

Dr. Clara Srouji-Shajrawi

**Department of Arabic Language
and Literature**

University of Haifa

1. Personal Details

Place of birth: Haifa, Israel.

Family status: married + one son.

Languages: Fluent: Arabic, Hebrew, English; Partial knowledge: French & German.

Email Address: clarsh@research.haifa.ac.il

Fields of Interest

Modern Arabic Literature, Reception of the *Arabian Nights*, Western Literary Theory and Criticism, Western Philosophy, Arabic-Islamic Philosophy.

2. Higher Education

a. Undergraduate and Graduate Studies

Period of Study	Name of Institution and Department	Degree
1977-1981	University of Haifa, Department of Philosophy, Department of Arabic Language and Literature	B.A. (with distinction)
1982-1989	University of Haifa, Department of Philosophy	M.A. (with distinction)
2006-2009	University of Haifa, Department of Arabic Language and Literature	Ph.D. (Summa Cum Laude)

3. Academic Ranks and Tenure in Institutes of Higher Education

Years	Name of Institution and Department	Rank/Position
October 2009-current	University of Haifa, Department of Arabic Language and Literature	Teaching Fellow B

4. Scholarly Positions and Activities outside the University

Years	Memberships in Academic Professional Associations
2012-2013	Member of the Arabic Language Academy (Haifa). Membership in the committee of research and publication.
2013-2015	Scientific coordinator of the Arabic Language Academy.

Years	Reviewing for Refereed Journal (see list for details)
2011	<i>Al-Majma': Studies in Arabic Language, Literature and Thought</i>
2012	<i>Al-Majalla</i> , The Arabic Language Academy
2013	<i>Al-Majma': Studies in Arabic Language, Literature and Thought</i>
2015	<i>Middle Eastern Literatures</i>

Years	Reviewing for Fund Agencies
2016	Short Story Competition organized by the Arditi Foundation for Intercultural Dialogue
Years	Reviewing of Books for Refereed Publications (see list)
2010	The Arabic Language Academy (Haifa)
2011	The Arabic Language Academy (Haifa)
2011	Al-Qasemi Arabic Language Academy
2014	Open University (OUI – Press)

Reviewing for Refereed Journal - Details

“Place Depiction in the Novels of Haydar Haydar”. Article, Published by *Al-Majma‘: Studies in Arabic Language, Literature and Thought*, vol. 5 (2011), pp. 149-188. (Written in Arabic).

“Reflections of ‘Abd al-Raḥmān al-Kawākibī’s Doctrine in Zakariyyā Tāmir’s Writings”. Article submitted to *Al-Majalla*, The Arabic Language Academy, Haifa (2012). (Written in English).

“Manuscript of “Al-Jawāher al-muntazamāt fī ‘uqūd al-maqūlāt” by al-Sijā‘ī”. Article, Published in: *Al-Majma‘: Studies in Arabic Language, Literature and Thought*, vol. 7 (2013), pp. 1-28. (Written in Arabic).

“Strange Bedfellows: The Crisis of Modernity in Najīb Maḥfūẓ’s *al-Qāhira al-Jadīda* (Cairo Modern)”. Article submitted to *Middle Eastern Literatures*, 2015 (Written in English).

Reviewing of Books for Refereed Publications - Details

The Depiction of Men in the Stories of Ghāda al-Sammān. Submitted to *The Arabic Language Academy*, Haifa (2010). (Written in Arabic).

Metafiction in the Modern Arabic Novel. Published by al-Qasemi Arabic Language Academy, 2011 (Written in Arabic).

The Arabic Novel in Israel: A Critical Study of the Works of Emile Ḥabībī. Published by The Arabic Language Academy, Haifa, 2011 (Written in English).

Exile and Revelation in Lawrence Durrell’s ‘The Alexandria Quartet’. Submitted to the Open University, 2014. (Written in Hebrew).

5. Active Participation in Scholarly Conferences

a1. International Conferences - Held in Israel

Date	Name of Conference	Place of Conference	Subject of Lecture/Discussion	Role
19.03.2016	Manifestations of Travel in the Spaces of Arabic Literature and Islamic Culture	Al-Qasemi Academy – Baqa al-Gharbiyya	The Journey of Ibn Faṭṭūma to al-Fārābī’s Ignorant Cities	Lecturer
11.1.2017	Outcast Voices: Reflections on the Marginalized, the Exiled and the Secondary	University of Haifa	The Road of the <i>Ḥarfūsh</i> towards <i>Futuwwa</i> : The Slave-Master Dialectic in <i>Malḥamat al-Ḥarāfīsh</i> by Najīb Maḥfūẓ	Lecturer

	in Classical and Modern Arabic Culture			
12.1.2017	Outcast Voices: Reflections on the Marginalized, the Exiled and the Secondary in Classical and Modern Arabic Culture	University of Haifa		Head of Panel

a2. Local Conferences

Date	Name of Conference	Place of Conference	Subject of Lecture/Discussion	Role
6.5.2010	Annual Conference in Memory of Prof. David Semah	University of Haifa	The Literary Work as a Product for Consumption: The Case of Aḥlām Mustaghānamī	Lecturer
22.1.2011	Modern Palestinian Poetry in Israel	Al-Qasemi Academy – Baqa al-Gharbiyya	The Critical Study of Modern Arabic Poetry	Lecturer, Moderator
6.3.2011	Colloquium in Honor of Prof. Shimon Ballas	University of Haifa	Shimon Ballas as Scholar and Translator	Head of Panel
12.5.2011	Annual Conference in Memory of Prof. David Semah	University of Haifa	Modern Arabic Literature	Head of Panel
12.12.2011	A Tribute to Naguib Mahfouz on his Birth Centenary	University of Haifa	The Aesthetic Function of Dreams in <i>The Beggar</i>	Lecturer
8.1.2012	Najīb Maḥfūz on the Centenary of his Birth	The Academic Arab College of Education,	Why did Maḥfūz's Trilogy Capture the Western Market?	Lecturer

		Haifa		
12.6.2012	The Horizon of Reception Studies: Literature and Beyond	Ben Gurion University	A Model for Applying Reception Theory to the Modern Arabic Novel: The Case of Memory in the Flesh	Lecturer
15.12.2012	Conference of the Arabic Language Academy	Al-Midān Theatre - Haifa	Symposium in honor of Prof. Sasson Somekh	Head of Panel
16.03.2013	Symposium celebrating four years of publications by al-Qasemi Academy	Al-Qasemi Academy – Baqa al-Gharbiyya	Short lecture about my book “The Reception Theory in Modern Arabic Literature”	Lecturer
30.04.2013	Annual Conference in Memory of Prof. David Semah	University of Haifa	Al-Rāzī versus al-Fārābī on the Multiplicity of Religions	Lecturer
05.06.2013	Monthly Seminar at the Department of Arabic Language and Literature	University of Haifa	A Meeting with the Poet Rushdī al-Māḍī	Interviewer discussing the most representative features in the poetry of Rushdī al-Māḍī
25.03.2014	The Fifth Conference on Palestinian Literature	University of Haifa	The Mechanisms of Belonging in Palestinian Literature	Head of Panel
16-17.05.2016	Conference on Arabic Palestinian Creativity: Art, Music, Literature, Poetry and Theatre	University of Haifa	Palestinian Literature and Censorship in Israel	Head of Panel

b. **Organization of Conferences or Sessions**

Year	Name of Conference	Place of Conference	Subject of Conference	Role
2012-2014	Annual Conference in Memory of Prof. David Semah	University of Haifa		Active member of the Committee for the Organization of Conferences and Sessions
2012-2014	Annual Conference on Palestinian Literature	University of Haifa		Active member of the Committee for the Organization of Conferences and Sessions

6. **Teaching**

a. **Courses Taught in Recent Years**

Years	Name of Course	Type of Course Lecture/Seminar/ Workshop/ Online Course/ Introduction Course (Mandatory)	Level	Number of Students
2010	Arabic Grammar A	Mandatory Course	B. A.	28
2010-2017	Modern Arabic Literary Texts	Mandatory Course	B. A.	25-30
2010-2012	Chapters in Islamic Philosophy	Optional Course	B. A.	29
2012	Political Philosophy: Al-Fārābī as a Paradigm	Mandatory Course	M. A. (Teachers' Program)	25
2012	The Art of Trilogy in Modern Arabic Literature: Mustaghānamī's Trilogy as a Paradigm	Mandatory Course	M. A. (Teachers' Program)	25
2013	Women and Men in the Trilogy of	Mandatory Course	M. A. (Teachers' Program)	25

	Najīb Maḥfūz			
2013 2015 2016 2017	Introduction to Islamic Philosophy	Mandatory Course	M. A. (Teachers' Program)	25 21 20 21
2014	Political Philosophy in Islam	Mandatory Course	M. A. (Teachers' Program)	21
2014	Classic Arabic Literary Texts	Mandatory Course	B. A.	28
2015 2016 2017	The Arabian Nights in the Arab and Western Worlds	Mandatory Course	M. A. (Teachers' Program)	21
2016 2017	Literary Techniques in Najīb Maḥfūz's Works	Optional Course	B. A.	29 23

7. Miscellaneous

Teaching before Ph.D.

1980-1982: Teacher of English and Arabic, Convent of Nazareth High School, Haifa.

1982-1989: Assistant Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, and Department of Arabic Language and Literature, University of Haifa.

1992-2010: Teacher of Arabic, Salvatorian Sisters High School, Nazareth.

Scholarships During Ph.D. Studies

2008 and 2009: Ph.D. Scholarship, Dean of Graduate Studies Office, University of Haifa, (NIS 48000 each year).

Other Scholarships

1977-1989: Almost every year in my studies for the B. A. and M. A. I received a scholarship from the University of Haifa.

Honorary Certificate

1987: Certificate of Appreciation for Distinction in Academic Studies from the Knesset (Israeli Parliament).

PUBLICATIONS

A. Ph.D. Dissertation

Title: *Reception Theory in the Modern Arabic Novel: An Applied Study in Two Trilogies by N. Mahfouz and A. Mosteghanemi*

Date of submission: May 2009

Number of pages: 521

Language: Arabic

Name of supervisor: Prof. Ibrahim Taha

University: University of Haifa

Publications: B1

B. Scientific Books (Refereed)

Authored Books – Published

B1) 2011. **Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara.** *Reception Theory in the Modern Arabic Novel: An Applied Study in Two Trilogies by N. Mahfūz and A. Mustaghānamī.* Baqa Al-Gharbiyya: Al-Qasemi Arabic Language Academy, 648 pages. (Written in Arabic).

C. Articles in Refereed Journals

Published

C1) 2011. **Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara.** “Love, Sex and Mysticism in the Search for the meaning of Life: Naguib Mahfouz’s *Al-Shaḥḥādh* as the Herald of Modernism”. In *Al-Majma‘: Studies in Arabic Language, Literature and Thought*, vol. 5, pp. 25-76.

C2) 2011-2012. **Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara.** “Convergence and Divergence between Abū Bakr al-Rāzī and Secular Humanism”. In *Al-Karmil: Studies in Arabic Language and Literature*, vol. 32-33, pp. 200-235. (Written in Arabic).

C3) 2012. **Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara.** “The Role of Religion in al-Fārābī’s Virtuous City”. In *Al-Majma‘: Studies in Arabic Language, Literature and Thought*, vol. 6, pp. 1-36.

C4) 2013. **Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara.** “A Model for Applying Jauss’ Reception Theory: The Role of Rumors in the Reception of “*Memory in the Flesh*””. In *Madarat (Orbits) – Studies in Thought, Culture and Literature*, vol. 6, pp. 1-23.

C5) 2013-2014. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. “When Fantasy Becomes Reality in “*Chaos of the Senses*” by Aḥlām Mustaghānamī”. In *Al-Karmil: Studies in Arabic Language and Literature*, vol. 34-35. pp. 9-46.

C6) 2014. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. “The Shadow of Hegel in *The Cairo Trilogy*”. In *Middle Eastern Literatures*, vol. 17, no. 1: 1-24.

C7) 2014. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. “Eroticism and the Passion for “Return”. In “*North Towards the Stone of Waiting*” by Rushdī al-Māḍī”. In *al-Majalla – Journal of the Arabic Language Academy*, vol. 5, pp. 91-127. (Written in Arabic)

C8) 2014. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. “Laylā and the Wolf’: A Simple Children’s Story? A Comparative Study”. In *Al-Majma’: Studies in Arabic Language, Literature and Thought*, vol. 8, pp. 101-156. (Written in Arabic).

C9) 2015. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. “*Fingers (Aṣābe’)* by Monā Dhāher: A Continuous Song of Love for an Inky Man”. In *Al-Majma’: Studies in Arabic Language, Literature and Thought*, vol. 9, pp. 245-278. (Written in Arabic)

C10) 2015. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. “Phenomenology of Perception in “*The Coffeehouse Tales*” by Maysūn Asadī”, In *al-Majalla – Journal of the Arabic Language Academy*, vol. 6, pp. 73-102. (Written in Arabic)

C11) 2015. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. “The Aesthetic function of Dreams in Three Literary Works by Naguib Mahfouz”. In *Al-Karmil: Studies in Arabic Language and Literature*, vol. 36, pp. 53-98. (Written in Arabic)

Accepted for Publication

C12) 2017. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. “The Journey of Ibn Faṭṭūma to al-Farābī’s Ignorant (*jāhiliyya*) Cities”. In *Al-Majma’: Studies in Arabic Language, Literature and Thought*, vol. 11 (*forthcoming*).

D. Entries in Encyclopedias

D1) 2011. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. “Najī Dhāher: The Odyssey of the Quest for Sīrīn”. In: Yasin Kittani (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Researches and Studies in Modern Palestinian Literature: (1) Local Literature*. Baqa Al-Gharbiyya: Al-Qasemi Arabic Language Academy, pp. 465-476. (Written in Arabic).

E. Other Scientific Publications

Review of Books

E1) Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara: Sharon Shitrit Sasson. *Between the Wild Thorns and the Sunflower in the Writing of the Palestinian Female Authors Fadwā Tūqān and Saḥar Khalīfa*. Tel-Aviv: Resling Publishing, 2015. (237 pages in Hebrew).

The review was accepted for publication in *Jama'a: Interdisciplinary Journal for the Study of the Middle East*. (About 9 pages written in Hebrew).

F. Other Works and Publications

F1) 2012. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. Translation from English and Hebrew into Arabic of the following dictionary:

Al-Sayyid Bedouin Sign Language: A Dictionary. Compiled and Edited by Irit Meir, Wendy Sandler, Carol Padden and Mark Aronoff. Sign Language Research Lab, University of Haifa.

F2) 2016. Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. Inclusion in Marquis Who's Who in the World (33rd Edition).

G. Submitted Publications

G1) Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. "Naguib Mahfouz". A chapter for The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to World Literature (vol. 5).

H. Summary of Activities and Future Plans

Clara Srouji-Shajrawi received her Ph.D. from the University of Haifa in May 2010. Her Ph.D. dissertation (summa cum laude), entitled "*Reception Theory in the Modern Arabic Novel: An Applied Study in Two Trilogies by N. Maḥfūz and A. Mustaghānamī*", was supervised by Prof. Ibrahim Taha, University of Haifa.

In her study she elaborated the Reception Theory (*Rezeptionästhetik*) of Hans Robert Jauss (1921-1997) and developed it into a suitable hermeneutical method that measures the reception of a literary text as a function of the audience's taste in different times and places.

She believes that only an interdisciplinary attitude towards the literary text can assess its importance and contribution to culture. Therefore, she uses history, sociology, philosophy, and various literary theories to study the literary text. Thus, “the two cultures” of the sciences and the humanities are not split, but rather complementary and necessary for the intellectual life. The literary text can explore and analyze the socio-political and psychological problems, and the existential crisis of the modern human being no less than the scientific and theoretical books on these subjects. Therefore, she studies modern Arabic literature taking into account both its local socio-historical context and the global aesthetic/critical considerations.

The impact of Western philosophical and socio-psychological theories on modern Arabic literature turns it into a vital part of “world literature” that is relevant to readers outside its national boundaries. Issues such as gender-dynamics in the Islamic countries, the existential and political crisis of the ‘citizen’ living under a despotic regime, contemporary Palestinian literary works, and the tension or conflict between secularism and religious fundamentalism are all of relevance in a global framework. Modern translations enable the writer to address the wide international public as potential readers, instead of being confined to his local linguistic community.

Her studies in the Department of Philosophy, University of Haifa, have been a great aid in her researches. She received her M.A. degree with distinction (1989) for writing a thesis entitled “*Wittgenstein: Cartesianism, Behaviourism and the Analysis of Pain*”, supervised by Prof. Ezra Talmor.

Another related field of interest in her researches is Arabic-Islamic Philosophy, especially the period from the 9th till 12th century. She tries to show that Arabic-Islamic philosophical texts prefigured the Enlightenment and ‘Secularism’ in the Western World. The success of Arabic Islamic civilization was due to its openness to other cultures (Greek, Persian, Indian, etc.). Thus the horizon of expectations of the ‘ancient’ texts should be fused with the contemporary horizon of expectations in order to have a fruitful interactive/dialogical reading process.

In Preparation

Srouji-Shajrawi, Clara. *Ṭawāf* (Wandering) (a collection of short stories in Arabic).