

# Newsletter

# Department Social Work

School of Applied Humanities and Languages

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Nr. 1 | October – December 2021



الجامعة الألمانية الأردنية  
German Jordanian University

# Welcome

Starting the academic year 2021/2022, a quarterly newsletter will be published from the Department of Social Work at the School of Applied Humanities and Languages (SAHL), to share with you some of the activities and news that took place at the department during the semester.



## About the Department of Social Work

<http://www.gju.edu.jo/content/departement-social-work-6494>

# Some Changes in October 2021

Upon our return to the campus in October , we were still readjusting to quite a few changes since the outbreak of Covid-19. SAHL has moved to another building and our offices are now in building B at the Madaba Campus. Some changes in positions and duties at the Department are:

- Dr. Bader AlMadi is Head of Department.
- Prof. Christine Huth-Hildebrandt is Exchange Coordinator.
- Dr. Rawan Ibrahim took a year off.
- Ms. Khalida Radaideh left the Department.
- Ms. Sara AlHussein is now research and teaching assistant at the Department.

## Back to Campus and welcome meeting at SABE and SAHL



SAHL on Main Campus



President Prof. Alaaldeen Al-Halhouli with Dean Prof. Salah Alsaman



On the right the Head of Department Dr. Bader Madi at SABE

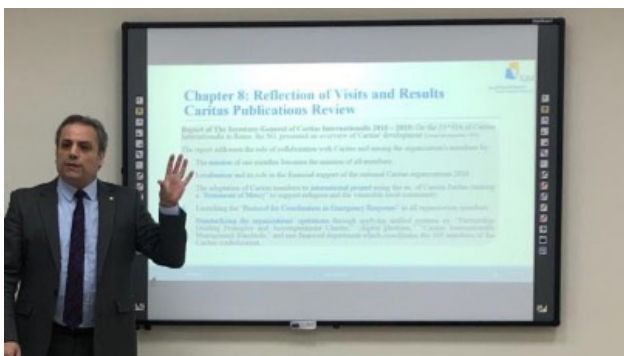


# Defenses of MA Theses



**Noor Radwan Fakherddin Achkar** defended her MA Thesis “Factors contributing to Syrian Refugees remaining in Jordan or returning to Syria: Political and Practice Implications for the Humanitarian Sector.”

**Congratulations on her graduation!**



**Adib MHD Faisal Ghazi** defended his MA Thesis “Refugee Livelihood and Economic Inclusion Programs in Jordan and Germany, A Case Study of Caritas Organizations in Amman and Berlin. “

**Congratulations on his graduation!**



# Workshops During the Summer Semester

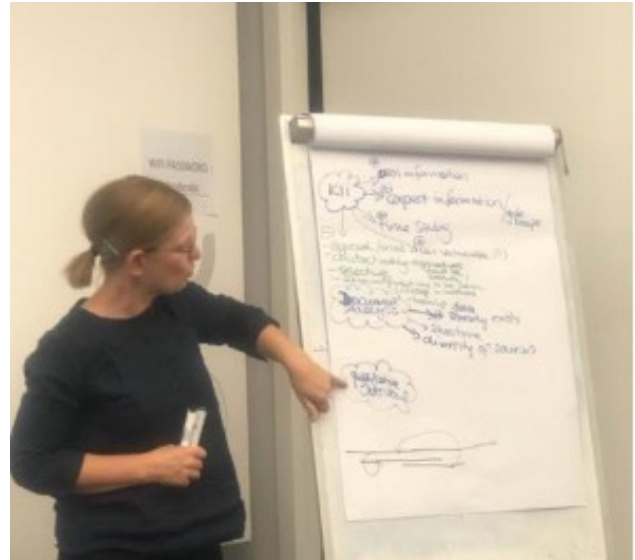
We started a workshop series with the help of Fly-in faculty member Dr. Vera Taube from the University of Applied Sciences Würzburg-Schweinfurt (FHWS), to introduce our students to academic writing for the preparation of their proposals and to guide them with their theses.

The workshop was very well received by the students where they attested that it was of great help to them. All those who participated finalized their proposals in time.

A second workshop was led by Ms. Aimee Ghanem, who worked at the AttiMa Project, a cooperation Project from the FHWS Wuerzburg in coordination with the Department, which outlined for students the process of doing research.

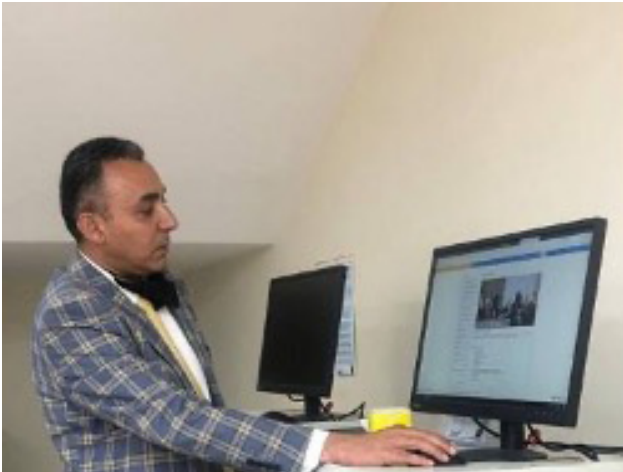
A third workshop is in the plans. This one will

aim at analyzing data with the help of MAX-QDA, a software package for qualitative and mixed research methods. We hope that colleagues from Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences and the University of Kassel will help in holding this workshop.



## How to use the library

As usual, at the beginning of a new academic year Mr. Laith Alnaser gives an introduction workshop on using the library.



## Further activities

### Symposium - The Crisis of Democracy and the Triumph of Weapons

Dr. Bader AlMadi participated in a symposium hosted by the Institute for Politics and Society titled “The Crisis of Democracy and the Triumph of Weapons,” which focused on the impact of Tunisian and Afghan developments on the political situation in the Arab region.



## AttiMa – International Social Action in Crises – Attitude matters

The University of Applied Sciences Würzburg-Schweinfurt (FHWS) conducted its third co-operation with the Lebanese American University (LAU) in Lebanon and the German Jordanian University (GJU). Blended mobilities on the topic of “International Social Work in Crisis Situations” have so far taken place with students from the three universities, under the theme “International Social Action in Crises - Attitude matters”. The thematic focus was on violence prevention and conflict transformation. The FHWS and GJU had a ‘summer school’ together.

### International Social Work: Violence Prevention and Conflict Transformation

Co-operation of FHWS & GJU, DAAD Project AttiMa

Date	Jordanian Time	German Time	Topic	Responsible
Thu 20 <sup>th</sup> May	5am-8pm	4-7 pm	Introduction to International Social Work: Violence Prevention and Conflict Transformation; getting to know each other	Hannah Reich Lisa / Farah
Fr 21 <sup>st</sup> May	10am-1pm pm	9am – 12 am	Introduction to Violence	Hannah Reich
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> May	6pm - 8pm	5pm-7pm	Introduction to Documentary filming with mobile phones (Introduction)	Hannah Reich/ Alexander Pinker
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> June	11 pm - 7pm	10 am-6 pm	Documentary filming with mobile phones	Alexander Pinker
Thu 17 <sup>th</sup> June	5pm-8pm	4pm-7pm	Violence Prevention in Germany 2 hours Expert lectures: <i>Strohalm e.V. sexual violence prevention in kindergarden/ school</i> ; <i>Research about HEROES Projekt by Katja Köder/ group discussion</i>	Hannah Reich Lisa / Farah
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> July	10:00-11:15am 11:30-12:30pm 12:45-2:15pm 3:30-5:00pm	9:00-10:15am 10:30-11:30am 11:45-1:15pm 2:30-4:00pm	Lecture Conflict Resolution Jordan (Dr. Bader Madi) Mediation in Conflicts and the Tribal Law in Jordan (Farah Al Hamouri) Tribal Law vs. Civil Law (Tribal judge Sheikh Talal Setan) Women rights in Islam - marriage, divorce, inheritance (Shari'a judge Dr. Marzouk Al Shurufat)	Christine Huth- Hildebrandt / Farah
Thu 8 <sup>th</sup> July	9:00am-11:30am 3-6pm	8:00am-10:30am 2-5pm	Violence Prevention – practical strategies <i>SOLWODI – Working with clients who experienced violence (Bernadette Nyamekye)</i> <i>Project "Motherschools &amp; Fatherschools" by Migranten für Migranten e.V.</i> <i>Workshop on communication with children, by Renate Bröckel (3hours)</i>	Hannah Reich Lisa / Farah
Fr 9 <sup>th</sup> July	7pm-9pm	6pm-8pm	"17" Movie about empowerment of women in Jordan through sports, discussion with film director Widad Shafakoj	Hannah/ Lisa / Farah
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> July	10am-12:30pm 2:30-5:30pm	9am-11:30am 1:30-4:30pm	Honor-killing in Jordan (journalist Nadine Al Nimri)/ Discussion Gender-Based Violence in the Arab World (CHH) Family group work; wrap up and evaluation	Christine Huth- Hildebrandt / Farah Hannah/ Lisa





## International Network of Religious Communities and Sustainable Development

An Agreement of Cooperation was signed with the Humboldt-University to extend the **International Network of Religious Communities and Sustainable Development' to the ME Region** in cooperation with colleagues from Lebanon and Iraq. At the end of the year a first meeting will take place at the GJU to prepare first steps for this cooperation.

## Book talk “Palestinian Refugees in International Law”

At the German Jordanian University (GJU) a book-talk about: Francesca P. Albanese and Lex Takkenberg's “Palestinian Refugees in International Law” (2nd Edition)



**BOOK TALK: PALESTINIAN REFUGEES IN INTERNATIONAL LAW**

WITH THE AUTHORS:  
FRANCESCA ALBANESE & DR. LEX TAKKENBERG

PLUS DISCUSSANTS:  
DR. OROUB EL ABED & DAOUD KUTTAB

AND MODERATED BY:  
PROF. DR. RALF ROßKOPF

6:30-8:30 pm  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
JABAL AMMAN, MUATH BEN JABAL STREET, BLDG NO. 5

**BOOK ABSTRACT:**  
The Palestinian refugee question, resulting from the events surrounding the birth of the State of Israel seventy years ago, remains one of the largest and most protracted refugee crises of the post-Second World War era. Numbering over six million in the Near East alone, Palestinian refugee status varies considerably according to the state or territory 'hosting' them, the UN agency assisting them, and political circumstances surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict these refugees are reluctantly associated with. Despite being foundational to both the experience of the Palestinian refugees and the resolution to their plight, international law is often sidelined in political discussions concerning their fate. Francesca Albanese's and Lex Takkenberg's new book, *Palestinian Refugees in International Law* offers a clear and comprehensive analysis of the Palestinian-refugee question in light of various areas of international law, shedding light on the distinctive regime set up for them, their status and rights (as refugees, often stateless persons, protected at times of war and internal displacement) but also their actual treatment in about fifty countries. It ultimately probes the relevance of international norms to the provision of international protection for Palestinian refugees and their quest for durable solutions.

Authors Francesca Albanese and Lex Takkenberg will join in a conversation with Dr. Oroub El- Abed, a Lead researcher (Jordan based) at Center for Lebanese Studies / Lebanese American University and Daoud Kuttab, Award winning Journalist. Moderated by Prof. Dr. Ralf Roßkopf, Vice President for International Affairs at the German Jordanian University (GJU)



<https://opil.ouplaw.com/.../97801987840.../law-9780198784043> <https://www.canlii.org/en/commentary/doc/1999CanLIIDocs10...>



## Field Visit and field observation

The first field visit was conducted with the 25 incoming students from the Certificate program. Under the theme of gender, they got an introduction to the work of women's cooperatives in Jordan and visited the Iraq Al-Amir Women's Association.

<https://www.trafalgar.com/real-word/iraq-al-amir-womens-cooperative/>



# Activities in November 2021

Caritas Jordan, Starkmacher e.V. Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen, and Prof. Sahar Al-Makhamreh from the Social Work Department initiated a day event with information and workshops on the project made by the two organizations: “Promotion of non-violent conflict resolution in Jordanian schools as a contribution to transformation processes and the development of civil society”

<https://www.caritasjordan.org.jo/schools-without-violence>





# German week at GJU

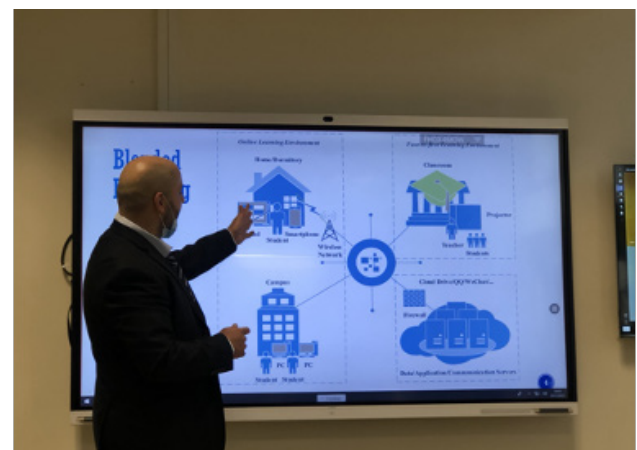
## Jordanian-German Network

This year the Jordanian-German Network meeting of the GJU's Department of Social Work took place simultaneously in Amman and in Germany. This was made possible by the new smart rooms that were publicly gifted to the GJU during the year's German Week. This is another big step towards a better cooperation between the GJU and its Partner Universities.



## Smart Rooms at GJU

Smart Rooms were gifted to the GJU in a ceremony during German Week.






## Farewell: Jordanian-German Network

A Farewell to the Jordanian-German Network from the Social Work Department took place this year with the great help of Iris Wildfeuer from the International Office and the GJU IT Team.



## A university needs 'think tanks'

 **الجائسة الألمانية الأردنية**  
German Jordanian University  
**SAHL** SCHOOL OF APPLIED  
HUMANITIES AND  
LANGUAGES

Social Work Department - SAHL –  
at German Jordanian University - GJU  
invites you to attend the lecture

**Intercultural and Intercivilizational Philosophy  
Two Perspectives from Germany and Jordan**

**Thursday 18-11-2021  
11-1pm**

Presented by

**Prof. Moh'd Khair Eiedat**  
University of Jordan

**Prof. Andreas Herberg-Rothe**  
Hochschule Fulda

**Glass Box 3  
Jabal Amman SABE**

open invitation



The lecture on “Intercultural and Intercivilizational Philosophy” marked the beginning of a discussion series at the GJU, hosted by the School of Humanities and Languages (SAHL) and organized by the Department of Social Work. Inspired by the idea of establishing research clusters at the GJU, the question arose as to the scientific theoretical background against which scholars should view and discuss current crises and conflicts in the Western and non-Western world in order to arrive at consensual solution-ideas. Since COVID-19 there has been an increased awareness that crises and catastrophes - but also wars - can no longer be regionally isolated, but have to be thought of in a global context. This does not only concern interconnections in politics, economy or environment, but also the changing relationships between people, societies and states.

During the German Week of the GJU, Prof. Andreas Herberg-Grothe from Germany and Prof. Mo'd Khair Eiedat from Jordan discussed philosophical concepts. It quickly became clear that this can only be the beginning of a continuing debate about knowledge and mutual recognition of the different points of view in the discourse about problems that have to be solved worldwide.

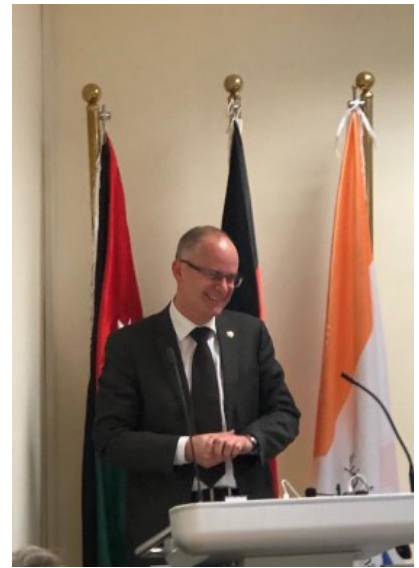
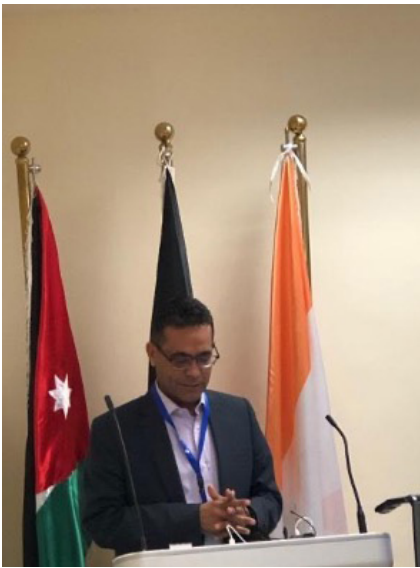




# Activities in December 2021

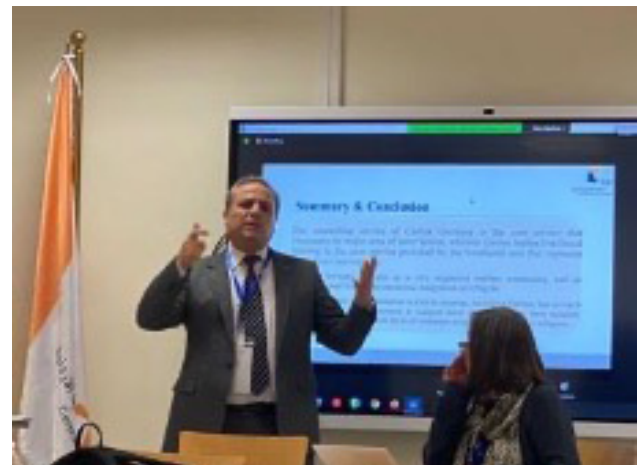
## Workshops

- Workshops were initiated on campus and online by the Humboldt University [<https://in-rcsd.org/en/about-us>] in Berlin with the Department to establish a network, which still exists jointly with universities in Nigeria, Ghana and South Africa, and should now mark the beginning of the expansion to universities in the Arab region. Guests from Iraq, Lebanon, Germany and Jordan participated.





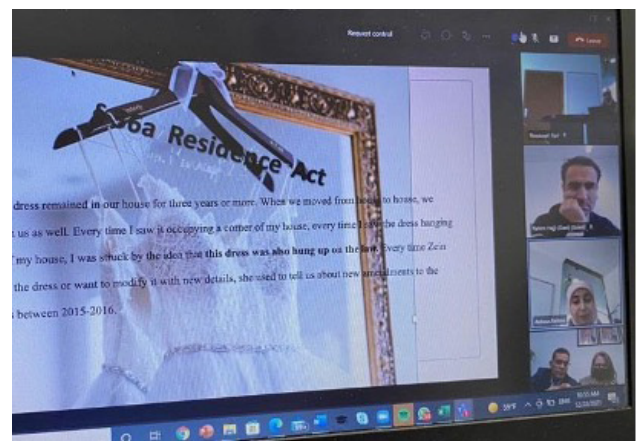
- MA Social Work Graduates drew connections to practical social work in religious contexts with examples from their Master's theses.



## Defenses of MA Theses

**Fatima Ashour** defended her MA Thesis “The Influence of German Family Reunion Policies on the Lives of Engaged or Married Syrian Refugee Couples Separated between Germany and Jordan Waiting for Reunification”

**Congratulations on her graduation!**

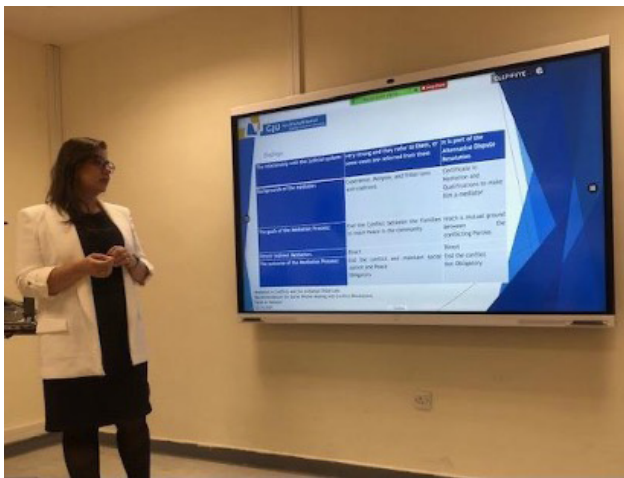


**Bayan Shams Alddin Rihawi** defended her MA Thesis “Infrastructure and study conditions from the perspective of a person with motor disabilities in Amman” online, as she now lives in Turkey.

**Congratulations on her graduation!**

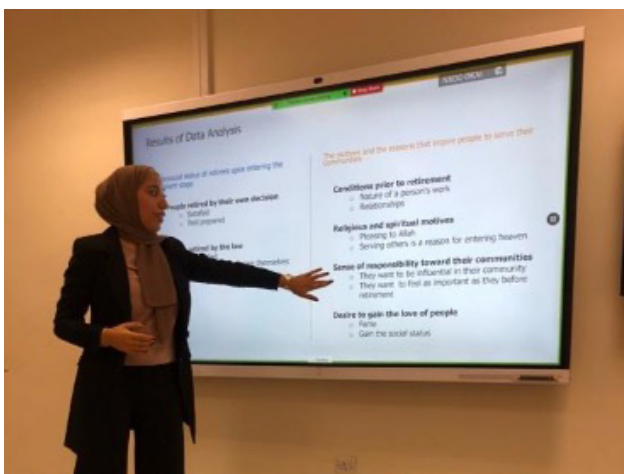
**Farah Hamouri** defended her MA Thesis “Mediation in Conflicts and the Jordanian Tribal Law”

**Congratulations on her graduation!**



**Salma Masleh Falah Al Falahat** defended her MA Theses “The psychosocial Impact of reintegration of civilian retirees in the social work organizations in Jordan.”

**Congratulations on her graduation!**



**Claudia Rosskopf** defended her MA Theses “The Religiosity of Muslim Refugees in Germany as a Resource for Interventions in Social Work?”

**Congratulations on her graduation!**



## Guest speaker

Unfortunately, due to health concerns of the humanitarian organizations, hardly any on-site visits for guest speakers could be conducted this semester. However, in total nearly ten either came to the GJU or spoke to students online.





## Final Workshop in December 2021

How to conduct a successful research? What are the stages of this process? Aimee Ghanem from Beirut and a collaborator in the AttiMa Project - which the FHWS Wuerzburg was conducting with the Department of Social Work - gave an introduction. The workshop belonged to a series of workshops that will accompany students in the implementation of their own research as part of their master thesis.

