

## Department Of English Language and Literature

**STORING  
KNOWLEDGE  
IN  
LITERACY &  
LITERATURE**

**Eshkol Building**

**Observatory, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**University Of Haifa**

**28.02.2024**

**15:00 - 19:00**

## Detailed Program

**Welcome and refreshments 15:00**

**Professor Efraim Lev, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities**

**Dr. Keren Omry, Chair, Department of English Language and Literature**

**Keynote 15:10-15:50**

**Dr. Jennifer Lewin, session chair**

**Professor Ilana Blumberg (scroll down to Read Bio), Bar Ilan University,**

**"Big Education: Reading and Writing with Our Students"**

**Coffee break 15:50-16:00**



For More Information:

[english.haifa.ac.il](http://english.haifa.ac.il)

[haifaenglishconference@gmail.com](mailto:haifaenglishconference@gmail.com)

## Short talks 16:00-17:40

Dr. Hiam Nasseraldeen, session chair

Dr. Tziona Levi (scroll down to Read Bio), Chief Inspector, English Language  
Education, Ministry of Education, "Revisiting 'A Transdisciplinary Framework for Second  
Language Acquisition (SLA) in a Multilingual World'"

Professor Batia Laufer, Emerita, Department of  
English Language and Literature,  
University of Haifa, "Lexical Targets: Why they are Necessary and how they are implemented"

Dr. Roseanne Kheir (scroll down to Read Bio), "How the epistemic beliefs of English teachers  
shape their enactment of the curriculum"

## Roundtable on teaching literary texts 17:40-18:45

Ms. Simone Duval, District English Inspector of  
Jerusalem, Ministry of Education, session chair

Dr. Dara Barnat (scroll down to Read Bio), Head, Division of Languages, Tel  
Aviv University, "Thoughts on Teaching Academic Writing, Poetry, and Walt Whitman"

Dr. Alex Feldman (scroll down to Read Bio), Senior Lecturer, Department of  
English Language and Literature, Haifa, "Drama Inside and Out: Teaching Miller's *The  
Crucible*"

Ms. Jenny Wale (scroll down to Read Bio), PhD Candidate, Department of  
English Language and Literature, Haifa  
"Close Reading Novels: Shelley's *Frankenstein* through Content, Form and Context"



## Closing Remarks 18:45 – 19:00

Dr. Jennifer Lewin, "Informal Educational Frameworks: CJP and International Mentoring for Oral Skills"

### Brief biographies about some of our speaker:

Professor Ilana Blumberg:

Ilana M. Blumberg is author of two memoirs, *Houses of Study: a Jewish Woman among Books* (2007), winner of the Sami Rohr Choice Award, and *Open Your Hand: Teaching as a Jew, Teaching as an American* (2018), both of which evoke her experiences as a reader, a learner and a teacher. She is also author of two scholarly studies, *Victorian Sacrifice* (2013) and the forthcoming *George Eliot: Whole Soul* (2024). She has been honored with teaching awards from Michigan State University and the University of Pennsylvania, has twice received grants from the Israel Science Foundation, as well as the American Association of University Women and the National Humanities Center. Ilana has taught at Bar Ilan for the last nine years where her interests focus on memoir and autobiography, and democratic citizenship.

Dr. Tziona Levi:

Tziona Levi is the Director of the Department of Languages at Israel's Ministry-of-Education and the chief inspector for English studies. Her interests include applying dynamic assessment (DA) and assessment-for-learning (FA) to (EFL) learning contexts. She established 68 teacher Learning- Communities across Israel to improve professional development and English oral proficiency in schools. She led the rewriting of the Israeli EFL curriculum to align with the CEFR and oversees its implementation.

Professor Batia Laufer:

Batia Laufer was educated in Israel, the Netherlands, and the UK, and her main area of research is Second Language Vocabulary Acquisition. She has over 120 publications- books and articles in journals and collections- and has given over 140 conference presentations and invited lectures. She serves as a referee for 35 academic journals and her work has been cited



over 32,000 times. When she served on the Council for Higher Education, she initiated the reform in EFL teaching in tertiary education in Israel.

**Dr. Dara Barnat:**

Dara Barnat is a scholar of poetry and a poet, who specializes in American poetry and Walt Whitman Studies. She holds a Ph.D. from Tel Aviv University, where she currently serves as Head of the Division of Languages. Dara's scholarly book *Walt Whitman and the Making of Jewish American Poetry* was recently published by the University of Iowa Press, Iowa Whitman Series (2023). Other critical articles on poetry appear or are forthcoming in *The Oxford Handbook of Walt Whitman*, *Studies in American Jewish Literature*, *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, and elsewhere. Dara's most recent collection of poetry is a chapbook titled *The City I Run From: Poems of Tel Aviv* (2020). Other poems and translations from Hebrew appear in journals including *Los Angeles Review of Books* and *World Literature Today*.

**Dr. Roseanne Kheir Farraj:**

Kheir is an English teacher and researcher at the tertiary level. Her work focuses both on remedial courses for academic literacy and on content courses where English is the medium of instruction. In her doctoral dissertation, she investigated the epistemic beliefs of English teachers in the Arab sector, how these beliefs originated, and how they shape teachers' interpretation of the academic literacy underlying the national English curriculum. Currently, she is the head of the English Unit at Yezreel Valley College. Her research projects revolve around the use of artificial intelligence in English learning and teaching.

**Dr. Alex Feldman:**

Alex Feldman is a Senior Lecturer in the English Department at the University of Haifa, specializing in modern drama. He completed his doctorate at Merton College, Oxford and has held posts at the University of Texas at Austin and MacEwan University, in Alberta, Canada. His research, which has been published in *Law & Literature*, *Law, Culture and the Humanities*, *Modern Drama*, *Comparative Drama*, *New Theatre Quarterly*, *Modernism/modernity* and elsewhere, focuses upon representations of law and justice in theatre. He is currently working on two projects: *Terence Rattigan: New Critical Perspectives*, a co-edited essay collection, with Dan Rebellato, under contract with Cambridge University Press, and a monograph entitled *The Rigging of the Law*, concerned with jurisprudential drama on the twentieth- and twenty-first-century stage.



**Ms. Jenny Wale:**

Jenny Wale is a PhD candidate in the University of Haifa English department under the supervision of Professor Ayelet Ben-Yishai. Her research focuses on the realist novel's representation of Christianity in the work of George Eliot and Marilynne Robinson. She has taught the BA Survey II course at Haifa University, which covers the Restoration and Eighteenth Century, Romantic, and Victorian literature, for the past 5 years as both a teaching assistant and course lecturer. Prior to that, she taught at Haifa's Reali Bet Biram for 6 years, teaching grades 10 - 12 and preparing students for the Bagrut.

