

## CURRICULUM VITAE AND LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

### • Personal Details

Name: Yaniv Belhassen

Email: yanivbel@bgu.ac.il

Address and telephone number at work: P.O. Box 653, Beer-Sheva 84105, ++972-8-6472229

Address and telephone number at home: Beer Sheva, Israel, ++972-50-5511631

ORCID iD: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8321-5650>

### • Education

BA 2001 Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
Department of Hotel & Tourism Management

MBA 2004 Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
Department of Business Administration  
Name of advisor: Natan Uriely  
Title of thesis: *The phenomenon of drug tourism: Behavioral & managerial aspects*

PhD 2007 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism  
Name of advisor: Carla Santos  
Title of thesis: *Evangelical tours to the Holy Land: A study on the theopolitics of Christian pilgrimage*

Diploma 2014 Tel-Aviv University  
Curatorial and Museum Studies, The Yolanda and David Katz Faculty of the Arts

### • Employment History

2021- Present Associate Professor, Dept. of Tourism & Leisure Management, Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business & Management, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

2019 – 2021 Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Hotel & Tourism Management, Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business & Management, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

2012-2019 Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Hotel & Tourism Management, Eilat Campus, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

2015-16 A sabbatical leave at The Australian Centre for Jewish Civilizations and Australia & International Tourism Research Unit, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia.

2007-11 Lecturer, Dept. of Hotel & Tourism Management, Eilat Campus, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

2004-07 Research Associate, Tourism Laboratory for Economic and Social Behavior Research, Dept. of Recreation, Sport & Tourism, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.

## • Professional Activities

### (a) Positions in academic administration

- 2022-Present Head, Research Students Committee, Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business & Mgt.
- 2022-Present Member, Graduate Students Committee, Kreitman School of Advanced Graduate Studies.
- 2020-2022 Head, Graduate Program Teaching & Curriculum Committee – Hotel & Tourism Mgt.
- 2020-2022 Head, Library Committee, Department of Hotel & Tourism Management.
- 2020-2022 Coordinator, Departmental research seminar. Hotel & Tourism Management.
- 2007-18 Admission committee – The program of Hotel & Tourism MGT, Eilat Campus.
- 2011-18 Practicum coordinator – The program of Hotel & Tourism MGT, Eilat Campus.
- 2008-10 Coordinator, Monthly academic seminar, Eilat Campus.
- 2006-7 Graduate students' representative, Graduate Committee - Department of Recreation, Sport & Tourism, College of Applied Health Science, University of Illinois at U-C.

### (b) Professional functions outside universities/institutions

#### Inter-University:

- 2019 Organization and coordination of a symposium on "The dark side of the night-time economy: Prostitution, sexual attacks & sexual harassments in entertainment places". Held in Ben-Gurion University, Eilat Campus.
- 2019 Member, Professional Promotions Committee, Kinneret College, Israel.
- 2018 A referee in the Strategic Research Grant in Social Sciences, Ministry of Science, Technology & Space, Israel.
- 2018 A member in the Scientific Committee, Int. Conference on Tourism, Greece
- 2017 Chair, Session on "Authenticity & Commodification", The 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Tourism, Chiang Mai University, Thailand.
- 2015 Symposium on "Spiritual Tourism: Transformative and Socially Engaged or Negligible?" Held in the National Centre for Australian Studies, Monash University.
- 2015 Reviewer, The British Academy BA - Leverhule Small Research Grants
- 2015 Actor & creative partner, Legislative theater, Holot Detention Center, Israel.
- 2011,14 Reviewer for the *Israeli Science Foundation* (ISF)
- 2013 Editor, Monthly newsletter, *Combatants for Peace*
- 2012 Organization and coordination of a symposium on "Casino: A tourism development stimulus or a social hazard". Ben-Gurion University, Eilat Campus.
- 2010 Organization and coordination of a symposium on Marketing Turkey in Israel, Ben-Gurion University, Eilat Campus.
- 2010 Coordinator of a professional workshop: "Disaster Mental Health Assistance in a Public Health Emergency". Ben-Gurion University, Eilat Campus.
- 2010 MA thesis reviewer- Department of Anthropology, Ben-Gurion University.
- 2009 A member of the organizing committee. "Eilat Conference for Tourism Destination Development and Branding," Ben-Gurion University.
- 2009 Organization and moderation of a seminar on "Tourism and Spirit-Possession in Thai Festivals", Ben-Gurion University, Eilat Campus.
- 2009 Referee for Israel Anthropological Association - MA competition
- 2008 A member of the organizing committee, the 6th Annual Meeting of the Israeli Academics Tourism Forum (IATF), Ben-Gurion University, Eilat Campus.
- 2007 Organization and coordination of a full-day seminar and symposium on the study of violence and bullying at schools, Ben-Gurion University, Eilat Campus
- 2007 Volunteer, The 3rd International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, U. of Illinois at U-C.
- 2005 Volunteer, the 39th National Recreation & Park Association Conference, San-Antonio TX.

### (c) Significant professional consulting

- 2023 Ein Dor Museum of Archeology.
- 2020-22 Mandel Foundation, Jerusalem.
- 2015-21 *Combatants for Peace* and *The Israeli Palestinian Bereaved Families for Reconciliation & Peace* – Statistical analysis of the post ceremony survey.
- 2016-18 Eilat Municipality - The Blueprint for Education and Tourism

(d) Editor or member of editorial board of scientific or professional journal

2019-Present Associate Editor (member of the editorial board), *Annals of Tourism Research*  
 2020-Present Associate Editor (member of the editorial board), *Tourist Studies*  
 2018 - Co-Guest Editor of a Special Issue, *Tourism Management Perspectives*

(e) Ad-hoc reviewer for journal

2006-Present Referee, *Annals of Tourism Research*  
 2008-Present Reviewer, *Tourism Management*  
 2008-Present Reviewer, *Current Issues in Tourism*  
 2011-Present Reviewer, *International Journal of Hospitality Management*  
 2017-Present Reviewer, *International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management*  
 2018-Present Reviewer, *Journal of Hospitality, Leisure, Sport & Tourism Education*  
 2014-Present Reviewer, *Tourism Geographies*  
 2019-Present Reviewer, *Journal of Teaching in Travel & Tourism*  
 2017-Present Reviewer, *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*  
 2016-Present Reviewer, *Tourist Studies*  
 2021-Present Reviewer, *Leisure Sciences*  
 2012-18 Reviewer, *Tourism Analysis*  
 2017 Reviewer, *World Leisure Journal*  
 2015 Reviewer, *Journal of Business Ethics*  
 2009-Present Reviewer, *Journal of Heritage Tourism*  
 2012 Reviewer, *Journal of Culture, Tourism & Hospitality Research*  
 2009-11 Referee, *Leisure Studies*  
 2011 Reviewer, *Journal of Material Culture*  
 2011 Reviewer, *Journal of Tourism Challenges & Trends*  
 2010 Reviewer, *Tourism: An Interdisciplinary Journal*  
 2008 Assessor, *British Journal of Sociology*  
 2008 Reviewer, *Journal of Management, Spirituality & Religion*

(f) Membership in professional/scientific societies

2010-20 International Sociological Association (ISA), RC50 – International Tourism  
 2007-19 Israel Sociological Society (ISS)  
 2007-19 Israeli Academic Tourism Forum (IATF)  
 2016 Council for Australasian Tourism and Hospitality Education (CAUTHE)  
 2006-10 National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA)

• Educational activities(a) Courses taught

2019-Present "Leadership & management in tourism organizations", Undergraduate, BGU.  
 2020-Present "Value-based leadership in the tourism sector", Graduate, BGU.  
 2007-Present "Introduction to tourism studies", Undergraduate, BGU.  
 2007-Present "Principles of management", Undergraduate, BGU.  
 2017-Present "Qualitative research methods", Graduate, BGU.  
 2007-2018 "Sociology of tourism", Undergraduate, BGU.  
 2011-2019 "Practicum in tourism", Undergraduate, BGU.  
 2015-2017 "Political tourism in the Israeli-Palestinian space", Undergraduate, BGU.  
 2007-2013 "Critical management studies", Graduate, BGU.  
 2009 "Selected issues in leisure & recreation", Undergraduate, Zinman College of Physical Education at Wingate Institute.

(b) Research students

2011 - 2013	MBA	Ortal Assor (With Prof. Natan Uriely)
2012 - 2015	MBA	Carmit Vahaba
2012 - 2014	Postdoc	Dr. Dimitrios Styliadis (With Dr. Amir Shani)
2012 - 2014	Postdoc	Dr. Matina Terizdou (With Dr. Amir Shani)
2019 - 2021	MA	Eve Ifergan (With Prof. Natan Uriely)
2020 - Present	PhD	Karen Levishon
2020 - Present	MA	Ariel Cohen

• **Awards, Citations, Honors, Fellowships**(a) Honors, Citation Awards

1999	The Association of Advancing of Education in Israel.
1999-01	The Israeli Ministry of Education, Ministry of Education's scholarship.
2000	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, The Dean of Students Scholarship.
2001	The Israeli Parliament's Chairman Fund, Parliament's chairman scholarship.
2001	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Summa Cum Laudi (B.A).
2012	Thompson Rivers University, Canada – Guest Speaker, International Days.
2014	Toronto Award for Excellence in Research.
2016	The International Peace & Security Institute, Hague Symposium (with Distinction).

(b) Fellowships

- 2002 The Wuppertal Program of Bergische University, Germany (~\$1000).  
Purpose: The winners of the fellowship are expected to complete their research while in residence at Wuppertal under the supervision of a German professor (I worked under the supervision of Prof. Klaus Bartolke).
- 2006-7 The Program of Human Dimensions of Environmental Systems (HDES), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (\$5500).  
Purpose: The fellowship aims at enhancing scholarship on "the mutual interdependence of humans and their physical and social environments." It requires a weekly participation in a scholar seminar. My project, "Protestant fundamentalism and environmentalism", was presented at the annual HDES conference.
- 2017-8 A Fellow, Mandel Program for Local leadership in Eilat-Eilat.  
Purpose: The Mandel Center for Leadership in the Negev, founded by the Mandel Foundation–Israel, runs local leadership programs that seek to develop quality leadership in the public sector and civil society throughout the Negev – leadership guided by values-based vision, and capable of driving and implementing change.

• **Scientific Publications**

**Google scholar: h-index: 24**  
**Citations: 3652**  
**Excluding self-citations: ~3600**

**Web of Science: h-Index: 20**  
**Citations: ~1400**  
**Excluding self-citations: ~1350**

(a) Authored books

1. Belhassen, Y. (2004). (Title in Hebrew:) "*Tayarut Samim: Heibetim Hitnaagutyim Ve'nihulim*" - *The Phenomenon of Drug Tourism: Behavioral and Managerial Aspects*. Jerusalem: The Anti Drugs Authority (Published thesis).

(b) Editorship of collective volumes

1. Belhassen, Y. (2008). (ed). *The Proceeding of IATF's 6th Annual Conference*. Beer Sheva: Ben-Gurion University publishing house.
2. Cheer, J. M., Belhassen, Y., & Kujawa, J. (2017). Guest editors of a Special Issue: Spiritual tourism: Transformative and socially engaged or negligible? *Tourism Management Perspectives*, Elsevier.

(c) Chapters in collective volumes - Conference proceedings, book chapter, entry, etc.

1. Belhassen, Y. (2004). "Drug tourism" Presented at the 35th Conference of the Israeli Sociological Society (ISS), Ben-Gurion University, Beer-Sheva, Israel (In Hebrew).
2. Belhassen, Y., Buzinde, C., Li, C., Mowatt, R., Mulvaney, M., Reible, H., & Shinew, K. (2005). "What we aren't studying in leisure: A look 'outside' our field", In *The Two Solitudes: Isolation or Impact*, the 11th Canadian Congress on Leisure Research (CCLR), Malaspina University-College, Nanaimo, British Colombia, Canada (ISBN 1-896886-01-9).
3. Belhassen, Y., Santos, C. A. & Uriely, N. (2005). Cannabis usage in tourism: A sociological perspective. In: *2005 National Recreation and Parks Association Leisure Research Symposium – Conference Proceedings*, Ashburn VA: National Recreation & Park Association.
4. Belhassen, Y. (2007). "Protestant fundamentalism and environmentalism." In *Human Dimension of Environmental System* (p.8) The Environmental Horizons Conference: The annual conference of Environmental Council of the University of Illinois, Urbana IL: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
5. Belhassen, Y. (2007). "Discussing reflexivity in social research: Lessons from a study on evangelical pilgrimages." In *The Third International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry- Abstracts*, Urbana IL: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
6. Belhassen Y. & Uriely, N. (2008). "Perceived Risk of Drug Taking Backpackers". In Bonny-Noach, H.(ed.) *Backpackers and Drug Abuse: A Documentary, Research, Treatment and Prevention Perspective*, pp. 288-300. Jerusalem: The Bialik Institute Publishing House and the Israeli Anti-Drugs Authority (in Hebrew).
7. Belhassen, Y., Caton, K. & Stewart W. P. (2008). "Authenticity and the pilgrim experience: Where place, actions and belief intersect." In: Abstracts from the 2008 National Recreation and Parks Association Leisure Research Symposium (pp. 18-21), Ashburn VA: National Recreation & Park Association (ISBN 978-0-9786572-7-5).

8. Belhassen, Y. (2009). "Tourism as a cohesive resource" In: Abstract from the 40<sup>th</sup> conference of the Israeli Sociological Society (ISS). Rishon Lezion: College of Management Academic Studies.
  9. Belhassen, Y. (2009). "The contested ideological terrain of evangelical pilgrimage to the Holy Land" In *Emotion in Motion: The Passion of Tourism, Travel & Movement – Conference Proceedings*, Leeds: The Center for Tourism & Cultural Change, Leeds Metropolitan University (ISBN: 978-1-907240-08-9).
  10. Belhassen, Y. & Caton, K. (2010). "How do we know whether research has advanced? An epistemological enquiry into Tourism Studies." In the 37<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Sociology held in Gothenburg, Sweden. *Sociology on the Move* (pp.43-44). San Diego CA: Proquest.
  11. Belhassen, Y. (2011). "The construction of the imaginary Holy Land in the evangelical sub-culture." In *Tourism Imaginary: An International Conference*. Berkeley CA: University of California at Berkeley & Universite de Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne (p.5).
  12. Belhassen, Y. & Caton, K. (2011). "Rethinking management education in the study of tourism." In *Advancing the Social Science of Tourism 2011* (pp.12-13), University of Surrey.
  13. Caton, K. & Belhassen, Y. (2011). "Of truth or consequences: Taking the moral turn in tourism studies." In *Advancing the Social Science of Tourism 2011* (pp.22-23), University of Surrey.
  14. Belhassen, Y. (2012). "Eilat Syndrome: The hospitality industry as a liminal workplace" In the Proceeding of the 2<sup>nd</sup> *Advances in Hospitality and Tourism Marketing and Management Conference* (AHTMM).
  15. Pastoor, C., Caton, K., Belhassen, Y., Collins, B., and Wallin, M. (2015). "Let there be rock! A tale of two Christian music festivals". In O. Moufakkir and T. Pernecky (eds.), *Social and Cultural Aspects of Events*. Oxfordshire, UK: CABI.
  16. Belhassen, Y. (2016). "Deviance, Tourism". Entry for the *Encyclopedia of Tourism*, J. Jafari and X. Honggen (eds.) Springer (p. 150-151).
  17. Belhassen, Y. (2019). "A conceptual framework for sustainable development of marijuana tourism," *Critical Tourism Studies Proceedings*, Vol. 2019, Article 82.
  18. Belhassen, Y. (2023). "Deviance, Tourism". Entry for the *Encyclopedia of Tourism* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition), J. Jafari and X. Honggen (eds.) Springer (Accepted for publication).
- (d) Refereed articles and refereed letters in scientific journals

**Symbols & abbreviations:**

\* - Publications since last promotion  
 PI - Principal Investigator  
 S- Student  
 PD – Post Doctorate Fellow  
 C - Researcher

**Info in parentheses:**

GS / ISI Citations –According to Google Scholar or Web of Science  
 N/A ISI citations – The publication is not in the WOS Core Collection  
 JR- According to the Australian Business Deans Council  
 IF – According to ISI  
 JCR – According to Clarivate Analytic

1. Uriely, N.<sup>C</sup> & Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> (2005). Drugs and Tourists' Experiences. *Journal of Travel Research*, 43(3), 238-246. (124 GS citations; N/A ISI citations; IF: 8.933; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 3/52).
2. Uriely, N.<sup>C</sup> & Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> (2006). Drugs and Risk Taking in Tourism. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 33(2), 339-359. (191 GS citations; 74 ISI citations; IF: 12.853; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 5/52).
3. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> & Santos, C.A.<sup>C</sup> (2006). An American Evangelical Pilgrimage to Israel: A Case Study on Politics and Triangulation. *Journal of Travel Research*, 44(4), 431-441. (45 GS citations; N/A ISI citations; IF: 8.933; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 3/52).

4. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> & Caton, K.<sup>PI</sup> (2006). Authenticity Matters. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 33(3), 872-875. (231 GS citations; 54 ISI citations; IF: 12.853; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 5/52).
5. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup>, Santos, C.A.<sup>C</sup>, & Uriely, N.<sup>C</sup> (2007). Cannabis Usage in Tourism: A Sociological Perspective. *Leisure Studies*, 26(3), 303-319. (65 GS citations; N/A ISI citations; IF: 2.949; JR: A; JCR: Q3, 42/52). Republished abstract in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, 55(44), A6.
6. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> (2007). Inciting the Sociological Imagination. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 34(4), 1078-1081. (8 GS citations; 4 ISI citations; IF: 12.853; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 5/52).
7. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup>, Caton, K.<sup>C</sup>, & Stewart, W.P.<sup>C</sup> (2008). The Search for Authenticity in the Pilgrim Experience. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 35(3), 668-689. (609 GS citations; 217 ISI citations; IF: 12.853; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 5/52).
8. Santos, C. A.<sup>C</sup> Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> & Caton, K.<sup>C</sup> (2008). Reimagining Chinatown: An analysis of Tourism Discourse. *Tourism Management*, 29(5), 1002-1012. (154 GS citations; 47 ISI citations; IF: 12.879; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 2/52).
9. Belhassen Y.<sup>PI</sup> & Ebel, J.<sup>C</sup> (2009). Tourism, Faith and Politics in the Holy Land: An Ideological Analysis of Evangelical Pilgrimage. *Current Issues in Tourism*, 12(4), 359-378. (42 GS citations; 14 ISI citations; IF: 7.430; JR: A, JCR: Q1, 10/52).
10. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> (2009). Fundamentalist Christian Pilgrimages as a Political and Cultural Force. *Journal of Heritage Tourism*, 4(2), 131-144. (38 GS citations; 16 ISI citations; IF: NA; JR: B; JCR: NA).
11. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> & Caton, K.<sup>PI</sup> (2009). Advancing Understandings: A Linguistic Approach to Tourism Epistemology. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 36(2), 335-352. (141 GS citations; 52 ISI citations; IF: 12.853; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 5/52).
12. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> & Caton, K.<sup>PI</sup> (2011). On the Need for Critical Pedagogy in Tourism Education. *Tourism Management*, 32(6), 1389-1396. (204 GS citations; 78 ISI citations; IF: 7.403; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 2/52).
13. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> (2012). In Praise of Religious Reflexivity: Fieldwork Reflections. *Critical Arts*, 26(3), 423-440. (Special issues on *Encounters: Researchers as Tourists and Travelers*). (5 citations; 3 ISI citations; IF: 0.316; JR: NA, JCR: Q4, 39/45).
14. Isralowitz, R.<sup>C</sup>, Reznik, A.<sup>C</sup> & Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> (2012). Binge Drinking among Israeli Hospitality Workers: Gender and Country of Origin Differences. *Drugs: Education, Prevention & Policy*, 19(2), 181-183. (5 GS citations; 3 ISI citations; IF: 1.710; JR: C; JCR: Q4, 30/36).
15. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> & Shani, A.<sup>C</sup> (2012). Hotel Workers' Substance Use and Abuse. *International Journal of Hospitality Management*, 31, 1292-1302. (45 GS citations; 16 ISI citations; IF: 10.427; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 4/52).
16. Isralowitz, R.<sup>C</sup>, Reznik, A.<sup>C</sup> & Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> (2012). Work Alienation, Patterns of Substance Use and Country of Origin among Male Hospitality Workers in Israel. *International Journal of Mental Health & Addiction*, 10, 923-926. (12 GS citations; 7 ISI citations; IF: 3.836; JR: NA; JCR: Q3, 24/36).
17. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> (2012). Eilat Syndrome: Deviant Behavior among Temporary Hotel Workers. *Tourism Analysis*, 17(5), 673-677. (19 GS citations; 7 ISI citations; IF: 0.56; JR: A; JCR: NA).
18. Shani, A.C, Belhassen, Y.C & Soskolne, D.<sup>S</sup> (2013). Teaching Professional Ethics in Culinary Studies. *International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management*, 25(3), 447-464. (43 GS citations; 10 ISI citations; IF: 6.514; JR: A; JCR: Q1, 6/52).
19. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> & Shani, A.<sup>C</sup> (2013). Substance Abuse and Job Attitude among Hotel Workers: Social Labeling Perspective. *Tourism Management*, 34(1), 47-49. (32 GS citations; 12 ISI citations; IF: 12.879; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 2/52).

20. Hillel, D.<sup>S</sup>, Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> & Shani, A.<sup>C</sup> (2013). What Makes a Gastronomic Destination Attractive? Evidence from the Israeli Negev. *Tourism Management*, 36, 200-209. (213 GS citations; 58 ISI citations; IF: 12.879; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 2/52).
21. Caton, K.<sup>PI</sup>, Pastoor, C.<sup>S</sup>, Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup>, Collins, B.<sup>C</sup> & Wallin, M.<sup>C</sup> (2013). Christian Music Festival Tourism and Positive Peace. *Journal of Tourism and Peace Research*, 3(2), 21-42. (14 GS citations; ISI citations; IF:NA; JR: NA; JCR: NA).
22. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> Uriely, N.<sup>C</sup> & Assor, O.<sup>S</sup> (2014). The Touristification of a Conflict Zone: The Case of Bil'in. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 49, 174-189. (49 GS citations; 21 ISI citations; IF: 12.853; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 5/52).
23. Stylidis, D.<sup>PD</sup> Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> & Shani, A.<sup>C</sup> (2015). Three Tales of a City: Stakeholders' Images of Eilat as a Tourist Destination. *Journal of Travel Research*, 54(6), 702-716. (97 GS citations; 35 ISI citations; IF: 8.933; JR: A\*, JCR: Q1, 3/52).
24. Stylidis, D.<sup>PD</sup> Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> & Shani, A.<sup>C</sup> (2017). Destination Image, On-Site Experience and Behavioural Intentions: Path Analytic Validation of a Marketing Model on Domestic Tourists. *Current Issues in Tourism*, 20(15), 1653-1670. (84 GS citations; 17 ISI citations; IF: 7.430; JR: A, JCR: Q1, 10/52).
25. Stylidis, D.<sup>PI</sup> Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> & Shani, A.<sup>C</sup> (2017). Testing an Integrated Destination Image Model across Residents and Tourists. *Tourism Management*, 58, 184-195. (392 GS citations; 115 ISI citations; IF:12.879; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 2/52).
26. Cheer, J.M.<sup>PI</sup>, Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> & Kujawa, J.<sup>PI</sup> (2017). Spiritual Tourism: Entrée to the Special Issue. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 24, 186-187. (12 GS citations; 2 ISI citations; IF 7.608; JR: A; JCR: Q2, 19/52).
27. Cheer, J.M.<sup>PI</sup>, Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> & Kujawa, J.<sup>PI</sup> (2017). The Search for Spirituality in Tourism: Toward a Conceptual Framework for Spiritual Tourism. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 24, 252-256. (123 GS citations; 27 ISI citations; IF: 7.608; JR: A; JCR: Q2, 14/52).
28. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup>, & Bowler, B.<sup>PI</sup> (2017). An Interview about Spirituality and Tourism: Theory and Practice in Dialogue. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 24, 188-192. (4 GS citations; 0 ISI citations; IF: 7.608; JR: A; JCR: Q2, 14/52).
29. Tynyakov, J.<sup>PI</sup>, Rousseau, M.<sup>S</sup>, Chen, M.<sup>C</sup>, Figus, O.<sup>C</sup>, Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> & Shashar, N.<sup>C</sup> (2017). Artificial Reefs as a Means of Spreading Diving Pressure in a Coral Reef Environment. *Ocean & Coastal Management*, 149(1), 159-164. (39 GS citations; 11 ISI citations; IF: 2.482; JR: C; JCR: Q2, 22/64).
30. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup>, Rousseau, M.<sup>S</sup>, Tynyakov, J.<sup>C</sup> & Shashar N.<sup>C</sup> (2017). Evaluating the Attractiveness and Effectiveness of Artificial Coral Reefs as a Recreational Ecosystem Service. *Journal of Environmental Management*, 203(1), 448-456. (41 GS citations; 12 ISI citations; IF: 8.91; JR: A; JCR: Q1, 33/265).
31. Shnabel, N.<sup>PI</sup>, Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> & Mor, S.<sup>C</sup> (2018). From Victimhood to Peace Activism: The Potential Role of Personal Loss and Inclusive Victim Beliefs. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*, 21(8), 1144-1154. (21 GS citations; 3 ISI citations; IF: 2.708; JR: B; JCR: Q1, 15/64).
32. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup>, & Jackson, A.<sup>C</sup> (2018). The Case for a Regulatory Cannabis Enclave in the Resort City of Eilat. *International Journal of Mental Health & Addiction*, 16(4), 828-831. (1 GS citations; 0 ISI citations; IF: 4.295; JR: NA, JCR: Q2, 24/36).
33. Caton, K.<sup>PI</sup>, Pastoor, C.<sup>S</sup>, Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup>, Collins, B.<sup>C</sup> & Wallin, M.<sup>C</sup> (2018). Rock of Our Salvation: Ideological Production at the Christian Youth Music Festival. *Annals of Leisure Research*, 21(4), 440-461. (4 citations; IF: 1.6; JR: B, JCR: NA).
34. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup>, Cheer, J.M.<sup>PI</sup> & Kujawa, J.<sup>PI</sup> (2019). Why We Still Go on Pilgrimages? *Journal of Tourism & Hospitality*, 7(6), 392-393. (1 GS citations; N/A ISI citations; IF: 0.325; JR: N/A, JCR: NA).



35. Wen, J.<sup>S</sup>, Meng, F.<sup>C</sup> Ying, T.<sup>C</sup> & Belhassen, Y.<sup>C</sup> (2020). A Study of Segmentation of Cannabis-Oriented Tourists from China Based on Motivation. *Current Issues in Tourism*, 23(1), 36-51. (20 GS citations; 7 ISI citations; IF: 7.430; JR: A, JCR: Q1, 10/52).
36. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup>, Caton, K.<sup>C</sup> & Vahaba, C.<sup>C</sup> (2020). Boot Camps, Bugs, and Dreams: Metaphor Analysis of Internship Experiences in the Hospitality Industry. *Journal of Hospitality, Leisure, Sport & Tourism Education*, 27, 100228. (10 GS citations; 3 ISI citations; IF: 2.628; JR: B, JCR: Q3, 156/263).
37. Belhassen, Y. (2020). Metaphors and Tourism Paradoxes. *Tourism Management*, 79, 104095. (10 GS citations; 0 ISI citations; IF: 12.879; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 2/52).
38. Belhassen, Y. (2023). Work, Leisure and the Social Order: Insights from the Pandemic, *Annals of Leisure Research*. 26(4), 514-520. (IF: N/A JR: B; JCR: Q1, N/A).
39. Belhassen, Y. (2023). Cultural Production during the Pandemic Lockdowns: An Ethnography of Simulative Leisure as Resistance. *Mabatim: Journal of Visual Culture*. 2, 215-243. (In Hebrew).
40. Belhassen, Y. (2023). Tourism as a Space of Possibilities: Reconciliation Tourism Enterprises in a Conflict-Ridden Destination, *Journal of Travel Research*. 62(7), 1497-1509. (IF: 8.933; JR: A\*; JCR: Q1, 3/52).
41. Belhassen, Y.<sup>PI</sup> & Cohen, A.<sup>S</sup> (2023). Virtual Conferences in Times of COVID-19: Phenomenological Analysis of a Disruptive Crisis, *Study of Organizations and Human Resource Management Quarterly*, 8(1), 42-57. (In Hebrew)

(e) Unrefereed professional articles and publications

1. Shani, A. & Belhassen, Y. (2009). Tourism Destination Development and Branding, *Anatolia: An International Journal of Tourism & Hospitality Research*, 20(2), 471-473.
2. Belhassen, Y. (2011). Review of J. Tribe's book "Philosophical Issues in Tourism", *Tourism Analysis*, 16, 385-386.
3. Belhassen, Y. (2017). Review of A. Maddrell, A. Terry & T. Gale, edited book "Sacred Mobilities: Journeys of Belief and Belonging". *Journal of Tourism & Cultural Change*, 15(4), 403-405.
4. Belhassen, Y. (2019). All-inclusive Illusion. *Alaxon: A digital magazine for thoughts, articles of notes and new ideas*. Published on October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, (In Hebrew).
5. Belhassen, Y. (2020). Deviance and Leisure. *Alaxon: A digital magazine for thoughts, articles of notes and new ideas*. Published on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020, (In Hebrew).
6. Belhassen, Y. (2023). Traveling among Enemies. *Alaxon: A digital magazine for thoughts, articles of notes and new ideas*. Published on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, (In Hebrew).

(f) Classified articles and reports

1. Belhassen, Y. (2007). An analysis of the tourism development plans in "Emek Sasgon" near Timna National Park. Invited by the Forum for *Emek Sasgon* to be presented as an excerpt opinion in court.
2. Belhassen, Y., Isralowitz, R. & Reznik, A. (2013). Eilat: Patterns of Substance Use among Hotel Workers. A Report to the Israel Ministry of Tourism (Hebrew).
3. Belhassen, Y. (2023). Urban Playgrounds: Historical and Sociological Review. A Report to the Ein Dor Archeological Museum.

• **Lectures and Presentations at Meetings and Invited Seminars not Followed by Published Proceedings**

(a) Invited plenary lectures at conferences/meetings

1. (October 15, 2009). "Epistemological understanding of tourism scholarship". Presented at the conference "Tourism Destination Development & Branding". Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Eilat, Israel. Also paper published in *Tourism Destination Development and Branding – Conference Proceedings* (p.161) (ISBN 978-965-91467-0-3)
2. (February 9, 2012). "Smoking under the tourist gaze" Invited lecture as a guest speaker in Thompson Rivers University's International Days, Kamloops BC, Canada.
3. (January 12, 2018). "Substance use among hotel employees in Eilat". Invited plenary lecturer for the symposium "Health Implications of Marijuana Use: The Colorado Experience for Informed Decision-Making in Israel" (January 6-14, 2018). Dead Sea, Israel.
4. (February 24, 2020). "Sustainable development and the future of Eilat." Invited plenary lecture for the 29<sup>th</sup> conference of the Federmann Center for the Study of Rationality (The Hebrew University), Eilat, Israel.
5. (April 26, 2022). "The Exotification of the Gentrification: The Tourist Gaze in the Old City of Beer Sheva." Invited plenary lecture for in the launching event for "MABATIM" – new journal. Department of Art, Ben-Gurion University, Trumpeldor Gallery, Beer Sheva.
6. (January 8, 2023). "Tourism trends after the pandemic". Invited plenary lecture in the conference of Israel Hostel (ILH) for tourism entrepreneurs. Held in the Whitehill Guesthouse, Yeruham.

(b) Presentations of papers at conferences/meetings

1. Belhassen, Y. "Sociological aspects of marijuana use in tourism", presented at the conference: "Cannabis: Social Aspects and Law Enforcement", hosted by the Institute of Criminology, Faculty of Law, The Hebrew University at Jerusalem (June 3, 2003).
2. Belhassen, Y and Uriely, N. "Drug and the tourist's experience". Presented 2th Israeli Academics Tourism Forum (IATF), hosted by the Centre for Tourism, Pilgrimage and Recreation Research, University of Haifa (January 21, 2004).
3. Belhassen, Y. "Drug tourism" Presented at the 35th Conference of the Israeli Sociological Society (ISS), Ben-Gurion University, Beer-Sheva, Israel (February 2004).
4. Belhassen, Y. and Uriely, N. "Risks and drugs in tourism". Presented at the 3th Israeli Academics Tourism Forum (IATF), hosted by Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (January 5, 2005).
5. Uriely, N. and Belhassen, Y. "Drugs and tourist experiences", presented at the XVI World Congress of Sociology (ISA), Durban, South Africa (25 July, 2006).
6. Belhassen, Y. "Protestant fundamentalism and environmentalism." In *Human Dimension of Environmental System* (Abstracts from Conference) and a poster presented at Environmental Horizons 2007 Conference, The annual conference of Environmental Council of the University of Illinois, Urbana IL, USA (April 25, 2007).
7. Belhassen, Y., Caton, K. and Stewart W. P. "The search for authenticity in the pilgrim experience". Presented at Heritage and Cultural Tourism Conference, Department of Geography, Brigham Young University Jerusalem, Center for Near Eastern Studies (June 17, 2008).

8. Belhassen, Y. and Ebel, J. "Faith, politics and tourism: Ideological analysis of evangelical tourism to Israel." Presented at the 7th IATF conference, hosted by the Center for Tourism, Pilgrimage and Recreation Research, University of Haifa (February 16, 2009).
9. Belhassen, Y. "Tourism as a cohesive resource." Paper presented in the 40th conference of the Israeli Sociological Society (ISS), College of Management Academic Studies (Feb. 18, 2009).
10. Belhassen, Y., Santos, C. and Caton, K. "Discursive Analysis of Urban Tours: The Case of Chinatown Chicago". Presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> Israeli Academics Tourism Forum (IATF), hosted by the Hebrew University at Jerusalem (Feb. 18, 2010).
11. Belhassen, Y. and Caton, K. "Critical Thinking as a Pedagogical Device in Tourism Studies." In Abstract from the Annual conference of the Israeli Academics Tourism Forum (IATF). Held in the Center for Academic Studies at Or-Yeuda (Feb. 3, 2011).
12. Belhassen, Y. "The construction of the imaginary Holy Land in the evangelical sub-culture." In *Tourism Imaginary: An International conference*. Berkeley CA: University of Californian at Berkeley & Université de Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne (p. 5) (Feb. 19, 2011).
13. Belhassen, Y. and Caton, K. "On the need for critical pedagogy in tourism education." In *Tourism Education Futures Institute* (TEFI), 2011 World Congress, *Activating Change in Tourism Education*, Temple University, Philadelphia, USA (May 19, 2011).
14. Shani, A. and Belhassen, Y. "Teaching Ethics to Culinary Art Professionals". Presented at the 10th IATF conference, hosted by the Department of Hotel & Tourism Management, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Feb. 13, 2012).
15. Belhassen, Y. and Shani, A. "Substance Use and Abuse among Hotel Staff in Eilat". Presented at the 11th IATF conference, hosted by the Department of Tourism & Hotel Management, Kinneret College (Feb. 13, 2013).
16. Hillel, D., Belhassen, Y. and Shani, A. "What makes a gastronomic destination attractive?" Presented at the 11th IATF conference, hosted by the Department of Tourism & Hotel Management, Kinneret College (Feb. 13, 2013).
17. Caton, K., Pastoor, C., Belhassen, Y., Collins, B., and Wallin, M. "Upon This Rock I Will Build My Church": Constructions of Christianity (and Their Consequences) At American Religious Youth Music Festivals. Presented at the. International Conference on Religious Tourism and Tolerance, Dedeman Konya, Turkey (May 12, 2013).
18. Shani, A., Belhassen, Y. and Soskolne, D. "Professional Ethics in Culinary Art Training Programs. Presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> International Critical Tourism Studies Conference, Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina (June 26, 2013).
19. Belhassen, Y. Uriely, N. and Assor, O. The Touristification of a Conflict Zone: the Case of Bil'in. Presented at the 5th International Critical Tourism Studies Conference, Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina (June 27, 2013).
20. Caton, K., Pastoor, C., Belhassen, Y., Collins, B., and Wallin, M. "The Rock of Our Salvation": Ideological and Identity Production at the Christian Youth Music Festival. Presented at the 5th International Critical Tourism Studies Conference, Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina (June 27, 2013).
21. Belhassen, Y. "Political Tourism in the West Bank." Presented at the 38th World Congress of Sociology held in Yokohama, Japan. Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology. (p. 78) (July 19, 2014).
22. Belhassen, Y. "Theater of the Oppressed in the Hospitality Industry" Presented in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hospitality Now Conference, Deventer, The Netherlands (July 2, 2015).
23. Belhassen, Y. Uriely, N, & Assor, O. "The Touristification of a Conflict zone: The case of Bil'in" presented at ATLAS conference 'Risk in travel and tourism: Geographies, behaviours and strategies. Lisbon, Portugal (October 21, 2015).

24. Belhassen, Y. "Tourists in a Conflict Zone: A Grassroots Leadership Perspective." Paper presented in the 26th CAUTHE conference, Sydney, Australia (February 9, 2016).
25. Belhassen, Y., Rousseau, M., Tynyakov, J. and Shashar, N. "How Can the Artificial be Made Authentic? A Study on Artificial Coral Reefs." Paper presented at the 7<sup>th</sup> ICOT conference. Chiang Mai, Thailand (June 30, 2017).
26. Addis, E., Belhassen, Y. & Litvak-Hirsh, T. "Roots tourism of the first and second generations of Ethiopian Jews." Presented at the 49th Conference of the Israeli Sociological Society (ISS), Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva, Israel. (January 30, 2018).
27. Belhassen, Y., Addis, E. & Litvak-Hirsh, T. "Roots Tourism of Israeli Ethiopian Jews: Stories of Identity Reformulation." Presented at the 39<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Sociology held in Toronto (July 17, 2018).
28. Belhassen, Y. Caton, K. & Vahaba, C. "Vocational Narratives about Academic Internship Program in the Hospitality Industry." Presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Critical Tourism Studies North America (CTSNA) held in Kamloops BC, Canada (August 21, 2018).
29. Belhassen, Y. "A conceptual framework for sustainable development of marijuana tourism." Presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> International Critical Tourism Studies Conference held in Ibiza, Spain (June 27, 2019).
30. Belhassen, Y. & Demeyère, C. "Liberating Theatre in the Realm of Tourism". Presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Critical Tourism Studies North America (CTSNA), held in UQAM, Montréal, Canada / hybrid (June 19-22, 2021).
31. Belhassen, Y. "Tourists as political agents of pre-transitional justice & cultural transformation". Presented at conference "Citizen as Diplomats", held in University of Sussex, UK. (Sept., 23 2022).
32. Belhassen, Y. "Reconciliation tourism initiatives in the Israeli-Palestinian space". Presented at The 1<sup>st</sup> Israeli Entrepreneurship Researcher's Community (IERC) Conference, held in Ben-Gurion University (June 1, 2023)

(c) Presentations at informal international seminars and workshops

1. (July 30, 2002). "The phenomenological approach to drug-related experiences in tourism", Presented at Departmental seminar in Organizational Behavior, Bergische University, Wuppertal, Germany.
2. (October 29, 2004). "Drugs and Tourist Experiences", presented at the Tourism Brown Bag Seminar of the Tourism Laboratory for Economic and Social Behavior Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
3. (February 9, 2012). "Evangelical pilgrimage to the Holy Land", Faculty of Adventure, Culinary Arts and Tourism, Thompson Rivers University, BC Canada.
4. (February 12, 2012). "Political dynamics and grassroots protests against tourism projects in Israel: The cases of Timna National Park and Palmachim Beach, Faculty of Adventure, Culinary Arts and Tourism, Thompson River University, BC Canada.
5. (November 13, 2013). "Psychoactive substance use among hotel employees in Eilat", Departmental Seminar, Department of Hotel & Tourism Management, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.
6. (October 13, 2015). "Political tourism to Bil'in: Beyond political consumerism and activism", Invited lecture. Hosted by the National Centre for Australian Studies, Master of International Sustainable Tourism Program, Monash University.
7. (February 8, 2016). "The Israeli-Palestinian Memorial Ceremony: From Memory to Activism. A seminar at the School of Social Sciences and Psychology", University of Western Sydney.

8. (July 13, 2016). "The role international tourists in conflict zones: The case of Bil'in". A seminar presented at the Hague Symposium, The International Peace & Security Institute.
9. (October 30, 2019). "Political tourism in the West Bank. An invited lecture for a tour-guide workshop". An invited lecture by Forum Ziviler Friedensdienst (ZFD), Jerusalem.

(d) Seminar presentations at universities and institutions

1. (December 15, 2002). "Backpackers and drugs abuse" (panel), The Israeli Backpacking Experience, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute at Jerusalem.
2. (November 12, 2003). "The risk consciousness of drug tourists", presented at departmental seminar in the Institute of Criminology, The Hebrew University at Jerusalem.
3. (March 27, 2008). "Coping with the impacts of tourism", Invited lecture for Mandel Leadership Institute, Israel.
4. (January 9, 2008). "Christian Zionist tourism to the Holy Land", Departmental Seminar, Department of Hotel & Tourism Management, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.
5. (March 31, 2009). "The religious and cultural roots of Christian-Zionist tourism to Israel", Academic Seminar in Eilat Campus, Ben-Gurion University.
6. (November 21, 2010). "The role of the media in the coverage of tourism" (Panel Discussion), The Annual Conference of Tel Aviv Journalists' Association, Eilat.
7. (August 30, 2017). "Sex, drug & the Jazz Festival: What can be learned from the touristification of Jazz". Invited lecture for the Jazz festival, Eilat, Israel.
8. (November 23, 2017). "Eilat Syndrome: Psychoactive substance use among hospitality employees", Invited lecture for Mandel Program for Local leadership in Yeruham & Ramat Hanegev.
9. (November 13, 2018). "Opportunities and challenges for tourism and hospitality in the 21st century", An invited lecture for Isrotel's Succession Planning Program.
10. (December 12, 2018). "Deciphering Eilat's paradox: A conceptual toolkit for the examination of residents' attitude toward tourism in a resort town." An invited lecture for Mandel Program for Local leadership in Eilat-Eilat, Israel.
11. (March 28-29, 2019). "Evaluating and analyzing human-dolphin encounters" An invited lecture to a professional course for marine biologists at the Dolphin Reef, Eilat.
12. (March 29, 2019). "The connection between Adloyada, Mardi Gras and Venice Carnival: Deviant behavior and social order at public events." An invited lecture for Kibbutz Samar.
13. (August 2, 2019). "The challenges and opportunities of commodifying the Bedouin culture for tourism purposes." An invited lecture for "A New Dawn in the Negev" (An Arab-Jewish community development organization based in Rahat, Israel)
14. (August 14, 2019). "Gastronomic attractiveness of tourism destination: Deciphering the case of the Negev." An invited lecture for the Center for Business & Entrepreneurship, Ramat HaNegev Regional Council.
15. (January 4, 2022). "Leisure in the time of Pandemic: Evidence from the Old City of Beer-Sheva", presented at departmental seminar in the Dept. of Art History, Haifa University.
16. (June 30, 2022). "Creating a Better Metaverse for our Children: Thinking of the Metaverse as a Symbolic for of Reality" A Panel Discussant. Humphrey Institute for Social and Cultural Research. Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.
17. (November 9, 2022). "Theater of Oppressed with Asylum seekers in Israel". An invited lecture for the African Studies program, Tel Aviv University.
18. (March 23, 2023). "How to study human-dolphin interactions?" An invited lecture for The International Laboratory for Dolphin Research, The Dolphin Reef, Eilat.

- **Research Grants**

- 2003 The Israeli Anti-Drugs Authority – Research Grant, one year (\$2800).
- 2008 UIA Federation Canada, fund raising for IATF conference at Eilat Campus (\$4600).
- 2012-13 Israel Ministry of Tourism. Research Grant, one year (\$6400).
- 2013-14 The College of Management Academic Studies, Research Grant, one year (\$3000).
- 2024 The Jewish Agency. Bolstering social Resilience through Tourism Initiatives (\$2000)

- **Synopsis of Research**

My research interests span two main areas. The first includes social and managerial aspects of tourism and leisure as industries and social practices; the second examines pedagogical and epistemological questions relating to the development and establishment of *tourism studies* as an academic field. My theoretical inclination to offer a critical reading of the realities I examine is what unites these two areas of interest, in addition to the topic of tourism, which is related to my academic training and institutional affiliation.

The main hypothesis of my first line of research is that tourism and leisure are unique windows through which the characteristics of society and of the participating elements can be understood. To date, I have examined specific practices such as psychoactive substance use in tourism (Belhassen, 2012; Belhassen, Santos & Uriely, 2007; Uriely & Belhassen, 2005, 2006;), evangelical travel practices (e.g., Belhassen, Caton & Stewart, 2008; Belhassen, 2009; Pastoor et al., 2016), spirituality and tourism (e.g., Belhassen & Bowler, 2017), political aspect of tourism in the Israeli-Palestinian space (Belhassen & Ebel, 2009; Belhassen, Uriely & Assor, 2014, Belhassen. 2023) and the artificial coral reefs application for diving tourism purposes (Belhassen et al, 2017; Tynyakov et al, 2017) in an attempt to inductively understand the social factors creating the conditions leading to their formation, as well as their social implications.

I have also conducted two projects on the impact of the COVID 19 Pandemic on tourism and leisure practices in the Israeli society. The first research used a phenomenological approach to learn about the experiences of participants in virtual conferences during the period when it was not possible to hold physical meetings. We conducted semi-structured in-depth interviews with Israeli business travelers experienced in participating in professional conferences overseas, who were forced to attend virtual conferences during the lockdowns. (Belhassen & Ariel, 2023). The Second project examines cultural initiatives developed during the pandemic lockdowns and restrictions in the Old City of Beer Sheva. Based on critical ethnographic fieldwork, this study focuses on three initiatives spontaneously mounted during the lockdowns: reading theater, staged photography, and pop-up culinary events. Semiotic analysis is used to analyze the ethnographic data, with the goal of identifying and analyzing implicit and explicit characteristics and meanings (Belhassen, 2023).

I am naturally inclined towards words rather than numbers, so I have largely used qualitative tools in my research. For instance, I have employed critical discourse analysis as a methodological lens in my exploration of urban tours to Chinatown Chicago (Santos, Belhassen & Caton, 2007), and the potential of gastronomic tourism in the Negev (Hillel, Belhassen & Shani, 2013). At the same time, I feel comfortable using statistical techniques when needed. For example, in a research project among hotel employees in Eilat, which was partly funded by the Israeli Ministry of Tourism, I used statistical means to examines workers' substance use habits in light of their attitude toward their jobs and their temporary stay in the city (Belhassen, 2012). Similarly, in an ongoing

research project, I used various statistical techniques in order to understand tourists' behavior and attitudes toward artificial and natural coral reefs in Eilat (Belhassen et al, 2017).

My second line of research focuses on the epistemology of tourism research as a relatively young field of study. My work has focused on an attempt to map academic knowledge on tourism and its disciplinary roots (Belhassen & Caton, 2009; Belhassen, 2020). I have also attempted to provide current and future generations of tourism researchers with a reflective perspective on the theoretical, practical and ethical goals of research and pedagogy (Belhassen, 2007).

My diverse research interests reflect my passion for the topics I study. My passion for knowledge creation also helped me coin and develop new terms, which enrich the growing tourism scholarship, such as *Eilat Syndrome* in my study of deviant behavior among hospitality workers (Belhassen, 2012), *theoplacity* in my phenomenological study on evangelical pilgrimage (Belhassen, Caton & Stewart, 2008), *tourism morphology* in my epistemic study of tourism scholarship (Belhassen & Caton, 2009), and *the familiarity/staging/attractiveness paradoxes* (Belhassen, 2020).

- **Teaching Statement**

My commitment to critical and innovative pedagogy began in earnest in 2007, when I started teaching at Eilat Campus after my graduation from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I taught Principles of Management, Introduction to Tourism Studies, Sociology of Tourism, and an original course on Critical Management Studies. I feel fortunate to be given the opportunity to implement my scholarly work in courses that I developed. For example, my research on the need to rethink management education in the study of tourism has resulted in a graduate-level course in the master program in tourism management (i.e., Critical Management Studies). Similarly, the course "Political tourism in the Israeli-Palestinian space" has been developed around selected issues, designed to expose students to the various manifestations and ramifications of tourist behavior and tourism planning in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

I aspire to cultivate among students self-directing learning abilities and personal growth through a pedagogic blend of intellectual and academic scholarship and of honing critical thinking abilities. I build my courses upon multidisciplinary scholarship in order to expose students to various and diverse bodies of literature within social research. In line with this spirit, the assignments in the courses I teach include an intellectual engagement in evaluation of or reaction to the course's topics. To ensure that students feel connected to the course in a meaningful way I regularly distribute outlines of my lectures and guidelines for the next meeting.

In 2018, I moved to the main campus in Beer Sheva and was asked to develop three new courses, two of which on leadership for the bachelor and master programs in the Department of Hotel & Tourism Management. Inspired by my experience as a graduate of Mandel Program for Regional Leadership in Eilat-Eilat (2017-2019), I aspired to bring innovative pedagogical techniques to the study of leadership in business schools. In line with this spirit, these courses aims at enabling each student to understand and experience various aspects of leadership through a pedagogic blend of theoretical understanding and of refining leadership abilities through self-discovery. For example, the final product for the MA course is a short and well-informed position paper in evaluation of or reaction to any of the tourism challenges discussed in class.