



**Europass
Curriculum Vitae**



Personal information

First name(s) / Surname(s) Merita Shala
Address(es) Ereniku Street, No.25, 10000 Pristina, Kosova
Telephone(s) Mobile: +383 44 750 232
E-mail merita.shala@umib.net
Nationality Albanian, Kosovar
Date of birth April 21, 1968
Gender Female

Work experience

Dates	2019 onwards
Occupation or position held	Vice Rector for Teaching, Student issues and Quality assurance Full Time Academic staff – Faculty of Education
Main activities and responsibilities	Teaching and Management
Name and address of employer	University 'Isa Boletini' Mitrovica, 40000, Mitrovicë, Republic of Kosova
Type of business or sector	Higher education
Dates	2017- 2019
Occupation or position held	Vice Dean and Dean of the Faculty of Education Full Time Academic staff – Faculty of Education
Main activities and responsibilities	Teaching and Management
Name and address of employer	University 'Isa Boletini' Mitrovica, 40000, Mitrovicë, Republic of Kosova
Type of business or sector	Higher education
Dates	2014-2016
Occupation or position held	Full Time Academic staff & Dean of Faculty of Psychology
Main activities and responsibilities	Teaching and management
Name and address of employer	AAB University, Zona Industriale, 1000 Pristina – Fushë Kosovë, Kosova
Type of business or sector	Higher education
Dates	2005 -2013
Occupation or position held	Part Time Academic staff – Professor
Main activities and responsibilities	Teaching & Research - Faculty of Education- Preschool Department
Name and address of employer	University of Pristina, Mother Theresa Avenue, 10000 Pristina, Kosovo
Type of business or sector	Higher education
Dates	2002 - 2007
Occupation or position held	Full Time: Coordinator of Practice Teaching
Main activities and responsibilities	Coordination – Faculty of Education
Name and address of employer	University of Pristina, Mother Theresa Avenue, 10000 Prishtina, Kosova
Type of business or sector	Higher Education

Education

Dates **2015**

Title of qualification awarded Doctor Psychology - Pedagogy

Principal subjects/occupational skills covered Dissertation title: *The evaluation of emotional and behavioral problems in Kosovar children aged 2-5 years who attend a preschool program.*

Name and type of organization providing education and training *European University of Tirana – Tiranë, Albania*
GPA 9.50

Level in national or international classification ISCED 8

Dates **2007**

Title of qualification awarded Doctor of Science in Physical Education and Sport

Principal subjects/occupational skills covered Dissertation title: *The evaluation of basic skills of preschool children and the importance of physical education in preschool education.*

Name and type of organization providing education and training University of Pristina, Kosova

Level in national or international classification ISCED 8

Dates **2019**

Title of qualification awarded Master of Science in Clinical Psychology

Principal subjects/occupational skills covered Dissertation title: *Relationship of parenting factors with children's emotional and behavioral problems – case study.*

Name and type of organization providing education and training Albanian University, *Tiranë, Albania*
GPA 9.50

Level in national or international classification ISCED 7

Dates **2004**

Title of qualification awarded Master of Science in Physical Education and Sport

Principal subjects/occupational skills covered Dissertation title: *The impact of preschool education program in anthropometric and motoric area in preschool children.*

Name and type of organization providing education and training University of Pristina, Kosova
GPA 9.40

Level in national or international classification ISCED 7

Dates **1996**

Title of qualification awarded Professor of Physical Education and Sport

Principal subjects/occupational skills covered Psychology, Pedagogy, Sociology, History of Education in Sport, Anatomy, Theory and Methodic of Physic Culture, Research Methodology

Name and type of organization providing education and training University of Tirana - ILKF 'Vojo Kushi'
GPA 9.90

Level in national or international classification ISCED 6

Trainings

Dates **2010**

Title of qualification awarded C4D Learning Workshop

Trainers Johannes Wedenig – Chief of UNICEF Kosovo & Cynthia R.de Windt

Name and type of organisation providing education and training UNICEF -Kosovo

Dates **2011**

Title of qualification awarded Qualitative Methods in social sciences

Trainers PhD. Moshe Landsman – Izrael
PhD. Dita Fischl – Izrael

Name and type of organisation providing education and training Kosovo Education Center [World Bank Project]

Dates **2020-2021**

Title of qualification awarded Methodology of Teaching in Higher Education

Trainers Trainers of Center for Teaching Excellence

Name and type of organisation providing education and training TCE – UP Hasan Pristina

Dates **2016 – Ongoing**

Experience as Trainer Licensed Trainer of:

- Child Development
- Monitoring and Assessment of Child Development
- Gender issues in early childhood
- Parenting, father in focus
- Responsible Nutrition
- Protecting young children from preventable diseases through vaccination

Home visiting

Name and type of organization Ministry of Health and UNICEF

Dates **2011-2016**

Experience as Trainer Licensed Trainer of:

- Motor Development
- Approaches to Learning

Modules of Early Learning and Development Standards for Children 0-6 years

Name and type of organization Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation and UNICEF

Dates **2017 – Ongoing**

Experience as Facilitator Consultant & Facilitator on ECCD

Name and type of organization Save the Children

Mother tongue(s) Albanian

Other language(s)

Self-assessment	Understanding				Speaking				Writing	
<i>European level (*)</i>	Listening		Reading		Spoken interaction		Spoken production			
English	B2	Independent user	B2	Independent user	B2	Independent user	B2	Independent user	B2	Independent user
Italian	C1	Proficient user	C1	Proficient user	C1	Proficient user	C1	Proficient user	C1	Proficient user

**) Common European Framework of Reference (CEF) level*

Social skills and competences Good interpersonal and intercultural communications skills, sense of team working, creative, hard worker, high responsibility sense, well organized, dynamic, flexible and tolerant.

Organizational skills and competences Excellent skills to develop concepts, actions plan, strategies and to implement projects successfully. Excellent skills of public communication and presentations. Proven skills on capacity building working as national adviser in preschool sector in MEST, good ability in coordination and supervising of working groups or group members, good ability to organize, moderate, evaluate seminars, workshops and other educational events, ability to work independently with excellent analytical and writing skills. Managed, implemented, monitored, and completed successfully and on time different academic and other projects.

Computer skills and competences Windows, Microsoft Office, SPSS, NVIVO, Internet

Driving license Valid driving license for B1 category.

Main publications **Shala, M.**, Jetishi Çollaku, P., Hoxha, F., Bllaca Balaj, S., Preteni, D. (2021). One year after the first cases of COVID-19: Factors influencing the anxiety among Kosovar university students *Journal of Health and Social Sciences*, 2021, 6(2), pp. 241–254
<https://journalhss.com/publications/2021-62/>

Shala, M., Pranvera Jetishi Çollaku. (2022). The Effect of Coping Strategies and Anxiety on Mental Health Among Female Undergraduate Students in Kosovo. *International Journal of Management and Humanities*. Volumi-8 Issue-9, pp. 19-24. DOI: 10.35940/ijmh.I1488.058922 <https://www.ijmh.org/portfolio-item/I1488058922/>

Shala, M., Sadiku, A., Jetishi Çollaku, P., Haxhijaha, E. (2022). Early Childhood Teachers' Wellbeing and Mental Health During the COVID-19 Pandemic – Kosovo Case. *International Journal of Social Sciences: Current and Future Research Trends*. Volume 13, No 1, pp 174-186.
https://ijsscfrjournal.isrra.org/index.php/Social_Science_Journal/article/view/999

Kamberi, M., Hoxha, F., **Shala, M.**, Shahini. M., & Vehapi. Sh. (2019) Anxiety predictors among college students in Kosovo, *International Journal of Adolescence and Youth*, 24:1, 117-124, DOI: 10.1080/02673843.2018.1479277
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02673843.2018.1479277>

Shahini, M., Rescorla, L.A., **Shala, M.**, Ukshini, Sh. (2019). Living on the Edge: Emotional and Behavioral Problems in a Sample of Kosovar Veterans and Wives of Veterans 16 Years Postwar. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 13 September <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2019.00598>
<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsy.2019.00598/full>

Shahini, M., **Shala, M.**, Xhylani, P., Gashi, S., Borinca, I., Erfurth. A. (2018). Challenging predictions between affective temperaments, depression and anxiety in a Kosovo student community sample. *International journal of psychiatry in clinical practice*, 1-7 <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13651501.2018.1426771>

Shahini M., & **Shala, M.** (2016). Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Kosovo Veterans. *SAGE Open* DOI: 10.1177/2158244016633737
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/2158244016633737>

Bahtiri, A., **Shala, M.** (2012). Motor development: Exploring main motor skills of 6 year old kosovar children. *Sport Science 5 (1): 91-94*
<https://www.sposci.com/PDFS/BR0501/SVEE/04%20CL%2016%20AB.pdf>

Shala, M., & Bahtiri, A., (2011). Differences in gross motor achievements among children of 4-5 years of age. *Child Development and Care*. 181(1), p.55-61
DOI: 10.1080/03004430903248960
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/03004430903248960?src=recsys>

Shala, M. (2009). Assessing gross motor skills of Kosovar preschool children. *Early Child Development and Care*. 179 (7), p. 969–976. DOI:10.1080/03004430701667452
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/citedby/10.1080/03004430701667452?scroll=top&needAccess=true>

Bahtiri, A., **Shala, M.** (2012). Motor development: Exploring main motor skills of 6 year old kosovar children. *Sport Science 5 (1): 91-94*
<http://www.sposci.com/sposci.com/PDFS/BR0501/SVEE/04%20CL%2016%20AB.pdf>

Shala, M. (2013). The Impact of Preschool Social-Emotional Development in Academic Success in Elementary School Students. *Psychology, Vol.4*, (11), 787-791. DOI: 10.4236/psych.2013.41112

Shala, M., Dharmo.M. (2013). Prevalence of Behavioural and Emotional Problems among two to five years-old Kosovar Preschool Children- Parent's Report. *Psychology, Vol. 4*, (12), 1008-1013. DOI: 10.4236/psych.2013.412146

- Conference Presentations**
- 2021** - Conference Speaker: Enhancing Early Years Children's Development Through Play: Current Perspectives and Practices. Organized by Caritas - Hope Project. Merita Shala. The playground in the purpose of education & education: Current practice in Kosovo. December 16
- 2021** - Presenter at the 3rd Conference: International Multidisciplinary Geosciences Conference (IMGC 2021) Geosciences and sustainable development. Merita Shala, Fatbardha Hoxha, Samire Bllaca Balaj. Differences in psychological impact and coping strategies among students in public and private universities in Kosovo. October 14
- 2021** - Presenter at the 2nd Conference: International scientific conference "early childhood education and care: challenges and perspectives. Merita Shala & Fatbardha Hoxha. Challenges of online education during the first pandemic year: perception of early childhood educators – Kosovo case. October 15
- 2021** - Presenter at the KICER Conference: Kosovo international conference on educational research. Merita Shala, Pranvera Jetishi Çollaku, Samire Bllaca Balaj, Diellza Preteni. The Role of Coping Strategies and Family Communication on Anxiety in Students of the Faculty of Education. June 10
- 2021** - Presenter at the Conference: "Mental health, challenges and the future". Merita Shala & Pranvera Jetishi. Exploration of the factorial structure and validity of the "Well-being of Children in Isolation" (ËCL-MFI) in a sample of Kosovar children. October 10
- 2020** - Merita Shala, A. Brahimi, M. Mehmeti, A. Lahu, L. Aliu, S. Fejza (2020). Challenging Relationships Between the Personality Traits, Emotional Intelligence, Self-Efficacy and Mental Health of Future Teachers – Case. StudyScientific International Conference on Theory to Practice as a Cognitive, Educational and Social Challenge. 17-18 September
- 2020** - Merita Shala. Pre-primary or preparatory class or copy of first grade? Load of books for children aged 5-6 years. CONFERENCE "Quality of pre-university education in Kosovo and development trends. Organized by IPK and Caritas. December 10
- 2018** - Shala, M. Paradoxes of Preschool Education in Kosovo. International Conference on Children's Health, Wellbeing and Rights. Pristina, Kosovo. June 1-2, 2018