

# Deema Dabis

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<https://yansoon.ink/workshops/>

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## Workshop Facilitator, Film Instructor, Story Consultant

I specialize in helping people connect to the essence of their stories. Whether they be personal stories about themselves, their lives, and the world, or stories that they are crafting through their art, film, performances, writing, studies, and projects. I thrive when given opportunities to teach and share the art and craft of filmmaking with others. What I particularly bring to the table when teaching film to others, is to make it accessible, using simple tools like a smartphone and free editing software. Through my background, research, degrees, experiences, and unique perspective, I have crafted methods that help people feel deeply into these stories, then find ways to rewrite them that better serve their specific purposes and intentions.

## Core Competencies

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- Creatively minded, and able to meet deadlines consistently
- Can manage groups of people through a cohesive process
- Strong sense of story, and where it lives in the body
- Ability to draw out interesting and unique stories
- Thrives in creative and collaborative environments, yet can also work independently
- Problem-solving can find viable solutions on the fly
- Dedicated, trustworthy, and reliable
- Ability to get people excited and focused

## Achievements

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- Successfully crafted workshops to fit the needs of various clients and participants
- Grew Manna Gathering participation from 30 people to 100 in its final year
- Created and implemented a film curriculum for youth and video journalists
- Cohesively taught groups of 10+ people through focused processes, making the journey exciting for each participant
- Found nuanced approaches for working with refugee populations
- Crafted unique, creative workshops and instructional techniques that inspired participants and organizations to think in new ways

## Professional Experience

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Freelance, Amman, JO.

2012 - Present

### Workshop Facilitator - Instructor - Story Consultant

- INTRO TO SOMATICS (June 24th, 2021) for Dardishi Festival (online)  
A workshop I co-created with psychotherapist Aziza Bisanz on somatic therapy  
*Co-Facilitator*
- PGM RESILIENCE CIRCLES (2020 TO 2021) (online)  
A workshop I co-created that offers spaces for BIPOC to share their unique experiences  
*Co-Facilitator*
- MOVING THROUGH (2019)

A workshop I co-created and co-facilitated with artist and facilitator Malin Harff, that explores stories, body & earth wisdoms  
*Co-Facilitator*

- INTO THE BODY (2018 TO PRESENT)  
A workshop I created exploring the stories which live inside our bodies  
*Workshop Facilitator*
- AZRAQ FILM SCHOOL WORKSHOP (2019)  
Film curriculum for film students in Azraq refugee camp for Sundance Collab  
*Screenwriting Mentor*
- INSIDE OUT: A VISUAL MEMOIR WORKSHOP (2019)  
A curriculum for New York University Abu Dhabi students on making art that is personal  
*Workshop Instructor*
- AZRAQ FILM SCHOOL WORKSHOP (2017 / 2018)  
A film workshop for students in Azraq camp/city with Epic Digital and Care International  
*Film & Editing Mentor*
- VIDEO JOURNALISM ON A SMARTPHONE WORKSHOP (2018)  
Created and taught a curriculum for the news organization Syria Direct  
*Workshop Instructor*
- YOUTH FILMMAKING ON A SMARTPHONE WORKSHOP (2018)  
For Relief International in Zaatari and Azraq refugee camps  
*Workshop Instructor*
- MANNA GATHERING (2014 - 2017)  
A small local gathering in the desert that included workshops, knowledge exchange, music, performances, and more  
*Co-Founder, Co-Organizer, Performer, Workshop Facilitator*
- SPIRALS OF DIALOGUE (2015)  
Storytelling and Theater workshop with the University of Jordan, and Hamburg, students  
*Co-Facilitator of a workshop with Fadi Skeiker, focusing on getting stories out of students*
- DIGITAL FILMMAKING WORKSHOP (2012)  
For the Royal Film Commission of Jordan  
*Producing Assistant Instructor*

## Additional Experience

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Freelance, Amman, JO.

2013 - Present

**Film Production, Screenwriting, Film & Video Editor, Producer**

<https://yansoon.ink/filmandvideo/>

**Writer (Essays, Articles, Poetry)**

2009 - Present

<https://yansoon.ink/blog/>

## Project Management

- DIBEEN FARMS (2020)  
Consultation and design of website, social media, vendors outreach, and fundraising  
*Community Manager*

- FILM DEPARTMENT (2015)  
For Haya Cultural Center, created curriculum and workshops for youth  
*Head of Film Department*

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## Education

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| <u>MFA in Cinematic Arts</u>  | 2010 - 2012 |
| <u>Red Sea Institute of Cinematic Arts</u><br>with a focus on Screenwriting and Editing |             |
| <u>BA in Journalism</u>   | 1999 - 2003 |
| <u>Indiana University</u><br>with a focus on Public Relations and a minor in psychology |             |

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## Certificates, Training & Volunteering

- 2022: Darat Al Funun Summer Academy "Interrogating Earth"  
3-month experiential learning that explored the idea of earth memory, archives, food systems, and stories
- 2021/2022: Fabrakat  
A 6-month experiential course to understand food design thinking, and food systems in Jordan
- 2019 The Work that Reconnects Facilitator training  
An online year-long facilitator development program
- 2016 Trauma Sensitive Yoga training  
*With the Yoga Mandala Project and the Collateral Repair project. Training to prepare to teach yoga to urban refugees. I also volunteered for a number of years with this project*
- 2014: 40-hour Yoga Teacher training  
By Jamie Lee. Focused on core alignment and restorative yoga.
- 2013: 200-hour Yoga Teacher training  
*By Yogacharya Shri Jayakumar Swamisree. Focused on Vinyasa and the 8 limbs of yoga*
- 2009 Awaken Your Imagination workshop  
*A Theater of the Oppressed workshop taught by Hector Aristizabal*
- 2008 Leaps of Faith  
A workshop and devised theatrical performance piece by Great Leap of Los Angeles, CA.
- 2008 Personal Story Writing workshop  
with Elana Golden, Los Angeles, CA.

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## Language & Computer Skills

**Languages:** Fluent in English, conversational in Arabic

**Computer:** 8+ years working on editing software Adobe Premiere, with experience working in Avid & Pro Tools. Final Draft 10 years experience. Microsoft Office, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.