

# Aline Zghayyar Abassian

Associate Professor

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## CV AT-A-GLANCE

- Ph.D. in Education, Mathematics Education (2018). University of Central Florida
- Actively engaged in teaching, service, and research in the mathematics/mathematics education field.
- 30 + Peer-Reviewed Presentations and Publications in International, National, Regional, and Statewide Conferences and Journals since 2012
- 15+ Mathematics and Mathematics Education Preps taught.
- 18 credit hours of graduate-level mathematics and statistics

## EDUCATION

2018            Doctor of Philosophy, Education-Mathematics Education  
                  +18 credit hours of graduate-level mathematics and statistics  
                  University of Central Florida

*Dissertation Title: A Case Study Exploring the Relationship between Model-Eliciting Activities and Prospective Secondary Teachers' Mathematical Knowledge for Teaching Algebra Topics*

2014            Master of Education, Teacher Leadership-Mathematics Education  
                  University of Central Florida

2012            Bachelor of Science in Secondary Mathematics Education  
                  University of Central Florida

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Seminole State College of Florida— School of Arts and Sciences**

2020-Present    **Associate Professor, Mathematics**

- Maintain and develop student-centered mathematics curriculum.
- Advise and teach undergraduate and high school dual-enrollment students
- Lead professional development workshops related to equity and effective pedagogical practices to faculty
- Participate in department and college activities and serve on committees.
- Establish and maintain relationships with local high schools and university partners.

- Engage with the mathematics education researchers and practitioners to remain current with best teaching and learning practices.
- Implement strategies to increase student retention and completion.
- Director of the Seminole County's High School Mathematics Contest
- Maintain an active research agenda related to equitable mathematics education in post-secondary mathematics classes.

## **University of Central Florida — College of Community Innovation and Education**

### **2019-2020 Visiting Lecturer, Mathematics Education**

- Program Coordinator, Mathematics Education track of Secondary Education B.S
- Program Coordinator, Mathematics Education track of Teacher Education MAT
- Program Coordinator, Mathematics Education track of Secondary Education MED
- Taught undergraduate and graduate mathematics education courses to pre-service and in-service teachers
- Coordinated internship clinical experiences to pre-service teachers
- Co-Founded UCF Council of Teachers of Mathematics (CTM) student organization.
- Mentored undergraduate and graduate students (masters' and doctoral)
- Appointed as a Graduate Faculty Scholar in the College of Graduate Studies.
- Maintained active practice-based and research agenda in mathematics education

### **2018-2019 Postdoctoral Scholar, STEM Education**

- Sub-Investigator on NASA grant STEM Satellites.
- Taught and Co-taught undergraduate and graduate mathematics education and STEM education courses.
- Mentored and coordinated pre-service teacher interns.
- Built mathematics curriculum for *UCF's PedsAcademy at Nemours Children's Hospital*
- Taught mathematics, robotics, and engineering to elementary, middle, and high school students at *UCF's PedsAcademy at Nemours Children's Hospital*

### **2015-2018 Graduate Teaching Associate, Mathematics Education**

- Taught and Co-taught undergraduate and graduate mathematics education courses.
- Developed mathematics education lesson plans and instructional materials for elementary preservice teachers.
- Lead professional development workshops for preservice and practicing teachers, focused on enhancing content and pedagogical content knowledge.
- Presented and published papers at state, national, and international peer reviewed/refereed education conferences and journals.

### **2012-2014 Graduate Research Assistant, Mathematics Education**

- Graduate Research Assistant on the Geometry Professional Development Series for Teachers (GPS for teachers), a Florida Department of Education Teacher Quality Grant.

- Lead professional development workshops to help improve practicing teachers' content knowledge in geometry.
- Developed and organized instructional materials focused on secondary geometry content.
- Presented papers at state and national peer reviewed/refereed education conferences.

### **Seminole County Public Schools — Lake Brantley High School**

#### **2012-2015 Mathematics Teacher**

- Taught Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Mathematics for College Readiness, Pre-Calculus, and Trigonometry.
- Lead a school-wide project that focused on helping at risk students achieve success in mathematics standardized tests.
- Developed lesson plans and instructional materials for professional learning communities.

### **SCHOLARSHIP**

#### **Presentations:**

##### National/International Conferences (Peer Reviewed/Refereed)

**Abassian, A & Edelen, D.** (2022, September). *Empowering each and every student through mathematical modeling*. Presentation to be given at the Annual Meeting and Exposition of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Los Angeles, CA. (Presentation canceled due to Hurricane Ian)

Desai, S. **Abassian, A.** Kurtz B. & Safi, F. (2022, September). *Ethnomodeling: Connecting art, history, culture, and mathematical modeling*. Presentation to be given at the Annual Meeting and Exposition of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Los Angeles, CA. (Presentation canceled due to Hurricane Ian)

**Abassian, A.** Desai, S. & Curry, H. (2021, April). *Completing the square: A geometric approach to an algebraic topic*. Presentation given at the Virtual Annual Meeting and Exposition of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

**Abassian, A.** & Desai, S. (2021, February). *Completing the square: Making sense of completing the square*. **Invited virtual presentation** given at the Georgia Southern University General Mathematics and Sciences Colloquium. Statesboro, GA

**Abassian, A.** Desai, S. & Curry, H. (2020, November). *Completing the Incomplete: Making Sense of Completing the Square*. Presentation given at the Virtual Annual Meeting and Exposition of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

**Abassian, A** & Safi, F. (2020, November). *Mathematizing multi-level marketing*. Presentation given at the Virtual Annual Meeting and Exposition of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

**Abassian, A & Safi, F.** (2020, April). *Reigniting mathematical wonder through mathematical modeling*. Presentation to be given at the Centennial Meeting and Exposition of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Chicago, IL. (Conference canceled)

Safi, F., Abassian, A., Roy, G., & Kebreab, L. (2020, April). *Modeling equitable teaching practices: Focusing on identity, intentionality and privilege to achieve desired learning outcome*. Presentation to be given at the annual meeting of the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics. Chicago, IL. (Conference canceled)

**Abassian, A & Safi, F.** (2019, April). *Eliciting prospective secondary teachers' MKT through modeling activities*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. San Diego, CA.

**Abassian, A.** (2019, February). *Eliciting prospective secondary teachers' MKT through modeling activities*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators. Orlando, FL.

**Abassian, A. & Safi, F.** (2018, April). *Making sense of the world through mathematics, and of mathematics through the world*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Washington, D.C.

**Abassian, A. & Safi, F.** (2018, February). *Exploring mathematical modeling in relation to secondary preservice teachers' content knowledge*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators. Houston, TX.

**Abassian, A. & Safi, F.** (2017, October). *Making sense of mathematics through modeling*. Paper presented at the regional conference of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Orlando, FL.

**Abassian, A. & Safi, F.** (2017, April). *Exploring progression of mathematical modeling from elementary to high school*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. San Antonio, TX.

Safi, F. & **Abassian, A.** (2017, April). *Implement and reflect on challenging mathematical modeling tasks to engage and empower ALL students*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. San Antonio, TX.

Haciomeroglu, E. S., **Abassian, A.** & Eisenreich, H. *Completing the incomplete: making sense of completing the square using manipulatives*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. San Antonio, TX.

Safi, F. & **Abassian, A.** (2017, February). *Informing instructional practice and pedagogical preparation through mathematical modeling*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators. Orlando, FL.

**Abassian, A.** (2016, February). *Prospective teachers' understanding of the sine and cosine curves in relation to the unit circle*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Research Council on Mathematics Learning, Orlando, FL.

Andreasen, J.B., Haciomeroglu, E.S., **Zghayyar, A.**, Knote, E., & Manali, B. (2013, June). *Enhancing the implementation of the SMP in geometry through professional development using dynamic geometry software*. Roundtable presentation given at the annual meeting of the Science and Mathematics Teacher Imperative, St. Louis, MO.

State Conferences (Peer Reviewed/Refereed)

**Abassian, A.** (2022, June). *Where did all of this come from?" Helping students make sense of completing the square & factoring*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Orlando, FL

**Abassian, A.** & Desai, S. (2021, June). *Completing the square: A geometric approach to an algebraic topic*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Orlando, FL

Desai, S. & **Abassian A.** (2021, June). *Mathematical Modeling through a lens of art and culture*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Orlando, FL.

**Abassian, A.** & Safi, F. (2019, October). *Reigniting mathematical wonder through mathematical modeling*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Daytona Beach, FL

**Abassian, A.** & Safi, F. (2018, October). *Dive into mathematics through model-eliciting activities (MEAs)*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Daytona Beach, FL

Safi, F. & **Abassian, A.** (2018, October). *Mathematical sense making and understanding social contexts: A beautiful & necessary partnership*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Daytona Beach, FL

**Abassian, A.** (2017, March). *Investigating secondary preservice teachers' (PSTs) subject matter and pedagogical content knowledge in relation to mathematical modeling*. Poster presented at the College of Education and Human Performance Graduate Research Showcase, Orlando, FL.

**Abassian, A.** & Safi, F. (2016, October). *The development of mathematical modeling from elementary to high school*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Orlando, FL

Haciomeroglu, E.S., Eisenreich, H., **Abassian, A.** (2016, October). *Making sense of quadratic functions*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Orlando, FL

**Abassian, A.** & Sutherland-Campbell, M. (2016, April). *Literature in the mathematics classroom: The case of Mr. Bowditch*. Presentation given at the Literacy Symposium, Orlando, FL.

**Abassian, A.** (2015, October). *Making sense of the sine and cosine curves using manipulatives*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Orlando, FL

Safi, F., & **Abassian, A.** (2015, October). *Engaging students through mathematical modeling*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Orlando, FL

Andreasen, J.B., McGinley, D., & **Zghayyar, A.** (2013, October). *Using stations to make sense of three dimensional relationships*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Orlando, FL.

Andreasen, J.B., McGinley, D., **Zghayyar, A.**, & Bawatneh, Z. (2012, October). *Screen-capture software for teaching, learning, and assessing mathematics*. Presentation given at the annual meeting of the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Orlando, FL.

### **Publications (Refereed):**

Safi, F., Desai, S., Kurtz, B. & **Abassian, A.** (Accepted) Shifting away from unjust representations: linking census data to redistricting and connections to gerrymandering. A chapter in Math in Action Book, NCTM.

**Abassian, A.**, Desai, S, Curry, H. & Eisenreich, H. Completing the Incomplete: Making Sense of Completing the Squares. *Dimensions in Mathematics*, 41(1), 5-12

**Abassian, A., Safi, F. (2020).** Mathematizing multi-level marketing (MLM): Helping students make sense of and avoid pyramid schemes. *PK-12 MTLT*, 113(5), 416-421. DOI:

**Abassian, A.**, Safi, F., Bush, S. B., & Bostic, J. (2020). Five different perspectives on mathematical modeling in mathematics education. *Investigations in Mathematics Learning*, 12 (1), 53-65. DOI: 10.1080/19477503.2019.1595360

Edelen, D., Bush, S. B., Simpson, H., Cook, K. L., **Abassian, A.** (2020). Moving towards shared realities through empathy in mathematical modeling: An ecological systems theory approach. *School Science and Mathematics*, 120 (3), 144-152. DOI: 10.1111/SSM.12396

Edelen, D., Bush, S. **Abassian, A.** (2020). Using mathematical modeling to bridge unshared realities through empathy. *School Science and Mathematics*, 120 (3), e4-e6. DOI: 10.1111/SSM.12396

**Abassian, A.**, & Safi, F. (2018). A multiple case study exploring the relationship between model-eliciting activities (MEAs) and prospective secondary teachers' (PSTs) mathematical knowledge for teaching (MKT) algebra topics. *In proceedings of the 40<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the North American Chapter of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education.*

**Abassian, A.**, Safi, F., Bush, S., & Bostic, J. (2019). Five Perspectives of Mathematical Modeling in Mathematics Education. *Investigations in Mathematics Learning.*

Safi, F. & **Abassian, A.** (2017). Implement and Reflect on Challenging Mathematical Modeling Tasks to Engage and Empower All Students [Blog Post]. *National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference Blog.*

**Abassian, A.** & Sutherland-Campbell, M. (2016). Carrying on with Mr. Bowditch. *Dimensions in Mathematics.*

## **SERVICE**

FCTL Convocation Conference Presentation (Fall 2022)

FCTL Winter Conference Presentation (Spring 2022)

FCTL Convocation Conference Presentation (Fall 2021)

FCTL Winter Conference Presentation (Spring 2021)

FCTL Welcome Back Presentation (Fall 2021)

SSC Convocation Presentation (Fall 2021)

FCTL Winter Conference Presentation (Spring 2022)

FCTL Advisory Board (2021-2023)

Teacher Quality Partnership Grant- Advisory Committee member (2019-2020)

Teacher Quality Partnership Grant-Technical Working Group member (2019-2020)

National Council of the Teachers of Mathematics 2021 Annual Conference Program Committee member (2020-2021)

## **HONORS AND AWARDS:**

- Doctoral Research Support Award, University of Central Florida, 2017-2018
- Graduate Presentation Fellowship, University of Central Florida, 2016-2017
- Graduate Dean's Fellowship, University of Central Florida, 2017-2018
- Graduate Presentation Fellowship, University of Central Florida, 2015-2016
- Graduate Dean's Fellowship, University of Central Florida, 2016-2017
- Award for Excellence by a Graduate Teaching Assistant, College of Education and Human Performance, University of Central Florida, February 2016
- Graduate Dean's Fellowship, University of Central Florida, 2015-2016
- Nominee, Order of Pegasus Award, University of Central Florida, 2012
- Excellence in Tutoring Award, College of Sciences, University of Central Florida 2012
- Baccalaureate Honors Recognition: Magna Cum Laude, University of Central Florida, 2012
- Bright Future's Florida Medallion Scholarship, 2008-2012.

- President's Honor Roll Certificate, University of Central Florida, 2008-2012

## **AFFILIATIONS**

### Current:

Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators  
Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics  
National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics  
Research Council on Mathematics Learning  
Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education

### Past:

American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education  
North American Chapter of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### Seminole State College of Florida (2020-Present)

MAT 1033: Intermediate Algebra  
MAC 1105: College Algebra  
MAC 1140: Precalculus Algebra

### University of Central Florida (2015-2020):

MAE 6338: Teaching Geometry in the Secondary School  
MAE 6337: Teaching Algebra in the Secondary School  
MAE 6318: Current Methods in Elementary School Mathematics  
MAE 5336: Current Methods in Secondary School Mathematics  
MAE 5327: Teaching Middle School Mathematics  
MAE 4360: Mathematics Instructional Analysis  
MAE 4333: Teaching Geometry in the Secondary Schools  
MAE 4326: How Children Learn Mathematics  
ESE 4033: Critical Issues and Trends in Secondary Education  
MAE 3940: Mathematics Education Track Internship 1  
MAE 3310: Elementary Mathematics for Teaching I  
MAE 2801: Elementary School Mathematics

## **PROFESSIONAL LICENSURES**

State of Florida Department of Education Professional Educator's Certificate, Mathematics Grades 6-12.

## **LANGUAGES**

Arabic  
English