

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## A Two-Day Conference on Arab Diasporic Literary and Cultural Studies “Towards a Poetics of Arab Diasporic Literary and Cultural Studies”

Amman, Jordan  
November 22 & 23, 2025

Since the late nineteenth century and the start of the twentieth century, Arab nationals (mainly from the Levant) have immigrated to Europe, North and South America, and Australia for economic, social, cultural and political reasons, forming, in the process, diverse Arab communities in the diaspora. Being away from their homelands, Arab writers in the diaspora have used literary texts to narrate their ordeals and experiences away from home, and by doing so, they have produced a distinctive body of literature that came to be called Arab diasporic literature. Over the past two decades, the number of literary works produced by Arab diasporic writers about the diasporic experiences of Arabs has substantially increased and led to the emergence of a new generation of novelists, poets and playwrights who have transformed Arab diasporic literature into a dynamic space for negotiating identity, memory, and belonging across transnational contexts. From forced exile and migration to challenges arising from assimilation and racial profiling, Arab diasporic writers continue to represent the homeland, against the backdrop of colonialism, displacement and political upheavals, as well as opportunity.

The emergence of Arab-Anglophone literature as a distinctive literary genre has been accompanied by a surge in research conducted in the field. Researchers from various disciplines have explored diverse aspects of Arab diasporic literature, raising questions related to displacement, identity, ageing, trauma, mobility, the representation of weather, socio-cultural spaces, the symbolism of trees, clothes, food and windows, among other aspects. By engaging with a wide range of topics related to contemporary Arab diasporic literary and cultural studies, scholars have not only enriched criticism in the field, but have contributed to debates on migration, identity, and transnationalism, among others.

To advance research in the field, a two-day conference entitled “Towards a Poetics of Arab Diasporic Literary and Cultural Studies” will be held on November 22 and 23, 2025, at the Council for British Research in the Levant (CBRL) institute in Al-Weibdeh, Amman, Jordan. The conference is organized jointly by Contemporary Arab Diasporic Literary Studies (CADLS), an international research group based at the University of Jordan, and CBRL. The conference committee invites scholars, researchers and post-graduate students to submit research papers which explore various aspects related to contemporary Arab diasporic literature including, but not limited to, identity, migration, displacement and assimilation. Interdisciplinary approaches to Arab diasporic literary and cultural studies are welcomed, particularly those engaging with literature, film, digital culture, and other modes of cultural expression.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Diaspora, ethnicity and migration studies
- Identity, belonging and hybridity
- Adaptations and appropriations of Shakespeare by Arab writers in diaspora
- Post-9/11 Islamophobia and racialization
- Transnationalism and border studies
- Language, code-switching in Arab diasporic literature
- Arab diasporic media and film productions
- Trauma studies in Arab diasporic studies
- Space and identity in Arab diasporic studies
- Ecocritical approaches to Arab diasporic studies

Submission Guidelines:

Abstracts of 150-200 words should be submitted to Prof. Yousef Abu Amrieh at [y.awad@ju.edu.jo](mailto:y.awad@ju.edu.jo) and Dr. Eman Mukattash at [e.mukattash@ju.edu.jo](mailto:e.mukattash@ju.edu.jo) by September 6, 2025 along with a short biography.

Important Dates:

Abstract Deadline: September 6, 2025

Notification of Acceptance: September 20, 2025

Conference Date: November 22 and 23, 2025

Please visit <https://research.ju.edu.jo/research/groups/CADLS/home.aspx>