



# Guide to the Palestinian Oral History Project, 2017-2020

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## Summary

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**Collection Title:**

Palestinian Oral History Project, 2017-2020

**Creator:**

Duke University. Center for Documentary Studies; Kalow, Nancy

**Abstract:**

Oral history interviews with Palestinian students and artists, created by Duke students for the course AMES 204FS, "Documenting the Middle East," taught by Nancy Kalow.

**Extent:**

15 Gigabytes  
241 Files

**Language:**

Materials in English.

**Collection ID:**

RL.11850

**Permalink:**

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1c436>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Palestinian Oral History Collection, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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## Background

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**Scope and Content**

Seventeen oral history interviews with students and artists from Palestine and the Palestinian diaspora, created by classes led by instructor Nancy Kalow between 2017 and 2020. For each interview, students in the class created notes and transcripts, as well as 4-minute audio projects distilled from the interviews, for a Duke Service-Learning website, "Arabic Communities:" <https://sites.duke.edu/arabiccommunities/palestine/>. The interviewees shared stories of their daily lives, cultural traditions, Palestinian identity, experiences living

in refugee camps, their educational experiences, family stories, observations and stories about living under occupation, and their personal and professional interests and activities.

## **Biographical/Historical**

The Palestinian Oral History Project collection was created by classes taught by Nancy Kalow, a Lecturing Fellow at Duke University and instructor at the Center for Documentary Studies. The collection is closely tied to two other collections created through projects and classes directed by Kalow: the Refugee Lives Oral History Project and the Palestinian Student Films.

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## **Arrangement**

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Arrangement is chronological by class year and then alphabetical by interviewee name.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Statement**

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### **Access Restrictions**

Collection is open for research.

### **Use Restrictions**

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of

the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

### **Acquisition Information**

The Palestinian Oral History Project collection was received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift in 2020, 2022.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Craig Breaden, August 2020, March 2022.

Accessions described in this collection guide: 2020-0053.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Material**

[Refugee Lives Oral History Project](#)

[Palestinian Student Films](#)

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## **Names and Subjects**

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- Audiovisual materials
- Oral histories
- Human Rights -- Palestine
- Palestine -- Social conditions
- Refugee camps -- Palestine
- Arab-Israeli conflict

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## **Collection Inventory**

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**Interviews, 2017**

## Scope and Contents

Five Duke students in AMES 204FS "Documenting the Middle East" undertook semester-long audio interviewing projects to collect the oral histories of five Palestinians: three in the West Bank, one from Gaza currently residing in Chapel Hill, and one from the Diaspora. Four students recorded two long-form interviews with their interviewees; one student recorded one long-form interview. Interviews were conducted by Skype or in person. Each interview is transcribed, and each student wrote fieldnotes after recording the interviews. The interviewees shared stories of their daily lives, cultural traditions, experiences living in refugee camps, experience as a member of the Palestinian Diaspora, their educational experiences, family stories, observations and stories about living under occupation, and their professional interests and activities. They spoke about Palestinian identity and personal goals. Also included are edited audio projects, four minutes each, which were produced for a Duke Service-Learning website, "Arabic Communities:" <https://sites.duke.edu/arabiccommunities/palestine/>.

AlRob, Sarah, 2017 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0001 > E-folder AlRob, Sarah

**Digital Object:** [AlRob, Sarah, 2017](#)

### Scope and Contents

Sarah AlRob is a journalist and filmmaker from Jenin in the West Bank.

Eid, Mohammed, 2017 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0001 > E-folder Eid, Mohammed

**Digital Object:** [Eid, Mohammed, 2017](#)

### Scope and Contents

Mohammed Eid, from the Gaza Strip, was a Rotary Peace Fellow at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill at the time of his interviews.

Jawabreh, Asma, 2017 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0001 > E-folder Jawabreh, Asma

**Digital Object:** [Jawabreh, Asma, 2017](#)

### Scope and Contents

Asma Jawabreh is a journalist and filmmaker from a refugee camp near Hebron in the West Bank.

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SD, 2017 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0001 > E-folder SD

**Digital Object:** [SD, 2017](#)

**Scope and Contents**

SD is a descendent of Palestinians now residing in the United States.

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Wahsh, Tasnim, 2017 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0001 > E-folder Wahsh, Tasnim

**Digital Object:** [Wahsh, Tasnim, 2017](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Tasnim Wahsh studied media at Hebron University and resides in Hebron in the West Bank.

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## Interviews, 2018

### Scope and Contents

Duke students in AMES 204FS "Documenting the Middle East" undertook semester-long audio interviewing projects to collect the oral histories of four Palestinians: three in the West Bank and one from the Diaspora. Working in pairs, the students recorded two long-form interviews with their interviewees. Interviews were conducted by Skype or in person. Each interview is transcribed, and each student wrote fieldnotes after both interviews. The interviewees shared stories of their daily lives, cultural traditions, experiences living in refugee camps, their educational experiences, family stories, observations and stories about living under occupation, and their professional interests and activities. They spoke about Palestinian identity and personal goals. Also included are edited audio projects, four minutes each, which were produced for a Duke Service-Learning website, "Arabic Communities:" <https://sites.duke.edu/arabiccommunities/palestine/>.

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Alatar, Mohammed, 2018 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0002 > E-folder Alatar, Mohammed

**Digital Object:** [Alatar, Mohammed, 2018](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Mohammed Alatar is a filmmaker in Ramallah.

Alazza, Mohammed, 2018 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0002 > E-folder Alazza, Mohammed

**Digital Object:** [Alazza, Mohammed, 2018](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Mohammad Alazza is a filmmaker in Bethlehem.

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Farah, Sofia, 2018 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0002 > E-folder Farah, Sofia

**Digital Object:** [Farah, Sofia, 2018](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Sofia Farah is a graduate student at UNC from Chile.

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Zeitawi, Tala, 2018 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0002 > E-folder Zeitawi, Tala

**Digital Object:** [Zeitawi, Tala, 2018](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Tala Zeitawi is a filmmaker in Ramallah.

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## Interviews, 2019

### Scope and Contents

Duke students in AMES 204FS "Documenting the Middle East" undertook semester-long audio interviewing projects to collect the oral histories of three Palestinians in the West Bank. Students, working in pairs or a group of three, recorded two long-form interviews with their interviewees. Interviews were conducted by Skype. Each interview is transcribed, and each student wrote fieldnotes after recording the interviews. The interviewees shared stories of their daily lives, cultural traditions, experiences living in refugee camps, their educational experiences, family stories, observations and stories about living under occupation, and their professional interests and activities. They spoke about Palestinian identity and personal goals. Also included are edited audio projects, four minutes each, which were produced for a Duke Service-Learning

website, "Arabic Communities:" <https://sites.duke.edu/arabiccommunities/palestine/>.

Abushusheh, Sarah, 2019 (online item available) Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0003 > E-folder Abushusheh, Sarah

**Digital Object:** [Abushusheh, Sarah, 2019](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Sarah Abushusheh is a filmmaker in Jericho in the West Bank.

Al-Bazz, Ahmad, 2019 (online item available) Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0003 > E-folder Al-Bazz, Ahmad

**Digital Object:** [Al-Bazz, Ahmad, 2019](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Ahmad Al-Bazz is a filmmaker and photographer in Nablus in the West Bank.

Al-Azzah, Thaer, 2019 (online item available) Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0003 > E-folder Al-Azzah, Thaer

**Digital Object:** [Al-Azzah, Thaer, 2019](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Thaer Al-Azzah is a filmmaker in Bethlehem in the West Bank.

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## Interviews, 2020

### Scope and Contents

Duke students in AMES 204FS "Documenting the Middle East," fall 2020, undertook semester-long audio interviewing projects to collect the oral histories of four Palestinians and one Palestinian-American. The interviewees are from Gaza (temporarily residing in the United States), Haifa, Ramallah, Hebron, and the United States. Students worked one-to-one with their interviewee community partners. Four students recorded two long-form (45 minutes to an hour) oral history interviews via Skype. The fifth student recorded one long-form interview by Skype. Each long-form audio recording was transcribed by the student, and each student wrote fieldnotes after recording each interview. (Students edited a three-minute set of excerpts for each long-form interview, and some of these also have transcripts.) Also included are final project audio

projects, edited to four minutes each, produced by the students (with audio file, transcript, written introduction, and spoken introduction).

The interviewees shared stories of their daily lives, cultural traditions, experiences living in West Bank communities, in Gaza, in the State of Israel's 1948 borders, or in the diaspora. The recordings include stories about their childhood, families, and education; observations and stories about living under occupation or in the State of Israel, and their professional interests and activities. They spoke about Palestinian identity and personal goals. Notably, three of the five interviewee community partners are filmmakers.

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Ahmaro, Wasim, 2020 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0004 > E-folder Wasim Ahmaro

**Digital Object:** [Ahmaro, Wasim, 2020](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Wasim Ahmaro works in the import/export business and is a teacher of modern Arabic in Hebron.

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Khammash, Lara, 2020 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0004 > E-folder Lara Khammash

**Digital Object:** [Khammash, Lara, 2020](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Lara Khammash is a student and filmmaker in East Jerusalem.

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Mansour, Ahmed, 2020 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0004 > E-folder Ahmed Mansour

**Digital Object:** [Mansour, Ahmed, 2020](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Ahmed Mansour is a documentary filmmaker from Gaza currently working in the United States.

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Soraya, 2020 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-SET-0004 > E-folder Soraya

**Digital Object:** [Soraya, 2020](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Soraya teaches at the University of California San Diego.

Younis, Rami, 2020 (online item available)

Digital-materials RL11850-  
SET-0004 > E-folder Rami  
Younis

**Digital Object:** [Younis, Rami, 2020](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Rami Younis is a writer, journalist, filmmaker, and cultural activist from Lyd, near Tel Aviv, Israel.

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