



ASSOCIATE PROF. DR. NURUL FARHANA LOW BT ABDULLAH

English Language Studies Section
School of Humanities

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BIOGRAPHY

Nurul Farhana is an Associate Professor of the English Language Studies Section at the School of Humanities. She teaches undergraduate courses in Literature and supervises postgraduate students in various topics related to literary studies. Although Shakespeare Studies and aspects of performance in teaching/ learning Literature is her primary research focus, Nurul also publishes articles in various other areas within the field of literary studies, as part of the core duties of postgraduate supervision. She has also been actively involved in research and publication covering aspects of Malaysian Local Knowledge under USM's Local Knowledge Group and has edited several volumes of essays on the field. She has also contributed to USM as an instructor for the co-curriculum course on Public Speaking in English.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- SHAKESPEARE STUDIES
- LITERARY STUDIES
- CRITICAL THEORY
- LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION

- **PHD (UM) (2010), (ENGLISH LITERATURE)**
Universiti Malaya (UM)
- **MPHIL (BHAM, UK) (2000), (CONTEMPORARY CRITICAL THEORY)**
University of Birmingham (BHAM)
- **BA (HONS) (USM) (1997), (English Language & Literature Studies)**
Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)

ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES

- **DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

01 March 2014 - 31 July 2015 (Strategic Communication Office/ MPRC USM)

- **SECTION CHAIRPERSON**

01 January 2019 – 31 December 2021 (English Language Studies Section, School of Humanities, USM)

MEMBERSHIPS

1. **MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION**

2006 to present (International)

2. **FOUNDING MEMBER, ASIAN SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION**

2012 to present (International)

AWARDS AND STEWARDSHIP

3.

1. **EXCELLENCE SERVICE AWARD**

University Sains Malaysia, 2020 (University)

2. **EXCELLENCE SERVICE AWARD**

University Sains Malaysia, 2013 (University)

PUBLICATIONS

Article in Journal

WoS

1. Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low Bt (2009), *Bangsawan Shakespeare in Colonial Malaya*, in Huang, ACS & Ross CS (eds.), *Shakespeare in Hollywood, Asia and Cyberspace*, pp. 139-151.
2. Hezaveh, Leila Rezaei ; Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low & Yaapar, Md Salleh, (2014), *Revitalizing Identity in Language: A Kristevan Psychoanalysis of Suddenly Last Summer*, *GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies* 14(2), pp. 1-13, DOI10.17576/GEMA-2014-1402-01
3. Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low Bt. (2015), *The politics and economics of Malaysian campus productions of Shakespeare* in Hartley, AJ (ed.) *Shakespeare on the University Stage*, pp. 168-184.
4. Hezaveh, Leila Rezaei ; Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low Bt.& Yaapar, Md Salleh (2015), *Reconstructing an Identity: A Psychoanalytical Reading of The Night of the Iguana by Tennessee Williams*, *International Journal of Applied Psychoanalytic Studies* 12(4), pp. 325-225, DOI10.1002/aps.1409
5. Liao, Agnes Wei Lin; Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low & Muhammad, Suzana Hj. (2015) *Anxiety in Learning and Performing a Shakespeare Play*, *Procedia Social and Behavioral Sciences* 208, pp.233-239.
6. Asl, Moussa Pourya; Hull, Simon Peter & Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low (2016), *Nihilation of Femininity in the Battle of Looks: A Sartrean Reading of Jhumpa Lahiri's "A Temporary Matter"*, *GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies* 16(2), pp. 123-139

7. ASL, Moussa Pourya & Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low (2017), Circulation of the Discourse of American Nationalism through Allegiance to Consumer Citizenship in Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake*, GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies 17 (2) pp. 54-68. DOI10.17576/gema-2017-1702-04.
8. ASL, Moussa Pourya & Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low (2017), Practices of (Neoliberal) Governmentality: Racial and Gendered Gaze in Jhumpa Lahiri's Fiction, 3L The Southeast Asian Journal of English Language Studies 23 (2), pp. 123-140. DOI10.17576/3L-2017-2302-10
9. Richardson, Christopher; Yaapar, Md Salleh & Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low (2017), Understanding Malay and Chinese work ethics in Malaysia through proverbs, International Journal of Cross Cultural Management 17(3), pp.365-377. DOI10.1177/1470595817742930
10. Asl, Moussa Pourya; Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low & Yaapar, MS (2018), Sexual Politics of the Gaze and Objectification of the (Immigrant) Woman in Jhumpa Lahiri's *Interpreter of Maladies*, American Studies in Scandinavia 50 (2), pp. 89-109.
11. Asl, Moussa Pourya; Abdullah, Nurul Farhana Low & Yaapar, MS (2020), Panoptic spaces and the framings of South Asian diaspora in Jhumpa Lahiri's selected short stories, Cogent Arts & Humanities 7(1), DOI10.1080/23311983.2020.1728022
12. Afzal, Malik Haroon, Mohd Rashidi Mohd Pakri & Nurul Farhana Low bt Abdullah (2021), Pre-9/11 Politics of Islamophobia and Hanif Kureishi's *The Black Album* (1995), GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies 21(2), pp. 72- 87

ESCI

13. Badurais, RSA; Abdullah, NFL & Pakri, MRM, Tracing Issues of the Deferred/Differed Contemporary Australian Jewish Identity: Bavati's *Dancing in the Dark* and Brous' *I Am Max Lamm* under the Deconstructive Lens, GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies 23 (2), pp. 188-206.

Scopus

14. Moussa Pourya Asl, Nurul Farhana Low bt Abdullah & Md Salleh Yaapar, (2016) Mechanisms of Mobility in a Capitalist Culture: The Localisation of the Eye of (Global) Authority in the Novel and the Film of Jhumpa Lahiri's "The Namesake", *Kemanusiaan The Asian Journal of Humanities*, Vol. 23, Supp. 2, (2016), 137–159.
15. Low bt Abdullah, N.F & Shafii, A.S.H (2017) Makyung Titis Sakti: Reflections on Malay traditional performance, culture and the Malay worldview through an adaptation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in *Shakespeare's Asian Journeys: Critical Encounters, Cultural Geographies, and the Politics of Travel*, pp.183-198.
16. Afzal, Malik Haroon, Mohd Rashidi Mohd Pakri & Nurul Farhana Low bt Abdullah (2021), Is Women's Empowerment a Thucydides' Trap for Patriarchy in Pakistan? The Aurat (Woman) March-2020 and Bina Shah's *Before She Sleeps*, *Journal of International Women's Studies* 22(9), pp. 111–127.
17. Afzal, Malik Haroon, Mohd Rashidi Mohd Pakri & Nurul Farhana Low bt Abdullah (2022), Islamization vs. Islamophobia: A New Historicist Reading of Cold War Politics in Contemporary Pakistani Anglophone Fiction, *International Journal of Arabic-English Studies* 22 (1), pp. 257-274.
18. Ali, Z.F; Abdullah, NFLB & Yaapar, MS (2022), Character's Ambivalence of Faith in *Sugar Street*, *Res Militaris*, 2022, 12(2), pp. 4834–4845

19. Othman, JA & Abdullah, NFL (2023), Overcoming Adversity and Challenging Ethnocentric Perceptions: An Ethnographic Case Study of Traditional Malay Boat Making in Terengganu, *Kemanusiaan* 30, pp. 87–101, doi.org/10.21315/kajh2023.30.s1.6
20. Hajar Abdul Rahim and Nurul Farhana Low (2023), Overcoming adversity, embracing change: Addressing challenges in language and culture in Asia. *KEMANUSIAAN the Asian Journal of Humanities* 30(Supp. 1): 1–8. doi.org/10.21315/kajh2023.30.s1.1

Others

21. Nurul Farhana Low bt Abdullah (2012), The Politics of Shakespeare Translation and Publication in Malaya, *Traducao em Revista*, DOI.ORG/10.17771/PUCRIO.TRADREV.19727 (Non-indexed journal)
22. Rasha Saeed Abdullah Badurais & Nurul Farhana Low bt Abdullah (2020), On Différance between Shakespeare's Shylock and Bakathir's Shylock, *AWEJ for Translation and Literary Studies* 4 (3), pp. 97-119 (MyCite) <http://dx.doi.org/10.24093/awejtls/vol4no3.8>
23. Rasha Saeed Abdullah Badurais, Nurul Farhana Low bt Abdullah and Mohd Rashidi Mohd Pakri, (2023), How to Walk Away from the Trauma Corner: A Deconstructive Analysis of Besser's *Man in the Corner* and Birman's *How To Walk Away*, *AWEJ for Translation and Literary Studies* 7 (1), pp. 284-300 (MyCite) <http://dx.doi.org/10.24093/awejtls/vol7no1.21>

Books

24. Mohamad Rashidi Bin Mohd Pakri & Nurul Farhana Low Bt. Abdullah, 2012, *Retracing Tradition for a Sustainable Future: The Malaysian Experience*, Penerbit USM (Universiti Sains Malaysia)
25. Salasiah Binti Che Lah, Nurul Farhana Low Bt. Abdullah & Mohamad Rashidi Bin Mohd Pakri, 2013, *Reengineering Local Knowledge: Current Issues and Practices*, Penerbit USM (Universiti Sains Malaysia)
26. Mohamad Rashidi Bin Mohd Pakri, Nurul Farhana Low Bt. Abdullah, 2017, *Dynamism of Local Knowledge: Revisiting History and Culture*, Penerbit USM (Universiti Sains Malaysia)
27. Rahimah A. Hamid, Nurul Farhana Low Bt. Abdullah, 2017, *Akal Budi dalam Sastera Rakyat Naratif dan Bukan Naratif*, Penerbit USM (Universiti Sains Malaysia)
28. A.S Hardy Bin Shafii, Mumtaz Begum Binti PV Aboo Backer, Nurul Farhana Low Bt. Abdullah, 2017, *Locating the Soul of Healing Performance in Malaysia*, Penerbit USM (Universiti Sains Malaysia)

Chapter in Books

29. Nurul Farhana Low bt Abdullah & Lim Chee Seng (2010) Shakespeare in the Shadows: Cultural Alienation, Politics, and Eddin Khoo's Shadow Puppet Adaptation of Macbeth in *Replaying Shakespeare in Asia* (Routledge) pp. 221-234.
30. Nurul Farhana Low bt Abdullah (2014), "Malaysian English in Postcolonial Adaptations of Shakespeare in Malaysia" in *English in Malaysia Postcolonial and Beyond*, Hajar Abdul Rahman & Shakila Abdul Manan (Volume editors) *Linguistics Insights* 183 (Peter Lang).

RESEARCH PROJECT

International

1. 2015 - 2020, GEF Global Environmental Facility

Community Understanding and Management of Dugong and Seagrass Resources in Johor, Malaysia (researcher)

National

1. 2011 - 2014, Fundamental Research Grant Scheme (FRGS)

Intercultural Performativity In Learning And Interpreting Shakespearean Plays: Towards A New Model For Learning Literature (PI)

2. 2012 – 2017, Long Term Research Grant Scheme (LRGS)

STUDYING PERFORMANCE ASPECTS IN MALAY TRADITIONAL HEALING PRACTICES (researcher)

3. 2019 – 2022, Fundamental Research Grant Scheme (FRGS)

Defining a New Method of Structural and Cultural Coding of Traditional Terengganu Boats Towards a Sustainable Malaysian Cultural Heritage (researcher)

University

1. 2019 - 2023, Research University (RU)

Spiritual Jihad and Intervention Through Drama by Shakespeare or Other Playwrights: A Case Study Investigating the Effectiveness of Drama Performance in Preventing Essentialist Tendencies (PI)

2. 2019 – 2022, University Short Term Grant

Poetics and Politics of Space in Post-9/11 Asian American Diasporic Literature (researcher)

CONSULTANCY PROJECT

2014 & 2016 Gustavus Adolphus College Semester in Malaysia (Living Diversity), Gustavus Adolphus College

2016- 2020 Kyoto University of Foreign Studies (KUFS) English Program

2023 Communication Skills for Global Citizenship., Rajamangala University of Technology Srivijaya

PAPER PRESENTED

Invited Seminar

1. Xiamen University Malaysian Literature Forum - Malaysian Culture and Diversity: Shih-Li Kow's Short Stories Forum, 5 Dec 2022

2. Konsep Kearifan Tempatan dan Usaha Pemetaannya di Malaysia, Hotel Premiera, Kuala Lumpur, IKIM, Seminar Pemeliharaan & Pengukuhan Kearifan Tempatan: Perspektif Islam, (National) 21 November 2023

Invited Speaker

1. Travelling Companies in Asia around the Turn of the Twentieth Century and their Impact on Penang and Singapore, Stratford upon Avon and London, U.K., The International Shakespeare Association, Tenth World Shakespeare Congress (International) (31 July – 6 August, 2016)
2. Shakespeare, and Early Twentieth-Century Malaya, New York University Abu Dhabi, New York University Abu Dhabi, FOLIO TO TRICENTENARY: BECOMING GLOBAL SHAKESPEARE, 1623 - 1916 (International) (9 – 11 October, 2017)

ACADEMIC/PROF. SERVICES

Evaluation

1. (2023) Siti Noor Aisyah Binti Hasnan, Memory and Post-Memory: The Construction of 'Home' and the Trope of 'Return' in Asian-Australian Life-writings, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
2. (2022) ALMAHERA BINTI ABU HASSAN, Idealisme Pembebasan dan Pembaharuan: Suatu Kajian Humanisme Islam dalam Karya Terpilih Kuntowijoyo, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
3. (2022) Jayanthi A/P Muniandy, Investigating Factors Influencing ESP Learners' Behavioural Intention towards the Use of Edmodo at A Malaysian Public University, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
4. (2021) Dwelee Ali Naeem Dwelee, Nefarious Characters in the Selected Plays by G.B. Shaw: The Machiavellian and Naturalistic Perspectives, PhD, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, (External Examiner)
5. (2021) Sadiya Abubakar Isa, Islamophobia in American Novels: A Contrapuntal Reading of the Jewel of Medina, Falling Man and Infidel, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
6. (2020) Azura Binti Abdul Aziz, Gurindam Pengarang Awal Abad Ke-21 dan Gurindam Raja Ali Haji: Satu Kajian Estetika dan Fungsi, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
7. (2018) Luis J. Conejero, Biblical intertextuality found in Shakespeare's second tetralogy and its translations into Spanish, PhD, Universidad de Extremadura, (External Examiner)
8. (2018) Mahta Khaksari, A Study of Narrative Structure, Embedded Themes and Values in Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson and the Sea of Monsters, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
9. (2019) Soheila Farhani Nejad, An Investigation into the Nature of Reader-Text Relationship in Iris Murdoch's The Unicorn and The Sea, The Sea, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
10. (2017) Florence Toh Haw Ching, Towards Self-Efficacy and Solidarity as Resistance Against Domination in Selected Works by Jaqueline Wilson, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
11. (2017) SHAIK HUSSEINUDIN B. BABU ALI, THE POSTMODERN SELF: NEGOTIATING IDENTITIES IN THE SELECTED SHORT STORIES OF KARIM RASLAN AND DINA ZAMAN, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
12. (2016) Marzban Mahdavi Tootkaboni, The Worlds In Between and the Challenges of Others' Identity: A Postcolonial Reading of Selected Works of Richard Wright, Andres Dubus II and Preeta Samarasan, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
13. (2012) Zahra Khozaei Ravari, Resisting Gender and Class Oppression in Caryl Churchill's Selected Plays: A Feminist Study, PhD, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
14. (2020) NATASHA ANANDA KRISHNAN, Mental Illness As A Form of Agency in Han Kang's The Vegetarian and Mira T. Lee's Everything Here is Beautiful, M.A mixed mode, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)

15. (2019) Deeviya Nambbiar A/P Prabhakaran, Language Mindset of Year 6 Students and the Learning of the Language Arts Component, M.A mixed mode, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
16. (2018) Kasturi a/p Kurunathan, A Comparative Study of Race and Class in Rani Manicka's The Rice Mother and The Japanese Lover, M.A mixed mode, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
17. (2016) Goh Sue Yin, The Retrieval of the Feminist Self in Buchi Emecheta's The Joys of Motherhood, M.A mixed mode, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
18. (2015) Koik Shuh Jie, The Art of Murder: A Comparative Study of the Crime Writing of Thomas de Quincey and Keigo Higashino, M.A mixed mode, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
19. (2014) Elizabeth Joanny Openg, An Analysis of Textual Voice and Colonial Discourse in Agnes Keith's Early Writings, M.A mixed mode, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
20. (2013) Kasturi a/p Krishnan, Oppression, Resistance and Empowerment in Shobhan Bantwal's The Dowry Bride and The Forbidden Daughter, M.A mixed mode, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)
21. (2010) Foong Soon Seng, Redefining Women's Madness in Sylvia Plath's The Bell Jar and Margaret Atwood's Surfacing, M.A mixed mode, Universiti Sains Malaysia, (Internal Examiner)

Media appearance

1. (2016) Shakespeare in Malaysia – The Straits Times Singapore (Interview)
2. (2016) The University of Birmingham, Malaysia and Shakespeare – University of Birmingham Alumni (interview)

SUPERVISION

PhD

1. (2015) Fragmented Identities In Tennessee Williams' Selected Plays: A Kristevan Reading, LEYLA REZAEIHEZAVEH, PhD (Graduated)
2. (2015) Fragmentation As Gender Trap: A Feminist Reading Of Selected Dramas By Henrik Ibsen And George Bernard Shaw, AZHAR JASIM ALI (Graduated)
3. (2018) Racial and Gendered In/Visibility: Reading Jhumpa Lahiri's Fiction as a Response to the Objectification of the Diasporic Subject in the West, Moussa Pourya Asl, PhD (Graduated)
4. (2022) A New Historicist Reading of Islamization and Islamophobia in Selected Contemporary Pakistani Diasporic Fiction, MALIK HAROON AFZAL, PhD (Graduated)
5. (2023) Issues of Identity in 21st-Century Selected Australian Jewish Fiction: An Analysis Based on Derrida's Concept of Difference, Rasha Saeed Abdullah Badurais, PhD (Graduated)
6. (2023) A Critical Analysis of Selected English Literary Texts Translated into Japanese before the Second World War, YOSUKE NIMURA, PhD (Graduated)
7. (2019) Analyzing the representation of Choorha Christians in Pakistani English Novels: Our Lady of Alice Bhatti, The Golden legend, Slum Child, HAMID MUKHTAR KHAN, PhD (ongoing)
8. (2020) Faith, Skepticism, and Literary Expression: A Study of Ambivalence and Its Role in Naguib Mahfouz's Selected Novels, AL AJWADEE ZINAH FADHIL ALI, PhD (ongoing)
9. (2021) Gu Hongmin's Works, CAO LEI, PhD (ongoing)
10. (2021) Virginia Woolf's works, Ge Yanmei, PhD (ongoing)
11. (2022) Exploring Spatial Narratives: Aesthetic Dimensions and Social Commentary in Carson McCullers's Novels, Sun Xiaomei, PhD (ongoing)

12. (2023) Study on Culture and Cultural Impact on Personal Happiness Revealed in Shakespeare's and Tang Xianzu's Works Based on Albert Bandura's Social Cognitive Theory, Zhao Ajuan, PhD (ongoing)
13. (2023) Exploring Chinese Literary Scholars' Lack of Interests in Researching Shakespearean Sonnets, Luo Jun, PhD (ongoing)
14. (2024) topic to be determined, ZHANG ZONGNING, PhD (ongoing)

Master

1. (2018) Youth Suicide as Tillichian Anxiety and Courage: An Existential Reading of Two Popular American Young Adult Novels, TAN SIN TIEN, MA (Graduated)
 2. (2022) Suicide in Shakespeare Plays, JAZMIN WAHIDAH BINTI MOHD MUHAIYIDDIN, MA (ongoing)
- * 8 MA mixed mode Dissertations (graduated)

TEACHING

Bachelor

1. HXE 114 – MODERN LITERARY THEORY
2. HXE 115 – A SURVEY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
3. HET 327 – ENGLISH STUDIES PROJECT
4. HXE 305 – MALAYSIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
5. HXE 310 – GLOBAL SHAKESPEARE
6. HXE 316 – THE ENGLISH NOVEL
7. HXE 420 – LITERATURE IN THE RENAISSANCE PERIOD
8. WEC 103E – PUBLIC SPEAKING IN ENGLISH