**Biography**

**Dr. Ahmad Albalasie**

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Dr. Ahmad Albalasie is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering at Birzeit University in Palestine since 2016, where he also served as the Department Chair for a three-year term. He earned his Ph.D. in Mechatronics Engineering from Technische Universität Berlin, Germany, in 2016. Dr. Albalasie also holds a Master of Science degree in Automatic Control Technologies from Politecnico di Torino, Italy (2012), and a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Mechatronics Engineering from Palestine Polytechnic University (PPU), Palestine (2008).

Dr. Albalasie began his academic career at PPU, where he served as a lecturer for one year and a research and teaching assistant for two years before that. His research interests are focused on variable stiffness actuators, robust control, optimal control (with a particular emphasis on model predictive control), haptic control, the control of under-actuated robots, and floating parallel marine robots. He has authored numerous publications in these areas, contributing significantly to the advancement of research in these fields.