

Saifedean H. Ammous

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EDUCATION

- Columbia University, NY – USA**
- 2011 **PhD in Sustainable Development**
- One of the world's most selective PhD programs
 - Interdisciplinary natural and social science research grounded in economics
 - Recipient of Columbia Faculty Fellowship
 - Dissertation: *Alternative Energy Science and Policy: Biofuels as a Case Study*
 - Advising committee: John Mutter, Tanya Heikkila, Klaus Lackner, Nassim Taleb, & David Nissen
- 2007 **MPhil in Sustainable Development**
- 2006 **MA in Sustainable Development**
- London School of Economics, London - UK**
- 2004 **MSc in Development Management**
- Recipient of the Mohammad Bin Issa Al Jaber Foundation scholarship to fund LSE studies
 - Winner of the Irfan Ali Mowjee Award
 - Thesis: *The Quest for the Long-term Determinants of Economic Growth*
- American University of Beirut, Beirut - Lebanon**
- 2003 **Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering**

EXPERIENCE

- Lebanese American University, Beirut - Lebanon**
- 2011-Present **Assistant Professor of Economics**
- Taught Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Development Economics, International Economics.
 - Designed & conducted senior seminars on Market Economics, and global financial crisis of 2008.
- 2013-2016 **University Senator**
- 2013-2015 **Chair of Business School Academic Council**
- 2009-2011 **Lecturer in Economics**
- Columbia University Center on Capitalism & Society, NY - USA**
- Spring 2016 **Visiting Scholar**
- 2012-Present **Foreign Member**
- Summer 2011 **Visiting Scholar**
- Researched economic dynamics and innovation with Nobel-Prize laureate Edmund Phelps.
- 2013-Present **Thabit Economics, Wettingen - Switzerland**
- Founder and Principal Consultant**
- Started and operated a private economic research & consultancy boutique.
 - Led research & consulting services for various clients covering different socio-economic topics.
- 2010-2013 **Columbia University Middle East Research Center, Amman - Jordan**
- Lecturer in Economics**
- Designed and taught modules in economics to Jordanian civil servants.
- Columbia University, NY - USA**
- 2009 **Instructor**
- Created, designed the syllabus, and taught a 3-credit graduate course based on PhD dissertation.
- 2005-2006 **Head Teaching Assistant for Prof Jeffrey Sachs' Sustainable Development course**
- 2008-2010 **Member of Biofuels Working Group, headed by Prof Joseph Stiglitz**
- Daily Star Newspaper, Beirut - Lebanon**
- 2003 **Writer and Reporter**
- Zen TV Channel, Beirut, Lebanon**
- 2001 **TV Debate Show Host & Producer**

RESEARCH

Climate Change, the Knowledge Problem and the Good Life. With Edmund Phelps. The Journal of Private Enterprise, 30(1): 35-44.

Economics beyond Financial Intermediation: Digital currencies' potential for growth, poverty alleviation and international development. Journal of Private Enterprise, 30(3): Fall 2015: 19-50.

Root Sources of Innovation. With Edmund Phelps, Raicho Bojilov, and Gylfi Zoega. Forthcoming book, 2017.

Energy Systems and the Knowledge Problem: The Case of Biofuels. Center on Capitalism and Society Working Paper 85. April 2014.

Arab Corporatism. Chapter 4 in "Corruption and Economic Development". Cairo, Egypt: Economic Research Forum, 2012. Pp.161-190.

Corporatism, Capitalism and the Arab Spring. The Center on Capitalism and Society Working Paper No. 73. October 2011.

Biofuels: Science and Policy in Alternative Energy. 2010. PhD dissertation manuscript.

Entrago's Virtual World Currency. A design and implementation of a virtual currency to monetize and maximize celebrity-fan engagement. July 2013.

Biofuels Policies and their Impacts. With Joseph Stiglitz, Robert Howse, and Nazia Habib-Mintz. Initiative for Policy Dialogue's Hewlett project. January 2010.

CONFERENCE & SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

(Illustrative; Non-Exhaustive List)

Apr 2016: Oxford University Future of Europe Conference

Nov 2015: Columbia University Center on Capitalism and Society conference "Steps to Mass Flourishing"

May 2015: Columbia University Center on Capitalism and Society conference "Decoding the Complexity of Innovation"

September 2014: Columbia University Center on Capitalism and Society research seminar:

September 2014: New York University Colloquium on Market Institutions & Processes.

March 2012: Economic Research Forum Workshop on Political Economy of Arab Awakening, Cairo

MEDIA & PRESS

(Illustrative; Non-Exhaustive List)

2011-2014 Discussed socio-economic affairs on various satellite TV channels, in Arabic and English.

Jan 2011 **Financial Times.** 'Tunisians set off on road from serfdom' with Edmund Phelps

April 2011 <http://bit.ly/i44202>

June 2011 **Project Syndicate.** 'And now for an Arab economic revolution'

<http://t.co/ayNaicF>

Financial Times. 'Too much aid will hobble Arab Spring'. <http://t.co/wwDu3Qj>

SKILLS

Computer: Proficient in Stata, Mathematica, Matlab, ArcGIS, Simile, MS Office.

Languages: Fluent in reading, writing, and speaking Arabic and English.

Standardized test scores: GRE: 800 Quantitative, 620 Verbal. SAT: 720 Math, 590 Verbal.

OTHER

June 2008 **Manchester Advanced Graduate Workshop on Poverty, Development and Globalization**

Took part in the 3-week Workshop organized by Prof Joseph Stiglitz, Columbia University's Institute for Policy Dialogue, and University of Manchester's Brooks World Poverty Institute.

2006-2009 **Arab Student Association -SIPA - Columbia University**

- Founded and served as President of the first Arab Student Association in Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.
- Organized several successful fundraising, cultural and intellectual events.

2009-2016 **Amateur Football player & coach**

- Captain and coach of the Hamra Globetrotters amateur football team in Beirut.

REFERENCES

Edmund Phelps: esp2@columbia.edu

Nassim Taleb: nnt@fooledbyrandomness.com

Klaus Lackner: Klaus.Lackner@asu.edu