

# Ahmad Damen

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## Work Experience

Middle East Broadcasting Network (Virginia, USA)

Jan 2016 – Now

### **Content Acquisition Specialist (Program Evaluator)**

Screened more than 4,500 hours and purchased 500+ hours of content from 500+ licensors.

My work proved instrumental in the network's relaunch.

I initiated and managed an online project to feature the network's acquisitions(webisodes).

Tasks include:

- Search and acquire documentaries from distributors and independent filmmakers. Participate in Reelscreen, IDFA, MipTV as a TV buyer.
- Make decisions on pitches. Content evaluation to fit different broadcast requirements.
- Create online content (webisodes)
- Schedule planning for the network's acquired content. Create generic and other scheduling grids.

Al Arz Production (Freelancer)

### **Journalist/Producer/Director – Programs & Documentaries**

May 2016 – Dec 2016

Supervised several ongoing series produced by Alarz Productions (content editing, training presenters, production values)

Flair Media Consultancy (Turkey)

Feb 2016 - May 2016

### **Programmes Producer**

- Producer of daily news show for TRT on Iraqi issues.
- In charge of three documentary series.
- Directed a feature documentary.

Birzeit University – Media Centre (Palestine)

Feb 2015 - Feb 2016

### **TV Unit Supervisor**

- Projects manager of TV content & training courses.
- Provided training for professionals and students on TV production, script writing, filming and other specialities.
- Part of a three-person team responsible for procuring university-wide filming equipment (bid evaluation, vendor interviews, and final selection).
- Archival research to obtain historical photos, maps, documents, etc. of traditional cities.
- Radio show producer and presenter on World Music.

Independent Music Composer & Sound Designer

2008 - 2016

### **Freelance – Part Time**

Composed & conducted original music soundtracks for nearly 20 award-winning documentaries, documentary series, independent fiction films, program jingles, and educational videos.

Al Arz Production (Palestine)

### **Producer/Director – Programs & Documentaries**

August 2011 – Jan 2015

- Wrote, produced, directed, & edited two feature documentaries: 'The Red Stone' & 'Forbidden Pilgrimage.' The films were officially selected in several international film festivals (won one award), and translated to several languages. 'The Red Stone': English, Arabic, French, Turkish. 'Forbidden Pilgrimage': English, Arabic & Italian).
- Documentary series on music bands (5 episodes).
- Media management on establishing a new online Arabic TV channel.
- Content editor for 'Beyond the Green Line' TV magazine series.

Al Jazeera English (Qatar)

**Reversioning Freelance Producer at Al Jazeera World Program**

Sept 2013 – Nov 2013

Devised a system for evaluating documentaries, translating and adapting from Arabic to English. Projects included:

- Dangerous Waters (Italy), 48 min
- Inside Shin Bet (Palestine), 48 min

Vision for TV Production Company (Jordan)

**Assistant Producer/Director - Documentaries**

Jan 2010 – August 2011

Assisted in producing, directing, conducting research on six documentaries

ABS Network (Jordan)

June 2009 – Dec 2009

**Marketing Project Manager**

- Created a new branding marketing strategy, including corporate dynamic website.
- Conducted negotiations with Reuters/Cairo on ABS covering the 2009 Afghani elections for Reuters
- Initiated an online-archive system: Selected, hired and supervised archive officers

## Education

MSc Management (With Merit)

Sept 2007 – Dec 2008

**University of Leeds, Leeds, UK**

Dissertation: Managing Change

Title: "The effect of forces of inertia on learning and innovation in the opera industry, UK: A Case Study".

BA Marketing (High Distinction; Top of class - GPA 3.95)

Oct 2003 - Feb 2007

**New York Institute of Technology, Amman, Jordan**

Music Studies: Music Composition & Oud studies

1999 – 2006

**National Music Institute (Ramallah); National Music Institute (Amman)**

ABRSM Certificate (Associated Board Royal Schools of Music/UK), Distinction, Dec 2007

Msc in Music Production and Technology

September 2016 - December 2016

**ITU University Music School – Istanbul**

Uncompleted due to travel and residency in the USA

## Awards

Public Speaking Contests (Three Awards – District 27)

**Toastmasters International**

Best Speech Evaluation in the city of Alexandria, VA

April 2019

Best 2<sup>nd</sup> Speaker in Division A (cities of Arlington, Fort Meyer, Southern DC)

April 2018

Best Speech in the city of Arlington, VA

April 2018

First Honorable Mention - Exemplary News Teams in Developing Countries

Oct 2014

**World Media Summit (Beijing) - Global Awards for Excellence**

Jury Special Selection - "The Red Stone"

May 2012

**Toronto Palestine Film Festival**

## Main Skills

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Video & Audio Editing and Filming                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sound Technology                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TV Producing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Film Acquisitions and Commissioning for Networks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TV Directing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizing training and educational workshops.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Writing and Research: eg. scripts, segments, content editing. | <input type="checkbox"/> Buying Negotiations (Procurement)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Story Telling  |   |