

# CARLA AKIL

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## Summary

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Researcher with 3+ years of experience in literature reviews, academic writing, mixed-methods data collection, and data synthesis. Other skills include project management, advocacy, and gender training.

## Education

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**PDPGT:** Professional Development Programme for Gender Trainers  
KIT Royal Tropical Institute

**March 2022 – Present**

**Bachelor of Arts:** Psychology (CGPA: 3.77/4.0)  
American University of Beirut

**September 2017 – June 2021**

## Experience

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### Researcher and Project Coordinator

**September 2021 – Present**

Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship, American University of Beirut

- Setting up a research project, including an interview guide and ethics approval.
- Writing a literature review on the experiences of migrants in Lebanon and Canada.
- Conducting and transcribing interviews and podcasts in English and Arabic.
- Leading a team of two research assistants.
- Setting up a website on WordPress for a project.
- Planning, developing, and implementing social media campaigns.
- Creating content for social media posts.
- Organizing, moderating, and implementing gender-related webinars and events.

### Research Assistant

**February 2021 – Present**

Department of Psychology, American University of Beirut

**Project:** Gender roles and internalized misogyny in Lebanon, supervised by Dr. Vivienne Badaan

- Designing a survey, interview, and experimental study.
- Conducting a literature review on internalized misogyny.
- Translating scale items and interview questions from English to Arabic.
- Creating English and Arabic surveys on Qualtrics.
- Filling and submitting IRB form for expedited review.
- Collecting data through surveys and interviews.
- Leading a team of student research assistants.

### MENA Youth Intern

**November 2021 – March 2022**

NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW/NY)

- Assisting the Arab States committee in planning and organizing events during the NGO CSW66 Forum.
- Organizing and coordinating monthly meetings.
- Curating events with UN and other civil society initiatives to further gender equality and sustainability.
- Working on NGO CSW/NY's Zero Draft document with suggestions on how to implement women's rights.

### Research Assistant

Freelance

**February 2021 – December 2021**

- Researching GBV policies, projects, and initiatives.
- Summarizing GBV reports and creating GBV information sheets.
- Conducting and transcribing semi-structured interviews in English and Arabic.
- Conducting literature reviews about women in the Arab region.
- Writing and editing a UN Country Gender Equality Profile report.

### Evaluation and Research Specialist

**September 2021 – December 2021**

**Project:** Emergency food assistance, protection, livelihood support for vulnerable populations in and around Syria

- Conducting a desk review of main project-related documents to feed into tool design, research questions, data analysis, and final report.
- Supporting tool design for qualitative interviews, such as focus group discussions and focused interviews.
- Leading data collection in Lebanon.
- Combining, cleaning, and synthesizing data from Lebanon and Syria teams.
- Attending an internal findings analysis workshop.
- Drafting a preliminary final report.

### Research Intern

August 2021 – September 2021

Center for Social and Cultural Psychology, KU Leuven

**Project:** Definitional boundaries of discrimination: Tools for deciding what constitutes discrimination (and what doesn't), led by Katy Greenland, Keon West, and Colette Van Laar

- Setting up an online experiment using Qualtrics.
- Running a pilot study on Prolific.
- Analyzing preliminary data on SPSS.
- Writing a script and analyzing data on R.

### Research Intern

June 2021 – September 2021

Junior Researcher Programme, Department of Psychology, Columbia University

**Project:** Global replication of temporal discounting, led by Dr. Kai Ruggeri

- Translating scale items from English to Arabic.
- Adapting Qualtrics survey.
- Leading data collection in Lebanon.

### Publications

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- Abou-Habib, L., Hassan, M., & **Akil, C.** (2021). The story of the Doria Feminist Fund: De-colonising the funding narrative in the MENA region. *Gender and Development*, 29, 611-622. doi: [10.1080/13552074.2021.1982544](https://doi.org/10.1080/13552074.2021.1982544)
- Ghossoub, E., Cherro, M., **Akil, C.**, & Gharzeddine, Y. (2021). Mental illness and the risk of self- and other-directed aggression: Results from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. *Journal of Psychiatric Research*, 132, 161-166. doi: [10.1016/j.jpsychires.2020.10.010](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpsychires.2020.10.010)
- Badaan, V., **Akil, C.**, Zebian, Y. & Jost, J. (2021). Envisioning change: An empirical test of the social psychological model of utopian thinking and collective action. Accepted to *Journal of Social Psychology Research*.
- Ruggeri, K., ..., **Akil, C.**, ..., & Garcia-Garzon, E. (under review). The globalizability of temporal discounting.
- **Akil, C.**, & Badaan, V. (2021). The underpinnings of internalized misogyny among women in Lebanon. Manuscript in preparation.

### Certifications

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- **Feminism and Social Justice**, University of Santa Cruz, January 2022
- **Understanding Violence Against Women and Girls**, UN Women, May 2021
- **Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research**, CITI, April 2021
- **Quantitative Methods**, University of Amsterdam, August 2020
- **Social & Behavioral Research Certificate**, CITI, December 2019

### Skills

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|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Microsoft Office   | • Interviewing                  | • Monitoring and Evaluation |
| • Canva              | • Social Media Campaigns        | • Leadership                |
| • Qualtrics          | • Content Creation              | • Time Management           |
| • SPSS               | • Data Collection and Synthesis | • Project Management        |
| • Literature Reviews | • Report Writing                |                             |

### Languages

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- **English**, Fluent
- **Arabic**, Native

