CV

Mehdi Alikhani

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Research Interests

- Horticulture
- Entrepreneurship in education and agricultural training
- Teacher competencies in vocational and agricultural education

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Education

Ph.D. in Agricultural Extension and Education
Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran (Sep 2015 – Feb 2020)

- GPA: 17.61 / 20.00 | Dissertation Score: 19.60 / 20.00
- Dissertation Title: *Agricultural Teacher's Competence in Vocational High School Education for Students with Special Needs in Iran*
- Supervisors: Dr. Mohammad Chizari & Dr. Masoud Bijani

M.Sc. in Agricultural Extension and Education
Islamic Azad University, Sari Branch, Mazandaran, Iran (Sep 2011 – Oct 2013)

- GPA: 19.14 / 20.00 | Thesis Score: 19.70 / 20.00
- Thesis Title: *Factors Affecting Teacher Job Satisfaction and Performance in Agricultural High Schools*
- Supervisor: Dr. Mehdi Charmchian Langerodi

B.Sc. in Agricultural Engineering - Plant Protection
Gorgan University of Agriculture Sciences and Natural Resources, Iran (Sep 2006 – Jul 2009)

- GPA: 15.27 / 20.00

Research Experience

Postdoctoral Sabbatical Leave (Research Scholar)
Central Michigan University, MI, USA (Jul 2019 – Feb 2020)

- Focused on digital and media competencies for teacher training.
- Conducted workshops and attended classes to explore modern teaching strategies.
- Collaborated with educators to study instructional strategies for students with special needs.

Researcher
Young Researchers and Elite Club, Islamic Azad University, Sari Branch, Iran (Jan 2013 – Oct 2016)

- Led projects on teacher competencies, job satisfaction, and entrepreneurship.
- Delivered findings through conference presentations and publications.

Teaching and Professional Experience

Full-time Agricultural Teacher
Ministry of Education, Iran (Nov 2010 – Present)

- Designed and implemented curricula for horticulture and agriculture courses.
- Supervised internships and applied innovative teaching methods tailored to students' needs.

Part-time Greenhouse Consulting Expert
Agriculture & Natural Resources Engineering Organization, Mazandaran, Iran (Jul 2017 – Present)

- Provided expert advice on ornamental crop production and greenhouse operations.

Part-time Official Expert (Agricultural Legal Cases)
Official Expert Organization, Mazandaran, Iran (Apr 2024 – Present)

- Analyzed agricultural legal cases and reviewed documentation.

Key Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. Alikhani Dadoukolaei, M., et al. (2022). *Gap Analysis of Agricultural Teachers' Competency for Working with Students with Special Needs.* **Teachers & Teaching Journal**. (Submitted)

2. Alikhani Dadoukolaei, M., et al. (2021). *Agricultural Teachers' Professional Competencies for Students with Special Needs.* **Journal of Agricultural Science & Technology**, 23(1), 1-15.
3. Alikhani Dadoukolaei, M., et al. (2019). *Strategies for Improving Horticultural Education for Students with Special Needs.* **Agricultural Education Administration Research**, 50, 1-18.

Conference Proceedings

1. Alikhani Dadoukolaei, M., et al. (2021). *Identifying Agricultural Teachers' Technology Competencies in Vocational Education.* **25th European Seminar on Extension & Education (ESEE 2021)**, Ireland.
2. Alikhani Dadoukolaei, M., et al. (2017). *Instructional Strategies for Agricultural Education Teachers for Students with Special Needs.* **23rd ESEE**, Greece.

Skills and Certifications

- **Research and Data Analysis**: Proficient in SPSS, LISREL, and advanced social statistics techniques.
- **Teaching and Training**: Specialized in teacher competency frameworks, vocational education, and instructional strategies.
- **Languages**: Persian (Native), English (TOEFL iBT: 107).
- **Certifications**:
  - Education Strategies for Students with Special Needs (40 hours)
  - Career Guidance for Special Needs Students (16 hours)

Awards and Honors

- Top Teacher, Ministry of Education, Mazandaran, Iran (2017)
- Sabbatical Leave Award, Ministry of Science, Research, and Technology, Iran (2019)
- Full Ph.D. Scholarship, Tarbiat Modares University, Iran (2015)