

Dr. Samir Mahmoud

CONTACT DETAILS:

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NATIONALITY:

Australian

SELECTED EDUCATION:

- 2023-2024: **Graduate Certificate in Steiner Education**, University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia
- 2007-2012: **PhD, Theology & Religious Studies**, University of Cambridge
- 2005-2006: **Master of Philosophy**, University of Cambridge
- 2004-2005: **Masters (MUDD Program), Architectural History & Theory and Urban Design**, University of New South Wales, Sydney (focus on Italy and traditional European urbanism)
- 2000-2003: **Bachelor of Arts, (First Class Honours) Double Major in Sociology & Anthropology and Politics & Development Studies**, University of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1998-2000: **Diploma of Economics**, University of Balamand, Lebanon

EMPLOYMENT

- 2025-present: **Education Consultant**, Office for Multicultural Affairs, Department of Home Affairs.
- 2020-present: **Academic Director**, Usul Academy
- 2020-present: **Lecturer**, Cambridge Muslim College, Cambridge, UK
- 2017-2019: **Assistant Professor of Architectural Theory & History**, Lebanese American University
- 2014-2017: **Visiting Assistant Professor of Arts, Architecture, & Visual Culture**, American University of Beirut
- 2013-2014: **Andrew Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow** in the Arts & Humanities Initiative, at the **Fine Arts Department**, AUB.
- 2012-2013: **Postdoctoral Research Associate**, Research into the **Arts & Material Culture**, University of Oxford
- 2011-2012: **Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow, Art & Architecture** at MIT, Boston

GRANTS, AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2018-2021: **COMPACT ALLIANCE Grant, Department of Multiculturalism NSW, Australia**
- 2012-2013: **Barakat Trust Book Research Grant, Art & Material Culture, University of Oxford**
Max Planck Institute for Art History Summer Travel Postdoctoral Fellowship (Spain-Morocco)
- 2011-2012: **Postdoctoral Research Scholarship in Art & Architecture. MIT**
- 2010: **Bethune-Baker Fund Award, University of Cambridge.**
Sir Moses & Lady Findlay Long Vacation Travel Grant, Jesus College, University of Cambridge
- 2007-2010: **Cambridge Commonwealth Trust PhD Bursary Scholarship, University of Cambridge**
- 2005-2006: **Cambridge Commonwealth Trust MPhil Bursary Scholarship, University of Cambridge**
- 2004: **Commissioner Hoffman Scholarship Award, Faculty of the Built Environment –University of New South Wales, Sydney**
- 2004: **International Workshop Scholarship Award, Faculty of the Built Environment –University of New South Wales, Sydney**
- 2003: **Sol Encel Prize** for the best thesis in Anthropology, University of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2003: **Zappia Prize** for the best Honours performance in Anthropology, University of New South Wales, Sydney

BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

- 2023-present: Board Director, Kamaroi Steiner School, Sydney, Australia
(curriculum design, Steiner education PD, staff wellbeing, and strategic planning subcommittees)

HDR SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

- 2013-present: -Supervised (main or secondary supervisor) 9 PhD theses & 15 Master's theses. Areas of research include: education & educational theory, Islamic education, architectural theory/aesthetics/art history (Islamic & Western), design, Islamic Studies, philosophy, and theology.

SHORTER CERTIFICATES & TRAINING QUALIFICATIONS

- 2005-present: -Certificates in Jungian Psychology, Transpersonal Psychology, Integral Theory, Somatic Therapy, & EURO-MED Partnership, among others.

SELECTED ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- 2026: -“Aesthetics in Islam,” St. Andrew Encyclopaedia of Religion.
- “Conceptual Comparisons of Beauty and Art between West and Islamic World,” Special Issue of *Estetica. Studi e ricerche*, edited by Alberto Merzari, 2026.
- 2025: -“Towards an Educational Framework Rooted in an Islamic Worldview: Multiplexity as a Case Study,” *Islamic Schools of Distinction: Learning and Teaching Rooted in the Islamic Worldview*, edited by Assoc. Nadeem Memon, Mohamad Abdalla, and Dylan Chown, Palgrave, Macmillan, 2025.
- “Jung, Ibn ‘Arabi & the Image(s) of God,” Special Issue of *Psychological Perspectives*, co-edited by Christophe Le Mouël & Fred Burniston, Taylor & Francis, December 2025.
- 2023: - “Towards an Islamic Theology of the Built Environment,” *Green Theology* edited by Lejla Demiri, Mujadad Zaman and Tim Winter, Mohr Siebeck, 2024.
- 2021: -“Quran: Realities and Ideals,” *Curriculum Renewal for Islamic Education Critical Perspectives on Teaching Islam in Primary and Secondary Schools*, Edited By Nadeem A. Memon, Mariam Alhashmi, Mohamad Abdalla, Routledge, 2021.
- 2019: -Small Biographical Book: *The Unknown Architect: Reflections on the Works of Mohammad Hamouie*
- 2018: -“Beauty & Aesthetics in Classical Arab-Islamic Thought: An Introduction,” *Kalam: Journal of Islamic Theology*
- “The Space of Eros: A Phenomenological Account of ‘Abdel Ghani al-Nabulusi’s Sojourn among the ruins of the Temple of Jupiter,” *Early Modern Trends in Islamic Theology: ‘Abd al-Ghanī al-Nābulusī and his Network of Scholarship*, Mohr Siebeck, Germany, 2018.
- 2017: -Book Translation: *The Arab Hurufiyya Movement: Art and Identity*, by Charbel Dagher SKIRA, New York.
- 2016: -“The Taste (*Dhawq*) of Things: Taking the Appearances (*Mazahir*) Seriously,” In *The Beacon of Mind: Reason and Intuition in the Ancient and Modern World*, edited by Andrea Blackie and Dr. John H. Spencer, Vancouver, B.C: Param Media Publishing, 2016.
- Translation of Book Introduction: “Nja Mahdaoui: Traveler with Pen in Hand, The Passion of the Alif,” by Charbel Dagher, in *Nja Mahdoui*:

Deconstructing Calligraphy by Rose Issa & Molka Mahdaoui, Skira-Rizzoli, New York, 2016.

2013: -“Suhrawardi and Plotinus on Self-Knowledge as Illumination, in *Selections of Papers from Prometheus Trust Conferences 2006-2010*, edited by Linda H. Woodward, The Prometheus Trust, 2013.

2012: -“Colour and the Mystics: Light, Beauty, and the Spiritual Quest,” in *And Diverse are Their Hues: Colour in Islamic Art & Culture*, Edited By Sheila Blair & Jonathan Bloom, Yale University Press, 2012.

LANGUAGE ABILITIES

	reading:	speaking:	writing:
• English:	excellent	excellent	excellent
• Arabic	excellent	excellent	good

PASSION & INTERESTS:

Coffee; travel; Italy; phenomenology; comparative aesthetics, philosophy, & religion; East-West studies; ecology.