

Curriculum Vitae

Amr Shamala

Lecturer in Egyptology

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

I have grown up surrounded by so many historic sites and it has made me aware of the timelessness of my Country and its place in history. Now as a fully qualified Egyptologist, I have been working in the tourism industry in Egypt for the last 18 years and am able to share my knowledge and experiences. Most of that time has been spent guiding travelers, helping them to experience our Egyptian lifestyle and hopefully changing their perceptions of Egypt.

My recognised ability to communicate with people from many different backgrounds, cultures and countries has enabled me to lead both lecture and tour groups with great success and acclaim.

Now my main career objective is to play a more significant role in promoting Egypt specifically through tourism, by utilising my vast experience and further developing my career expertise gained so far.

KEY SKILLS

Professional Skills

- Promoting Egypt by lecturing in Egyptology predominantly in the US and at Home.
- Unsurpassed local knowledge of Egypt.
- Fluent in reading, writing and speaking both Arabic and English.
- Excellent communicator and mediator.
- Strong leader and team builder.
- Accomplished problem solving and action planning capabilities.
- Ability to effectively manage people and processes.
- Adept at financial and operational cost control practices.
- Fully competent in Microsoft® Word, Power Point and Excel packages.

Personal Skills

- Possess a positive 'can-do' attitude.
 - Quick to respond to any situation and able to think decisively on my feet.
 - Completely professional, reliable and trustworthy.
 - Perceptive and responsive to peoples different needs and capabilities.
 - Working equally well either on my own, or as part of a team.
 - Enthusiastic and passionate about my chosen field.
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CERTIFICATES & MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of Egyptian General Tourist Guides Syndicate (EGTGS)
 - Member world Federation of tour guide association (WFGTA)
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EDUCATION

Oct 2002 – May 2004

Master Degree in Management and Learning Development (MMLD)

Euro Arab Management School (EAMS), Spain

Thesis Title 'Moving Towards a Learning Organization'

Sept 1984 – Jun 1991

English Tourism Guiding Post Graduate Diploma

Helwan University, Egypt
Faculty of Tourism

Sept 1984 – Jun 1987

B.Sc. Tourism and Hotel Management

Helwan University, Egypt
Faculty of Tourism

Majors: Strategic Management; Hospitality Management & Economics; Hospitality Accounting & Finance; Hospitality Marketing; Statistics; Food & Beverage Service; and Computer Science.

Training and Development Achievements

- Coaching, Mentoring and 'On-the-Job' Learning - Euro Arab Management School 2004
- Management Development for SMEs - Euro Arab Management School 2004
- Identifying Training Needs - Euro Arab Management School 2003
- Managing People and Processes - Inter-Continental 1992
- Guest Courtesy Training - Inter-Continental 1991

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Since 1992 I have been predominantly involved in promoting Egypt through lecturing and guiding English-speaking tourists from different parts of the world. Please find below details of my most recent Egyptologist and tour guiding appointments, which are currently ongoing. Details of further / previous positions can be provided on request.

Egyptologist

Overseas Adventure Travels (OAT)

<http://www.oattravel.com/>

OAT offers adventure travel and tours for mature Americans and seasoned travelers.

My main role as an Egyptologist for the OAT tours enables me to concentrate my skills by imparting my knowledge of Egypt to all Group members. It is important to ensure that everyone has an enjoyable experience learning about the history of Egypt and is able to understand and learn about all aspects of my Country's rich heritage in a fun and meaningful way.

Key Responsibilities:

- Fully briefing everyone on the itinerary and arranging arrival / departure meetings.
- Consider the knowledge levels of the individuals in my groups and tailor my talks as appropriate.
- Ensuring client confidentiality of information provided by OAT.
- Collating feedback from group members to ensure continued improvements for future tours.
- Ensuring everyone has a fun and fulfilling vacation, where they learn something from their experiences.

Egyptologist / Tour Manager
Bales Worldwide

<http://www.balesworldwide.com/>

Bales provide luxury; tailor-made holidays and escorted tours worldwide, including an extensive program of tours and cruises in Egypt.

In my dual role as Tour Manager and Egyptologist I am able to combine my people management and organisational skills, with my knowledge of the history of Egypt. My main responsibility is to ensure that these small tailored groups make the best of their experience whilst in Egypt. I take responsibility for their vacation time and I try to accommodate any special requests for individuals. This may involve arranging additional trips, or activities that aren't included on the main itinerary. Being flexible, having fun and making sure that my Groups get the most from their vacation is my primary focus and goal.

Key Responsibilities:

- Managing the trip itinerary and coordinating with other members of the Bales team.
- Ascertaining group member health issues, medication, or allergies.
- Using my local knowledge to organise and navigate motor coaches during all sight visits.
- Ensuring daily procedures are met and adhered to.
- Ensure all administrative functions are up-to-date.
- Handling any tour challenges and resolving any issues or problems that arise.
- Providing an enjoyable and fun learning experience for all.

Professional Achievements and Activities

- Selected by the Japanese Government as an official Advisor responsible for 'Youth Contribution in Community Services' on the 22nd 'Ship for World Youth Programme' - Japan 2010
- Egyptology Lecturing Tour – USA 2009
- Speaker at the Egyptian / Japanese Business Council Conference - Egypt 2006
- Invited several times as a guest Egyptologist to lecture at Adirondack Community College – USA 2004 and 2008
- Speaker and participant at the 'Global Youth Conference' – Japan 2005
- Invited to attend 'FITUR' – world famous international tourism trade fair – Spain 1999
- Created and ran 'Travel House of Egypt', which provided a tailored range of tours and programmes to accommodate for differing client / tourist requirements – Egypt 1998 to 2004 (when the company was sold)
- Participant on the 4th 'Ship for World Youth Culture Exchange Programme' - Japan 1992
- Past President of SWYAA-Egypt (Ship for World Youth Alumni Association).
- Past President of the Katameya Rotary Club.

PERSONAL INTERESTS

- Relaxing and spending time with my family.
- Diving / qualified scuba-diving instructor.
- Going to the cinema, listening to music and reading.

REFERENCES

References are available on request.
