



Juan Acevedo

Personal Details

Date of birth: 10 September 1971

Address: Centro Interuniversitário de História das Ciências e da Tecnologia, Faculdade de Ciências, University of Lisbon, Portugal

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Personal Profile

PhD in Comparative History of Philosophy (Cosmology/History of Ideas), with a BA in Classics (+ Hebrew) and working knowledge of several European languages ancient and modern. I have experience teaching Spanish and classical languages, and I have worked for many years in the publication of academic works in the field of Islamic studies and comparative religion. I am a natural team worker and I can handle pressure and deliver complex projects on time. My current research in history of early modern science draws from Arabic and Iberian palaeography and codicology, establishing connections between cosmography, cosmology and the tacit knowledge of artisanal skills, especially in relation to maritime sciences, primarily celestial navigation.

Employment History

- 2020– [ERC RUTTER Project](#).
Post-doctoral researcher in History of Science, especially Medieval and Early Modern Arabic Nautical Literature.
- 2010–2020 [The Matheson Trust](#) for the Study of Comparative Religion, London.
Director of Publications and Webmaster.
- 2018 Archaeology of Reading in Early Modern Europe,
Centre for Editing Lives and Letters, UCL, London.
Research Assistant (Greek Transcriptions).
- 2009–2010 Tabah Foundation, Abu Dhabi.
Research Division Publications Manager.
- 2008–2009 Universidad de Los Andes, Mérida, Venezuela.
Visiting Lecturer, Latin and Classical Greek Language & Literature.
- 2007–2008 CEAPULA Secondary School, Mérida, Venezuela.
Teacher of Baccalaureat Spanish Language & Literature.
- 2003–2007 [Islamic Texts Society](#), Cambridge, UK.
Assistant Editor & Project Manager.

Education

- 2015–2018 [Warburg Institute](#), School of Advanced Study, University of London
PhD in Comparative History of Philosophy. Thesis: “The Idea of *Stoicheion* in Grammar and Cosmology.” Supervisor: Charles Burnett.
- 1996–2001 Universidad de Los Andes (ULA), Mérida, Venezuela.
BA in Classical Literature + Biblical Hebrew (1st Class–*Summa cum laude*)

Courses and Other Studies

- Jan. 2019 Codicology & Manuscript Cataloguing Study Weekend. Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London.

- 1992-2001 Classical Literature and Philosophy (Greek, Latin and Biblical Hebrew) under Prof. J.M. Briceño Guerrero (ULA, Mérida, Venezuela).
- 1989-present Chinese Martial Arts (styles: *Taichi Chuan*, *Tanglang Chuan*, *Pakua Chang*). [Pachi Tanglang International Association](#).

List of Publications

“A New Arabic Nautical Manuscript in Lisbon”. *Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies Bulletin* 7 (2021): 9–36. <https://doi.org/10.25592/uhhfdm.9620>

(with Inês Bénard). *The Stars of Indian Ocean Arab Navigation*. RUTTER Technical Notes 8. Lisbon: ERC RUTTER Project, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.14758605.v2>

(with Inês Bénard). *Indian Ocean Arab Navigation Studies Towards a Global Perspective: Annotated Bibliography and Research Roadmap*. RUTTER Technical Notes 2. Lisbon: ERC RUTTER Project, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.6084/M9.FIGSHARE.12389855.V1>

Alphanumeric Cosmology From Greek into Arabic: The Idea of Stoicheia through the Medieval Mediterranean, Mohr Siebeck, Tübingen, 2020.

Book of the XXIV Philosophers (editio minima) (bilingual edition of the *Liber XXIV philosophorum*), [online publication](#) by The Matheson Trust, London, 2015.

- See my [ORCID profile](#) for a full list of publications.

Talks and Presentations

“A New Arabic Nautical Manuscript in Lisbon”, Middle East Studies Association 2021 Annual Meeting, MESA, Quebec, 1 December 2021.

“The Common Root of Science and Religion”, Master of Arts in Religion, Culture and Peace Studies, University for Peace, San José, Costa Rica, 21 October 2021.

“The Pythagorization of Geographical Space: Between Ptolemy and the Indian Ocean Arab Pilots”, in ‘La réception du pythagorisme au Moyen âge et à la Renaissance’, Laboratoire d’études sur les monothéismes (LEM), Paris, 14 October 2021.

“*Globalizatio ex nihilo?* La globalidad científica primordial en el encuentro ibero-árabe”, Congreso Internacional “La Génesis de la Globalización”, University of Alicante, 23 September 2021.

“The 16th-century Portuguese *Suma Oriental* and the Arab Pilots: A Comparative *Summa Orientalis?*”, 54th Seminar for Arabian Studies, Durham, UK, 11 July 2021.

“Governance and Navigation from Plato to Ibn Majid”, History and Theory of International Relations Colloquium, University of Groningen, 22 April 2021.

“Science, Technique and Craft of Indian Ocean 15th-century Navigation: Arabic Terminology in Context”, 66th Annual Meeting, Renaissance Society of America, USA, 21 April 2021.

“Alphanumeric Cosmology: The Grammar and Arithmetic of the Cosmos”, Temenos Academy at The Royal Asiatic Society, London, 10 June 2019.

“In Praise of Forgetting: Lost and Found in ‘E’s and ‘N’s”, *Being Human* Festival 2017, Warburg Institute, 25 November 2017.

“L’alphabet et la grammaire du langage de la Nature”, organised by the J.M. Briceño Guerrero Association, Maison de l’Amérique Latine, Paris, 26 October 2017.

“Duality and Plurality in the Elements: A Herme(neu)tic Exploration”, in “Climates & Elements” 2nd John of Seville and Lima Conference, Warburg Institute, June 2017.

“The Craft and Geometry of Martial Arts”, Prince’s School of Traditional Arts, London, 11 March 2015.

“Comprensión del folklore latinoamericano”, Association ECLat (Échanges Culturels Latino-américains), Marseille, May 2003.

Languages

Reads, speaks and writes: Spanish, French, Italian, German.

Reads: Biblical & Medieval Hebrew, Classical & Medieval Greek, Latin, Classical Arabic and Portuguese.

Elementary knowledge of Japanese and of Mandarin Chinese.

Software and IT

Extensive knowledge of the TeX system of digital typography, and familiarity with other DTP applications (QuarkXPress, InDesign).

Wide experience with HTML and other markup languages (XML, Wikicode), and Wordpress CMS maintenance and development; web statistics based site development and email marketing.

Familiarised with office suites (OpenDocument, Microsoft) and Adobe applications (especially Acrobat Pro) under Windows, Macintosh and Linux platforms, especially text processing and spreadsheets.

Familiarised with the principles and use of the international Unicode standard, especially the Arabic, Hebrew and Polytonic Greek segments.

Wikipedia “extended confirmed user”, with more than thirty pages created and more than five hundred edits over the past nine years.