

SAMRA SOOMRO (CV)

CONTACT

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SKILLS SET

Thorough understanding of research; critical and creative analysis; sound academic reading, writing and application; prompt understanding of classroom behavior; skillful lesson planning; strong interpersonal communication and correspondence; knowledge of Microsoft Office and internet tools; hands-on management and coordination tenacity; co-administrative leadership skills; editing and proofreading

PROFESSIONAL/TEACHING EXPERIENCE

LECTURER (Visiting Faculty) – Department of English, FUSST, Foundation University Islamabad
Fall sem. 2021

- Teaching a course on ‘Twentieth Century and Contemporary Novel’ (Novel-II)

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT – Viral Webbs, Islamabad **Oct. 2019 – Mar. 2020**

- Editing and proofreading manuscripts for publishing

LECTURER (Visiting Faculty) – Air University, Islamabad **Jan. – May 2018**

- Teaching a course on technical and research writing to undergraduate students

PROGRAMME ASSOCIATE – Aiming Change for Tomorrow (ACT) **Sept. – Nov. 2017**

- Co-developer (under training) – conceiving, developing, and disseminating all projects for NGO focusing on youth, women & children in areas of Education, Child Protection, Gender-based violence, Health, Youth Development, Research & Disaster Management

LECTURER (Full-time Faculty) – Department of English Language and Literature, University of the Punjab, Lahore **Sept. 2012 – Dec. 2015**

MA courses

- 19th Century Drama: *Cherry Orchard*, *Importance of Being Earnest* ➤ Elizabethan Drama: *The Winter's Tale* by William Shakespeare ➤ 20th Century Drama: *Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett
- Classical Prose and Satire ➤ Research Methodology ➤ Study Skills – I & II

BS courses

- Introduction to Literature - I (History of English Literature – I) ➤ English – II (Academic Reading and Writing)

Developed overall course structure, modified syllabus, and administered all grades

EDUCATION

Foundation University Islamabad

PhD English

Ongoing

Thesis in progress titled “Innuendo in Contemporary Pop Culture: A Feminist Perspective”

University of the Punjab, Lahore

M. Phil. English securing 1st position with A+ in Dissertation 2012

Dissertation: "Oneiric Structure and "Memoriography" in the Fiction of Emerging Pakistani Women Writers"

M.A. English with Roll of Honor securing 2nd position 2009

Thesis: "Psychoanalytic Study of an Artist's Mind in Mahesh Dattani's Play Tara"

F.G. College, Gujranwala Cantt. (aff. Uni. of the Punjab)

B.A. with 1st Division securing 4th position in the college 2007

Elective Subjects: Psychology, Essentials of Home Economics

Army Public School and College Humayun Road, Rawalpindi

SSC & HSSC Federal Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education 2005

Major Subjects: Science Group & Pre-Medical

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Annual Newsletter Department of English Language and Literature

Dream Seekers

Sept. 2014 – June 2015

Edited the publication of fourth edition of *Dream Seekers* which traditionally records significant activities held in the Department during the calendar year, along with the achievements of faculty and the students

Journal of Research (Humanities)

"Psychoanalytic Study of an Artist's Mind in Mahesh Dattani's Play Tara"

Jan. 2014

Research article based on MA thesis published in the journal of the Department of English Language and Literature, University of the Punjab, Lahore – in Volume L, pages 51-60, ISSN- 0555-7747

Co-authored article published in *The News*

"Failure of Intellect"

Feb. 2009

Critique on *Zaviya II* by Urdu scholar Ashfaq Ahmed in the light of Edward Said's concept of the intellectual – published in Literati Section of "The News" newspaper

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS PRESENTED AT AND ATTENDED

Decolonizing Critical Thought (Manchester Metropolitan University)

A Critical Theory in Hard Times Workshop (Online event)

May 2021

Presented ideas in one session titled 'Global Critical Theory'

University of the Punjab, Lahore

1st National Conference on Counter Balancing Politics and Aesthetics in Pakistani Lit. May 2018

Attended conf. organized by Department of English Language & Literature, in collaboration with PHEC

Forman Christian College – A Chartered University, Lahore

Locating the Transcultural Humanities in Pakistan / South Asia

Oct. 2017

Attended lectures arranged by Faculty of Humanities – 1st International Conference

Humanities Symposia Series 2014-15

Mar. 2015

Attended series "Philosophizing the Humanities: The Ethical Responsibilities of Intellectuals" organized by Departments of Philosophy and English FC in collaboration with the British Council

Government College University, Lahore

First International Conference of Literature and Language on Modern and Contemporary

Literature, Language and Culture

April 2014

Presented paper titled "Oneiric Structure and "Memoriography" in the Work of Emerging Pakistani Women Writers" to an audience with diverse interests in Literature

College for Women University, Lahore

International Conference on Language Sciences and the Developing World

Jan. 2013

Attended lectures delivered by delegates from over 10 countries

WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

Foundation University Islamabad

Conducting and Supervising Research

Aug. 2019

Project proposal, Patents and intellectual property rights, ISI Web of Science/Knowledge, lit review, etc.

University of the Punjab, Lahore

Faculty Professional Training for Core Modules

June 2013

Institute of Agricultural Sciences PU in collaboration with Learning Innovation Division HEC held the workshop training for two core modules: Teaching as a Profession & Communication Skills

British Council, Lahore

Creative Writing Workshop

Nov. 2010

Facilitator: Novelist Kathleen Pullinger, Guest Speaker: Playwright Mohsin Hamid

MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

University of the Punjab, Lahore

Assistant Superintendent Girls Hostel no. 07

2012–15

Assisted to manage routine operations of Girls Hostel no. 07 comprising 300+ students with major assignments of managing schedules, tasks and personnel

Co-Convener PGD ELT, Dip. Linguistics, Spoken English Cert.

2013–15, 2015, 2015

Assisted to manage routine operations for all evening programs at Deptt. of English with major assignments of managing schedules, tasks and personnel, and interviewing new candidates

In Charge for Reviewing, Processing and Monitoring Student/Alumni Applications

2013–15

Updated system for receiving, reviewing and disposing applications, and updated layout of applicant form, with specific references to requirements of and provisions by the Deptt. in light of Uni. regulations; processed with comments to competent authority; and monitored student application procedure

LECTURES/BOOK LAUNCHES ATTENDED

Lahore / Islamabad

Lahore / Islamabad Literary Festivals

2013 – Present

Attend interactive sessions by noted writers, intellectuals, artists, critics and academics

Mushtaq Gurmani School of Humanities & Social Sciences

The Traveller Tales

2014

Attended seminars titled "The First Firangis: Or, A Tale of Two Bandits" by Jonathan Gil Harris and "The Border Crossings of Dastangoi" by Madhavi Menon

University of the Punjab, Lahore

2007–15

Attended multiple lectures and readings at Department of English such as launch of Poet M. Athar Tahir's Book *The Gift of Possession*, in assoc. with Pak Academy of Letters, Lahore Launch of South Asian Review, Pakistani Creative Writing in English edition, guest editors Blaine Merchand's and Ilona Yousuf's on "Vallum": A special issue of a Canadian journal featuring 26 Pakistani poets writing in English; Ms Hashmi's on her recent collection of poems titled 'Kohl and Chalk' (2013) that celebrate the culture of Pakistan, its political history and its discordant present; Madeline Clements' on "Reframing Violence, Transforming Impressions: Images in Contemporary Pakistani Visual Art and English Language Fiction", Peter Morey and Amina Yaqin's on their book *Framing Muslims: Stereotyping Muslims and Representation After 9/11*, Musharraf Ali Farooqi's on *Between Clay and Dust*, Nafisa Haji's on *Interfaith Dialogue*, Karen Armstrong's on *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*, Zulfiqar Ghose's on poetry, Sohail Saadi's on *Novel Writing and Language*, and many others

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Combined Military Hospital, Gujranwala Cantt.

"Social Worker" Family Wing CMH

Sept. – Dec. 2005

Designed and implemented creative group programs for the social development of patients, enhancing their self-esteem and forging community connections benefitting staff, patients and their families

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

University of the Punjab, Lahore

For Affiliated Colleges

2013, 15

For BS programs - Member Board of Studies English; compiled *Recommended Reading List* for courses "Intro. to Lit. I – History of Literature (I)" & "Intro. to Lit. II – History of Literature (II)"

In Charge, Editor, Liaison officer, Team player

2012–15

In charge of the Multimedia Committee for the First Annual Alumni Reunion, arranged for the photographer to capture photos in the photo gallery & of the Dept. building; selected these for the multimedia presentation; arranged for a graphic designer to work on the presentation; collected pictures and messages from Alumni for display during dinner; coordinated with and supervised the student body to manage final presentation; recorded and edited music for the dinner; managed with students the selection of the sound system; supervised its arrangement and execution in the hall

Edited Prospectus for the Year 2014, revised course names; added objectives for the course of Research Methodology; assisted in editing with publishers the format of the booklet (esp. degrees/diplomas offered), and the specific layout for the BS section; added after editing the write-up for the BS section; updated admission / passing criteria, and grading system; edited and modified the functional language of the prospectus; collected and updated information for programs and teachers' profiles, & pictures to include

Prepared Students for Iqbal Day Celebrations November 09, 2012, worked with students after selecting and editing material for reading of *Extracts from Letters of Iqbal* in English

Team player for the First Annual Alumni Reunion 2014, suggested for and assisted in the management of general affairs including, updating face book posts, emailing alumni for various updates, working of the student assistants, and designing layout for alumnus registration form

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

University of the Punjab, Lahore

Spokesperson MPhil 2012 for Orientation; Writer, Editor, Director, Actor

2007–12

As spokesperson welcomed batch of 2013; rest as part of assignments for partial fulfillment of MA degree

LANGUAGES

English – speak, read and write fluently, Urdu – speak, read and write fluently, Sindhi – speak fluently