *Exploratory Metacognitive Intervention for Children with Difficulties in Learning*. Paper presented at The EARLI Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 25-29.

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2008). *Self-explanation in children with learning difficulties: differences in age, ability and academic achievement*. Paper presented at 3<sup>rd</sup> biennial meeting of EARLI Special Interest Group 16: Metacognition: Ioannina, Greece.

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2007). *Exploration of Self-explanation Amongst Children with Learning Difficulties*. Paper presented at The EARLI Conference, Budapest, Hungary, August 27-28.

**Almeqdad, Q.** (2006). *Self-explanation in Children with Learning Difficulties: Primary Findings*. Paper presented at 2nd Biennial meeting of EARLI Special Interest Group 16: Metacognition: Cambridge, The United Kingdom, July 19–21.

**Grants and Awards:**

- Research fund from Deanship of Research- Yarmouk university, Principal Investigator, a contribution of JOD 3028.000.00 towards the systematic review and metanalysis of universal design for learning.
- Startup grant from Zayed University; Principal Investigator, a contribution of AED 15.000.00 towards the School for All evaluation program, Ministry of Education, UAE
- PhD. Scholarship from Yarmouk University 2004-2008 to work on PhD in Special Education at the University of Cambridge.
- Board of Graduate Studies Award at the University of Cambridge 2005-2007
- Bill Gates Trust Award for Overseas Students at the University of Cambridge 2006-2007

**Membership of Committees, Boards and Councils:**

- Member of the Advisory Council for People of Determination, UAE, 2017- 2020
- The Jordanian Organization of the Psychological Sciences
- BERA British Educational Research Association
- European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction EARLI ([Metacognition and Special Education Special Interest Groups](#)).
- Life Member of Homerton College, University of Cambridge.
- Oxbridge Graduate Arab Students Society.

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- Psychology & Neurosciences in Education Academic Group, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge
- Self- regulated Learning Academic Group, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge.

**Editorship and Refereeing Activities:**

- Member of the Advisory Editorial Board of Journal of Education
- Referee in the field of SEN for a number of academic journals

**Teaching Experience**

B.A. Courses	M.A. Courses
Special Education	The Psychology of Children with Special Educational Needs
Learning Disabilities	Seminar in Disabilities
Counseling of the Creative & Slow Learners	Evaluation and Assessment of Children with Special Educational Needs
Counseling the Gifted & Talented	Internship in Special Educational Needs
Counseling Children with SEN and their Families	Seminar in Learning Disabilities
Psychological Testing	Trends and issues in Special Educational Needs
Introduction to Counseling	Identification and Assessment in People with Behavioral and Learning Difficulties
Communication in Counseling	Exploring Diversity
Life Skills	
Adulthood and Aging	
People with Special Educational Needs	
Early Childhood Development	
Research and Measurement in Education	
Inernship: Students Teaching	
Patnrship with Families and Communities	
Inclusive Education	

**Graduate supervision & Samples of Masters' Thesis:**

*Internal and external examiner of more than 50 Masters' and PhD theses*

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**References:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Dr. Anna Dillon</b>	Associate Professor Ex. Chair	College of Education, Zayed University P.O. Box 4783 AUH, UAE Phone (00971) 2 5993232 <a href="mailto:anna.dillon@zu.ac.ae">anna.dillon@zu.ac.ae</a>
<b>Dr. David Whitebred</b>	Professor - MPhil & PhD Supervisor	Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, 184 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 8PQ, UK + 44 1223 767564 <a href="mailto:dgw1004@cam.ac.uk">dgw1004@cam.ac.uk</a>
<b>Prof. Adnan Autom</b>	Ex. President	Aal Al Bait University, 25113. AlMafrq – JORDAN 00962 79 5636289 <a href="mailto:Atoum@yu.edu.jo">Atoum@yu.edu.jo</a>