



Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Noura Kamal – Austrian & Palestinian Citizen

Anthropologist, Researcher & Visionary Coach

PhD in Social and Cultural Anthropology

<https://www.nourakamal.com>

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Founder, Academic Research Training (A.R.T & Beyond)

<https://www.academicresearchtraining.org>

Languages

- ☉ Arabic: Native speaker
- ☉ English: Fluent
- ☉ German: Intermediate

Professional Focus: Research and Coaching

I am a **Researcher** and **Certified Coach** with a **PhD in Anthropology**, a **Master's in Sociology**, and a **Bachelor's in Business Administration**. With over two decades of experience, I design and deliver academic workshops, training sessions, and coaching for students, researchers, and professionals. My research focuses on how individuals and communities endure war, displacement, and structural violence, navigating oppressive systems, making sense of challenging realities, and responding to injustice in creative, life-affirming ways.

Over time, my academic work awakened a deeper calling: not only to study people's lives and cultures, but also to walk alongside them in their journeys of transformation. This journey led me to become a **Visionary Coach**.

At the heart of my Coaching work is a simple belief: **with the right support, people can transform constraint into possibility, and adversity into strength.**

Education

2024	ICF Accredited Process Oriented Systems & Executive Coaching program. <i>Global Coaching Institute (Australia)</i> https://globalcoachinginstitute.org/about/
2015	Dr.Phil. Social and Cultural Anthropology , University of Vienna, Austria. Topic: Cultural Survival in a Palestinian City: Ethnography of Nablus under Siege and Occupation.
2010	Masters. Sociology , Birzeit University. Palestine. Topic: Palestinian Student Movements during the First and the Second Intifada.
2004	Bachelor (BA), Business Administration , Birzeit University, Palestine.

Mentoring & Professional Development

Participated in a structured programme to support early-career researchers through mentorship and training. Attended the following professional development workshops:

2018 - Third Party-Funding Acquisition: The Path to My Funding Research – Austrian Academy of Sciences

2018 – Self-Made Career – Austrian Academy of Sciences.

2019 – Gender and Diversity in Research – Austrian Academy of Sciences.

2020 – Strategic Career Planning for Post-Doc Researchers – Austrian Academy of Sciences.

2020 – Leadership and Human Resource Development – Austrian Academy of Sciences.

2020 – Success with Habilitation – Austrian Academy of Sciences.

2021 – Project Management: Successful Proposals and Project Implementation – Austrian Academy of Sciences.

Further Training

2025 (Sep - Nov)

Process-Oriented Executive and Systems Coaching – Mentor Coaching Program, *Global Coaching Institute, Australia.*

2026 (March – June)

Coaching Masterclass - Cultivate Coaching Mastery, *Global Coaching Institute, Australia.*

Work Experience

October 2024 – Present

Visionary Coach & Anthropologist. Academic Research Training (A.R.T & Beyond)

<https://www.academicresearchtraining.org>

Nov 2023 – Present

Associated Researcher. Institute for Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences.

(Independent research on art, popular literature, and narrative forms of resistance in Palestine, focusing on everyday resilience and cultural expression.)

Nov 2019 – Oct 2023

Senior Postdoctoral Researcher. Institute for Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences.

(Project: Humorous Art and Reconfiguring Palestinian Discourse.) FWF Austrian Science Fund (FWF), P32362

<https://www.fwf.ac.at/en/research-radar/10.55776/P32362>

May – Oct 2019

Associated Researcher. Institute for Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences.
(*Foundational work for research on humorous art and Palestinian discourse.*)

Oct 2017 – Apr 2019

Postdoctoral Researcher. Institute for Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences.
(*Project: Tribalism, Religious Radicalization, Fossil Energy, and the State: Deciphering Local Power Politics in Yemen's Frontier Provinces Sa'da and al-Jawf.*)

2016 – 2017

Research Assistant. Institute for Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences.
(*Project: Visions of Community (VISCOM).*)

May – Dec 2015

Research Assistant. Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna.
(*Project: Visions of Community (VISCOM).*)

2011 – 2015

Junior Researcher. Institute for Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences.
(*PhD Project: Cultural Survival in a Palestinian City: An Ethnography of Nablus under Siege and Occupation.*)

2008 – 2009

Administrative Assistant. Institute of Law, Birzeit University.

2004 – 2008

Administrative Assistant. Palestinian Institute for Financial & Banking Studies, Ramallah.

Grants and Scholarships

▪ 2026 - 2027

MESA Global Academy Scholar <https://mesaglobalacademy.org>

▪ 2019 - 2023

Principal Investigator – *Austrian Science Fund (FWF), Stand-Alone Research Project (P 32362-G)*

Funded research on “Humorous Art and Reconfiguring Palestinian Discourse,” hosted at the Institute for Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences.

▪ 2011 - 2015

PhD Scholarship – *Dissertation Program, Austrian Academy of Sciences*

Funded doctoral research in Social and Cultural Anthropology.

- **2009**

EU Tempus Program – Summer Term MA Support

Funded participation in the MA program at the Department of Anthropology, University of Vienna, through the EU FP7 Tempus Program:

“Capacity Building in Social Science Methodologies for Palestine (CASOP)”

Joint initiative between:

- Ibrahim Abu-Lughod Institute of International Studies (Birzeit University)
- Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW)
- Institut de Recherche et d’Études sur le Monde Arabe et Musulman (IREMAM), Aix-en-Provence.

Research Projects

- **Project Leader | 2019–2023**

Humorous Art and Reconfiguring Palestinian Discourse

Funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF), Stand-Alone Project ”,

<https://www.oeaw.ac.at/en/isa/forschung/projektarchiv/2022-2024>

- **Researcher | 2017–2019**

Tribalism, Religious Radicalization, Fossil Energy, and the State: Deciphering Local Power Politics in Yemen’s Frontier Provinces (Sa‘da and Al-Jawf)

Funded by the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW), New Frontiers Research Groups Program
Project Director: Dr. Marieke Brandt

<https://www.oeaw.ac.at/isa/forschung/projektarchiv/tribalism-religious-radicalization-fossil-energy-and-the-state-deciphering-local-power-politics-in-yemens-frontier-provinces-sa-da-and-al-jawf>

Researcher | 2015–2016

Visions of Community (VISCOM): Comparative Approaches to Ethnicity, Region and Empire in Christianity, Islam and Buddhism (400–1600 CE)

University of Vienna / Austrian Academy of Sciences

https://www.oeaw.ac.at/fileadmin/Institute/imafo/pdf/forschung/HI/viscom_companion_webbook.pdf

- **PhD Thesis | 2011–2015**

Cultural Survival in a Palestinian City: An Ethnography of Nablus under Siege & Occupation

University of Vienna, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology

<https://theses.univie.ac.at/detail/34228/>

- **Master’s Thesis | 2010**

The Effects of the Practices of Student Movements at Birzeit University on Palestinian Social Structure: A Comparative Study between the First and Second Intifada

Birzeit University

<https://fada.birzeit.edu/handle/20.500.11889/1612>

Teaching Experience

2021

Course Title: *Popular Literature and Folk Art in Palestine and Yemen*

Institution: Department of Near Eastern Studies, African Studies, Tibetan Studies and Indology, University of Vienna

<https://ufind.univie.ac.at/en/course.html?lv=141222&semester=2021S>

Conferences, Workshops and Lectures

29 January 2026 | Online (Zoom) & Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Invited Lecture — Seminar Series: *Humour and Everyday Counter-Narratives from Palestine*

Link: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DTxfDT1CG0i/>

June 21, 22, 28, 29, 2025 | Online (Vienna)

Seminar Series – Academic Research Training (A.R.T & Beyond)

Presentation: Art and Cultural Manifestations as Tools of Resistance in Colonized Palestine

Link: <https://www.academicresearchtraining.org/academic-services/seminars>

July 3–5, 2024 | Istanbul, Turkey

11th European Workshops in International Studies (EWIS): 'The Future Yet to Come: For A Global Politics of Hope'

Presentation: Palestinians Under Siege & the Manifestation of Everyday Resilience

Link: <https://eisa-net.org/ewis-2024/>

June 14, 2024 | Online (USA)

Webinar – The International Society for Humor Studies (ISHS): 'Humor and Conflict in the Global South'

Presentation: Where Humor Meets Resistance: The Story of Palestinian Political Prisoners

Link: <https://www.humorstudies.org/WebinarCenter2024.htm>

November 2024 | Online (India)

Academic-ish Instagram Lecture

Presentation: Humour Under Occupation—Jokes and Humorous Anecdotes and Their Reflection in Palestinian Life

Link: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DChEQENo5dE/?hl=en>

December 13, 2023 | Vienna

International Guest Lecture – Humour and Resistance in Palestine: Reflecting on Ethnographic Encounters

Organizer: Institute for Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW)

Link: <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/en/isa/detail/event-detail/template-event-isa-international-guest-lecture-first-name-last-name-or-type/title-of-event-2-3-2-1-1-1-1>

July 3–4, 2023 | Vienna

International Conference – Humorous Art and the Articulation of Everyday Practices: Narratives from Palestine and Beyond

Presentation: Everyday Resistance via Humorous Art in Palestine

Organizer: Co-organized by Noura Kamal (ÖAW) & Barbara Götsch (University of Vienna)

Link: <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/isa/detail/event/template-event-isa-international-guest-lecture-first-name-last-name-or-type/title-of-event-3-1-3-1-1-1-1>

October 3–4, 2022 | Vienna

International Workshop – Arab Encounters Across Difference: Epistemology and Ethnography

Presentation: Palestinian Everyday Encounters: Redefining Power Relations Through Humour

Organizer: Organized by Marieke Brandt & Leonardo Schiocchet, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Link: <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/en/isa/events/event-detail/international-workshop>

September 26–29, 2022 | Vienna Anthropology Days (VANDA)

Workshop – Exploring Everyday Narratives in the Shadow of Conflict: Uncovering Social Meanings in the Middle East and Beyond

Presentation: On Stage/Off Stage: Humour and the Transnational of Palestinians' Narratives

Organizer: Co-organized by Noura Kamal & Rosalind Willi (University of Sussex)

Link:

https://vanda.univie.ac.at/fileadmin/user_upload/k_vanda/Sessions/Sessions_2020/Session_2022/Session_7.pdf

May 5–6, 2022 | Vienna

International Workshop – Humor, Coping and Resistance: Exploring Artful Practices and Their Mediations

Presentation: Reflections on Humour in Palestine: Social Media as a Space of Confrontation and Coping

Organizer: Co-organized by Noura Kamal & Martin Slama (ÖAW)

Link: <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/isa/das-institut/weitere-artikel/international-workshop-humor-coping-and-resistance-exploring-artful-practices-and-their-mediations>

June 29 – July 2, 2022 | Bertinoro, Italy

32nd Annual Conference of the International Society for Humor Studies (ISHS)

Presentation: Humour under Confinement: Palestinian Prisoners Between Şumūd and Resistance

<https://eventi.unibo.it/ishs-2022>

June 10–12, 2021 | Online / Vienna

Conference – Palestine as Epistemic Site: Knowledge Production Beyond Fragmentation

Presentation: Narrative Under Occupation: Reflections on Humour in Palestine

Organizer: ÖAW, University of Vienna, Stadt Wien – Kultur

Sep 28 – Oct 1, 2020 | Vienna Anthropology Days (VANDA)

Workshop – Purposes of the Production of Knowledge and the Positionality of the Researcher

Presentation: Fieldwork in Palestine: Positionality and Ethical Reflections

Organizer: Co-organized by Noura Kamal & Lisa Lenz-Ayoub

November 21, 2020 | Online (Germany)

Online Symposium – (In)visibility of Art, University of Siegen

Presentation: Humorous Art in Palestine

Link: <https://www.mediacoop.uni-siegen.de/en/events/the-symposium-invisibility-of-art/>

October 9, 2019 | Birzeit, Palestine

Lecture – Department of Social and Behavioral Science, Birzeit University

Presentation: Art and Humor as a Way of Resistance in Palestine

Sep 19–22, 2018 | Vienna Anthropology Days (VANDA)

Presentation: Folk Art and Popular Narratives in Yemen: The Work and Writings of ‘Abd Allāh al-Barrādūnī

Organizer: Workshop organized by Claudia Aufschnaiter & Barbara Götsch

June 7–8, 2018 | Prague, Czech Republic

Anthropological Atelier, Czech Academy of Sciences

Presentation: Counter-Narratives and Popular Literature: Al-Barradūnī and the Case of Yemen

October 9, 2017 | Vienna

Book Launch – From Destination to Integration

Presentation: Memory and the Path to Tomorrow - Organizer: Josef Kohlbacher & Leonardo Schiocchet (eds.)

November 16–20, 2016 | Minneapolis, United States

115th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA)

Presentation: A Palestinian City Under Siege and Occupation: The Manifestations of the Self through the Memory of the Past

Sep 2015 | Vienna Anthropology Days (VANDA)

Presentation: Remembering a Time with No End: Nablus Under Siege and Occupation

Organizer: Workshop organized by Barbara Götsch & Eva Kössner

April 9, 2015 | Vienna

Institute for Social Anthropology / ÖAW Research Forum

Presentation: Reconstructing the Present Through Memories of the Past – Nablus Under Siege and Occupation

Sep 2014 | Vienna Anthropology Days (VANDA)

Presentation: Between the Past and Present: Survival Strategies During Siege

Organizer: Workshop organized by Eva Kössner & Klaudia Rottenschlager

June 6, 2013 | University of Vienna

Workshop – Past—Present—Fieldwork: Researching Memory, Power, and Culture

Organizer: Co-organized by Noura Kamal, Eva Kössner & Klaudia Rottenschlager

2011 | University of Vienna

Workshop – Conducting Fieldwork in Conflict Areas: Engaged Observers and Participating Anthropologists, Taking Palestine as an Example

Organizer: Organized by Noura Kamal, Eva Kössner & Klaudia Rottenschlager

September 2011 | Institute for Social Anthropology, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna

Research Forum

Presentation: Cultural Survival in a Palestinian City: An Ethnography of Nablus Under Siege and Occupation

Organizer: Hosted by the Institute for Social Anthropology, ÖAW

July 22, 2011, | Hammamet, Tunisia

Conference – Arab Sociological Association: 'Questions about the Arab Revolutions'

Presentation: Nablus Under Siege and Occupation

July 20, 2010, | Beirut, Lebanon

Conference – Arab Sociologists Young Generation Forum

Presentation: The Effects of the Practices of Student Movements at Birzeit University on Palestinian Social Structure: A Comparative Study between the First and the Second Intifada

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- **Kamal, N. & Götsch, B. (2026).** “Confinement, Imagination, and Resistance in Palestine: The Caricatures and Graphic Art of Mohammed Sabaaneh.” *European Journal of Cultural Studies*.
- **Kamal, N. (2026).** “Palestinian Humorous Art as an Agentic Force: Exploring the Work of Amer Shomali.” *Focaal: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology*, 104. [Read Online](#)
- **Kamal, N. & Slama, M. (2026).** “Exploring Wit in Oppressive and Conflictual Environments: The Significance of Agentic Forms of Humor.” *Focaal*, 104. [Read Online](#)

- **Kamal, N. & Kamal, O.** (2025). “If Our Bodies Will Not Tell Our Tale, Perhaps Our Ruins Will.” *Humanity*, 16(1–2), 116–134. [Read Online](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2024). “A Palestinian Woman’s Writings: Reflections on Hegemony and Resistance.” *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*. [Online Link](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2023). “Humour under Occupation: Jokes and their Reflections in Palestine.” *European Journal of Cultural Studies*. [Online Link](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2022). “Verbal Art as a Route into Local Knowledge in Yemen: The Work of ‘Abd Allāh al-Baraddūnī on ‘Alī bin Zāyid.” *Narrative Culture*. [Online Link](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2020). “Nablus Under Siege: Religiosity and the Creation of Resilience.” *Anthropos*, 115(2), 417–432. [Read Online](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2020). “Neighborhood in Nablus City: The Formation of Social Safety Network during the Siege.” *Middle East Topics and Arguments*, 14, 154–168. [Read Online](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2020). “Counter-Narratives through the Lens of al-Baraddūnī: The Case of the 1962 Yemeni Revolution.” *Arabian Humanities*, 13. [Read Online](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2020). “Alternative Historiography: Al-Baraddūnī’s Perspective on Popular Literature and Folk Art in Yemen.” *Archiv Orientální*, 12, 111–136. [Online Link](#)

Edited Special Issues & Book Chapters

- **Kamal, N. & Slama, M., Eds.** (2026). “Theme Section: Humor, Coping, and Resistance.” *Focaal: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology*, 104.
- **Kamal, N.** (2017). “Journey to Europe: Memory and the Path to Tomorrow.” In Kohlbacher, J. & Schiocchet, L. (Eds.), *From Destination to Integration – Afghan, Syrian and Iraqi Refugees in Vienna* (pp. 83–103). Vienna: Austrian Academy of Sciences. [Online Book](#) & [Online Chapter](#)
- Gingrich, A., **Kamal, N.**, & Al-Dubai, Z. (2017). “Smiles and Smallness: Jokes in the Yemen and in Palestine.” In Hannerz, U. & Gingrich, A. (Eds.), *Small Countries: Structures and Sensibilities* (pp. 283–300). University of Pennsylvania Press. [Online Link](#)

- **Kamal, N.**, Kössner, E., & Rottenschlager, K., Eds. (2014). *Past-Present Fieldwork: Anthropological Contributions at the Intersection of Memory, Power, and Culture*. Austrian Studies in Social Anthropology, Vol. 2. [Online](#) & [Read Online](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2013). "Studieren bedeutet Widerstand: StudentInnen unter der Okkupation in Palästina." In Six-Hohenbalken, M. (Hg.), *Aufwachsen im Ausnahmezustand*. The Sociology of Youth Studies, Vol. 1. Wien: 132–155. [Online Link](#)

Public Scholarship & Essays

- **Kamal, N.** (2025). "Do Cerco à Sobrevivência: Histórias Palestinas da Agência para Mulheres durante a Invasão de Nablus de 2002." Translated by Gustavo Racy. *Al Jaliah*. [Read Online](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2024). "A New Generation is Emerging, and Gaza is their Compass." *The Massachusetts Review*. [Read Online](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2024). "Friends Out of Place." *The Massachusetts Review: The View from Gaza*, 65(4). [Read Online](#)
- **Kamal, N.** (2020). "Narratives of Asylum Seekers: Between Coping and Integration." In Schiocchet, L., Nölle-Karimi, C., & Mokre, M. (Eds.), *Agency and Tutelage in Forced Migration*. **ROR-n Plattform**, Vol. 2(1). Vienna: Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW). [Read Online](#)

To be submitted

- Humour In (Out) Colonial Prisons: Palestinians' Agency under Apartheid - *Journal of Palestine Studies*.
- On Stage / Off Stage: Humour and the transnational of Palestinian's Narrative.

Dr. Noura Kamal

<https://www.nourakamal.com>