Curriculum Vitae



Full Name: Omar Fouad Ghafor

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Email Address: omar.ghafor@uoh.edu.iq, omar.ghafor@gmail.com

Date of Birth: October 13th, 1984

Place of Birth: Halabja

Sex: Male

Marital Status: Married

No. of Children: Two

Education

- MA in English Language and Linguistics – Salahaddin University-Erbil – College of Languages – Department of English (2007–2010).
  Thesis Title: Assessing the Suitability of "Sunrise" Program to the Kurdish Learners of the Seventh Basic Grade in the Schools of Erbil City.
- BA in Teaching English Language and Literature – Salahaddin University-Erbil – College of Education for Human Sciences –Department of English (2003–2007).

Academic Titles:

- ✓ Assistant Professor: University of Halabja, March 4th, 2020
- ✓ Lecturer: University of Halabja, May 16th, 2016.
- ✓ Assistant Lecturer: University of Sulaimani, May 27th, 2010.

IT Skills:

- ✓ Microsoft Windows 98, Microsoft Windows XP Professional, Microsoft Windows Vista and Microsoft Windows 7, 8 & 10.
- ✓ macOS X El Capitan, macOS Sierra, macOS High Sierra, macOS Catalina, and macOS Big Sur.
- ✓ Using Different Computer Systems.
- ✓ Microsoft Office 2003, 2007, 2010, 2013 and 2016 (Microsoft Office Word, Microsoft Office Excel and Microsoft Office Power Point).
- ✓ Internet Browsing.
- ✓ Networking

- ✓ Online Communication Tools and Applications.
- ✓ Online Educational and Professional Tools and Platforms; such as Canvas, Zoom, GoToMeeting, Moodle, Edmodo, Google Apps for Education, Cloud Services and Survey Monkey.
- ✓ Professional Software and Applications Used in Research, Teaching and Learning; such as IBM SPSS Statistics and Prezi.

Language Skills:

- ✓ Kurdish (Mother Tongue)
- ✓ English (Expert User)

Career History:

- Teaching Staff at University of Halabja, College of Basic Education, Department of English Language; May 2010 to the Present.
- Member of the Editorial Board at Halabja University Journal; February 2022 to the Present.
- Secretary of the Editorial Board at Halabja University Journal; February 2021 to February 2022.
- Member of the Editorial Board at Halabja University Journal; September 2020 to February 2021.
- Member of the Central Scientific Promotion Committee at the University of Halabja; November 2020 to February 2021, October 2024 to October 2026.
- Member of the Evaluation Committee for International and Local Journals, University of Halabja; September 2019 to November 2020.
- Visiting Lecturer at Tishk International University, Faculty of Education, Department of ELT; November 2019 to October 2020.
- Director of Quality Assurance at University of Halabja; December 2017 to September 2019.
- Head of Department at University of Halabja, College of Basic Education, Department of English Language\ Evening Classes; October 2018 to July 2019.
- Visiting Lecturer at University of Human Development, College of Languages, Department of English Language for two Academic Years; January 2016 to July 2016 and November 2018 to March 2019.
- Lecturer at Halabja Private Institute for Computer Sciences; October 2016 to June 2017. I was Teaching English Language to the Third-year Students.

- Head of Department at University of Halabja, College of Basic Education, Department of English Language; December 2010 to December 2015.
- Visiting Lecturer at University of Sulaimani, College of Basic Education, Department of English Language for two Academic Years; November 2010 to July 2012.
- English Language Translator and IT Manager at Apotek Pharmaceutical and Hatwan General Trading Companies; October 2008 to March 2009.
- English Language Teacher at Badawa Secondary School for Boys\ Evening Classes, Erbil; for the Academic Year (2006–2007).

Courses Taught:

❖ English Language Learning Courses:

1. Imperial English UK – to MA, PhD and Academic Title Candidates – Beginner Level at University of Halabja, Language Center; April to June 2025.
2. Interchange – Intro to MA, PhD and Academic Title Candidates – Beginner Level at University of Halabja, Language Center; September to November 2019.
3. Interchange – 1 at Arastai Nwe Institute; August 2019.
4. Interchange – 1 at University of Halabja, Language Center; August 2018.
5. Advanced Translation Course at Ferkary Sarkawtn Company; November 2017 to February 2018.
6. English Language Learning Course at TASAWI Program, Funded by FHI360 and US Embassy in Baghdad and Run by NWE Organization in Halabja; June and July 2017. Moreover, I was Selected by FHI360 to Participate in TASAWI Sustainability Conference and TASAWI Alumni Workshop and Presented a Seminar in Each.
7. Preparation Course for English Language Proficiency Exam to MA and PhD Candidates at University of Halabja; February 2015. I Taught “Grammar” for 40 Hours.
8. Preparation Course for English Language Proficiency Exam to MA and PhD Candidates at University of Halabja; June 2014. I Taught “Writing Skill” for 40 Hours.
9. Headway – Pre-intermediate, Total English – Upper-intermediate and TOEFL Reading at “Educational Project” Held by Dangi Nwe Radio in Halabja; January 2012 to May 2012.
10. Headway – Elementary at YADC Organization\ Halabja Office; August 2011.

11. English Language Learning Course at University of Sulaimani, College of Basic Education in Halabja; February 2011. I Taught "Listening Comprehension".

❖ IELTS Preparation Courses:

1. Ranew Institute for Education and Development in Halabja; December 2020 to January 2021. I Taught "Reading" and "Writing" Skills.
2. Student Castle Institute in Halabja; August to September 2019. I Taught "Reading" and "Writing" Skills.
3. University of Halabja, Language Center; April to May 2018. I Taught "Writing" Skill.
4. University of Halabja, Language Center; July to September 2017. I Taught "Reading" and "Writing" Skills.

❖ Secondary Stage Course:

1. The New English Course for Iraq.
2. Sunrise Program.

❖ Undergraduate Courses:

1. English Language at the Departments of Social Sciences and Physical Education.
2. Speaking, Listening and Speaking, Reading and Writing, English Grammar, Composition, Writing, Pronunciation, Phonetics, Phonology, Linguistics, Morphology, Introduction to Research Methods, Translation and English Syntax at the Department of English Language.
3. English Language (Reading and Writing) at the Department of International Commerce.

❖ Postgraduate Courses:

Academic English (Speaking and Writing) at the Departments of History, Islamic Studies and Kurdish Language, University of Halabja, One Semester, November 2020 to February 2021.

Technology in Language Teaching at the Department of English Language, University of Halabja, One Semester, November 2023 to February 2024.

Second Language Acquisition at the Department of English Language, University of Halabja, One Semester, March 2024 to June 2024.

Participation in Professional Development Courses and Academic Exchange Programs:

- ✓ Fulbright Regional Alumni Conference: Education, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship in the Age of AI, Cairo, Egypt, June 6-10, 2026
- ✓ Curriculum Review Training, Sponsored and Run by British Council in Collaboration with Ministry of Higher Education/ Iraq and Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research/ KRG. It Consisted of Two Workshops in Erbil (Each one was Three Days) and an Online Training, October 2025 to February 2026.
- ✓ Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program for Iraq, TEFL/Linguistics Cohort. A Ten-week, Non-degree Professional and Faculty Development Program for Junior Iraqi Scholars. The Program was Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and Administered by Amideast. It was Run at the University of Arkansas in USA from June 28th, 2022 to September 3rd, 2022.
- ✓ ICT Training at University of Halabja; Sponsored by American Corner\ Sulaimani, University of Halabja and Mam Humanitarian Foundation, July to August 2020.
- ✓ American English "AE" E-Teacher Program; Summer 2018 Course. It Consisted of a Five-Module Orientation on "Introduction to the Course and Learning to Use Canvas LMS" and an Eight-Module Online Course on "Integrating Critical Thinking Skills into the Exploration of Culture in an EFL Setting". The Program was Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and Administered by FHI360 during July 3, 2018 to August 28, 2018.
- ✓ An Academic Exchange on "Internationalization Management in Higher Education" in the Framework of the TIGRIS Project, Erasmus+ Program, Key Action 2 at Masaryk University (Brno) and Prague Metropolitan University (Prague), Czech Republic; March 2018 (One Week).
- ✓ Kurdistan Rural Universities Partnership Program (IKRUPP); Two Workshops in Erbil (Each one was Three Days), a Training Course at Virginia Tech University in the United States of America (Three Weeks) and an Online Course (Six Months); January to August 2014.
- ✓ Staff Development Training Course for Medium Level Leaders of Universities in Kurdistan\ Iraq. It was Sponsored and Run by UNISTAFF Associates and DAAD, Germany; during August 2013 (Two Weeks).

- ✓ Teacher Development Course at Canterbury Christ Church University, England; August 2012 (Three Weeks).
- ✓ Representative of University of Halabja at "Kurdistan Region – UK Higher Education Conference: Bridging the Knowledge Gap" Hosted by Kurdistan Regional Government's UK Representation and UK Trade and Investment, London; January 30th, 2012.
- ✓ Methods of Teaching Course at University of Sulaimani; November 2010 to May 2011.

Publications:

1. AHMAD, H. M., MUSTAFA, G. O., & GHAFOR, O. F. (2018). The Impact of Using New Technology on Students' Learning Achievements at the University of Halabja\ Department of English Language. *Proceeding Book of the 9th International Visible Conference on Educational Studies & Applied Linguistics 2018 (VESAL2018)* (pp. 83-93). Erbil: Ishik University.

2. GHAFOR, O. F. (2015). The Attitudes of EFL Learners Towards Using UHDEL Moodle Site. *Proceeding Book of the International Journal of Arts & Sciences (IJAS) International Conference for Social Sciences and Humanities* (pp. 107-118). Rome: International Journal of Arts & Sciences (IJAS).

3. GHAFOR, O. F. (2016). Investigating EFL Learners' spelling mistakes in exams at the university of Halabja\ Department of English language. *Halabja University Journal*, 31-53.

4. GHAFOR, O. F. (2020). Exploring Perceptions of Kurdish EFL University Students towards Culture as the Fifth Language Skill. *Studies in English Language and Education, 7 (1)*, 70-82.

5. GHAFOR, O. F., AHMAD, H. M., & MUSTAFA, G. O. (2022). Exploring Kurdish EFL University Students' Beliefs about Language Learning. *Arab World English Journal 13 (2)*, 297-311.

6. GHAFOR, O. F., MUSTAFA, G. O., & AHMAD, H. M. (2019). Edutainment Tendencies among EFL Learners at the University of Halabja\ Department of

English Language. *Journal of University of Human Development (JUHD)*, 65-72.

7. GHAFOR, O. F., SAEED, Y. F., & AHMAD, H. M. (2019). Grice's Cooperative Principles in G. B. Shaw's Pygmalion. *Proceeding Book of the 10th International Visible Conference on Educational Studies & Applied Linguistics 2019 (VESAL2019)* (pp. 140-144). Erbil: Ishik University.

8. GORAN OMAR MUSTAFA, H. M. (2023). Abraham Maslow's Hierarchical Needs in No Friend but the Mountains: Writing from Manus Prison by Behrouz Boochani. *Studies in English Language and Education 10 (3)*, 1647-1661.

9. GORANI, A. A., & GHAFOR, O. F. (2022). The Role of Needs Analysis in Designing a Digital Syllabus for EFL Undergraduate Programs. *Journal of Language Studies, 5 (4)*, 14-24.

10. HASSAN, F. R., & GHAFOR, O. F. (2014). Assessing the Suitability of "Sunrise" Programme to the Kurdish Learners of the Seventh Basic Grade in the Schools of Erbil City. *Journal of Teaching and Education*, 469-482.

11. Mustafa, S.K., Hassan, I.M., Ghafor, O.F., Ahmad, H.M., Fathulla, P.H., Saed, S.A., Nabard, P. (2023). Kurdish EFL University Students' Difficulties in Using English Determiners. *Journal of Linguistics and Social Sciences, 1 (1),* 1-13.

Postgraduate Discussion:

Member of the MA Viva Committees: 7 Theses.

Postgraduate Supervision:

Supervisor of the following MA Theses:

1. The Impact of Krashen's Input Hypothesis on EFL Students' Listening Skill in a Blended Learning Environment by Miran Abdulrahman Abdullah, University of Halabja, College of Basic Education, October, 2024 to April, 2026.
2. The Role of Emotional Intelligence in Teaching Practices of Kurdish EFL University Instructors by Asala Hameed Mala Qadir, University of Halabja, College of Basic Education, October, 2024 to October, 2025.

3. The Role of ICT In Developing Kurdish EFL University Students' Speaking Skills by Avyan Najmadin Ahmed, University of Halabja, College of Basic Education, October, 2024 to October, 2025.
4. The Role of Needs Analysis in Designing a Digital Syllabus for EFL Undergraduate Programs by Adnan Abdulkareem Abdulqader, Salahaddin University-Erbil, College of Basic Education, November, 2021 to November, 2022.

Interests:

- Teaching English Language
- Conducting Research on Teaching/ Learning English as a Foreign Language
- Using Technology, Especially Online Tools and Platforms, in Higher Education and Teaching/ Learning English as a Foreign Language.
- Watching Movies
- Exercising and Playing Sports
- Travelling

Final Remarks

Every Year, I Participate in Several National and International Conferences, Workshops, Trainings and Seminars in the Field of Higher Education and Teaching\ Learning English as a Foreign Language.