

## Call-for-Papers

### On Our Own Terms:

### Engaging Conversation about Writing Studies in the Middle East and North Africa

*MENA Writing Studies Journal* Inaugural Issue

*MENA Writing Studies Journal* is accepting proposals for its inaugural issue themed “**On Our Own Terms: Engaging Conversations about Writing Studies in the Middle East and North Africa.**” The journal provides a space for theoretical and pedagogical discussions among those researching writing in the MENA, teaching or tutoring writing in the MENA, working with students from the MENA who are studying in a different part of the world, or who are in some other way associated with writing in the MENA region.

For this issue, we invite contributions from scholars and practitioners who are looking for ways to think about Writing Studies and programs in the region to push them forward on our own terms—terms that are clearly originating from the needs and concerns of this social, cultural, and political context. We are welcoming proposals for two types of articles: relatively short conceptual pieces and full-length articles.

We are interested in defining our terms to document the decades of writing instruction and research practitioners in the region have been participating in that make them uniquely a product of the region. The early 21<sup>st</sup> century saw an exponential increase in Western universities and IBCs (International Branch Campuses) taking root in the MENA, which necessitates the increase of writing instruction. However, many of the methods adopted replicated the standards and practices of American and British programs, or even those that reflect linguistic colonial agendas. The phrase “in our terms” is meant to push against the parachuting in of methods while championing local, individual approaches to terminology and praxis. Our goal is to merge the rich, multifocal nature of the field with the local experiences of MENA students and writing programs, as a means to expand and broaden both the Writing Studies field broadly, and what Writing Studies is for the region, specifically.

Our inaugural issue invites 300-word proposals that can consider:

- students in the MENA, their backgrounds, motivations, obstacles
- methods and practices that reflect the changes happening in this context, and how writing pedagogies are being implemented to reflect them
- teachers and instructors, their needs and opinions, and teacher training and identity
- regional issues and how they influence topics in the classroom, freedom of expression, interactions among students, and other questions related to the teaching of writing
- changes and developments in writing studies and programs, in the methods, in student population, instructors, etc.

- writing program epistemologies
- definitions and conceptions of writing and writing instruction

This is not a comprehensive list; we welcome proposals intersecting the region and Writing Studies across genres and imaginations.

For this inaugural issue, we invite 300-word proposals for a range of essays, from short think pieces up to 3,000 words to full length essays up to 7,000 words.

### **Submission and Questions:**

Please submit proposals through this [form](#). **Due June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.**

Please reach out with questions or concerns: **menawritingstudies@aub.edu.lb**

We also invite you to visit our webpage (*MENA Writing Studies Journal*), and if you have full-length articles ready for a future submission, we urge you to submit.