

Instructor: Ms. Miriam Akoto **Academic Department:** Literature and Languages

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EDUCATION

Ph.D in English/Applied Linguistics

Texas A&M University - Commerce, 2016 -

M.A in French

University of Arizona; Tucson, AZ, 2014-2016

B.A. (Hons) in French, Second Class Upper Division,

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology; Kumasi, Ghana, 2009-2013 **Diploma in French** (Diplôme d'études en Langue Française B2)

Ministry of Education of France, December, 2013

Diploma in French Studies (Diplôme Universitaire d'Etudes Françaises, D.U.E.F), *Université de Lomé* (Centre International de Recherche et d'étude de Langues CIREL-VILLAGE DU BENIN), Lomé, Togo, 2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Literature and Languages, Texas A&M University – Commerce, Fall 2016 –

- Teach undergraduate level French courses (Fren 131& 132, 1311, 1312 & 2311) **French Teacher**, Upward Bound Pre-collegiate program (TRiO Programs), Texas A&M University – Commerce, Summer 2017

- Taught beginner French courses (Fren 100) to 10th, 11th and 12th graders.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of French and Italian, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, Fall 2014 – Spring 2016

- Taught beginner and intermediate level French courses (French 101, 102, & 201)
- Created assessment tools that evaluates semiotic competence
- Facilitated individualized tutoring for struggling learners in French at the Think Tank and conducted weekly office hours

Teaching Assistant, Department of Modern Languages, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology; Kumasi, Ghana, September, 2013 – July, 2014

- Facilitated learning of undergraduate students by organizing tutorial sessions
- Taught Business French to first and second year undergraduate students
- Assisted lecturers in conducting exams and in undertaking research
- Managed the French resource center of the department (La Maison Francaise)
- Assisted in the organization of French educational activities for students and lovers of French on campus (excursions, francophone cinema, francophone week celebration)

Substitute Teacher, Akodzo Junior High School, Tema, Ghana, June, 2009 – May, 2010

RESEARCH

Masters level Action Research Project, *"The Dual Coding Theory and Vocabulary Acquisition",* 2015

Undergraduate Thesis, « Les Critiques Socio-politiques dans l'Ex-père de la Nation d'Aminata Sow-Fall », 2013

Independent Study Project, « *De la colonisation à l'Indépendance : la question de l'identité Africaine », (Centre International de Recherche et d'étude de Langues CIREL-VILLAGE DU BENIN) Lomé,* Togo, 2012

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

First place, Oral presentation, 13th Annual Pathways Student Research Symposium, 2016

First place, French Poetry Competition, Department of French and Italian, University of Arizona, 2015

Excellence in Teaching Award, Department of French and Italian, University of Arizona, 2015

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Akoto, M. (November, 2018). Teaching Language through Puns: An Action Research Project on Beginner Level French Students. Poster presented at the 10th Annual DFW Metroplex Linguistics Conference. Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, Texas.

Akoto, M. (March, 2017). The Dual Coding Theory: Teaching Vocabulary Acquisition in the L2 classroom: A pilot study. Poster presented at the 8th Annual Federation Graduate Student Research Symposium. Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas.

Akoto, M. (November, 2016). The Dual Coding Theory and Vocabulary Acquisition: A Study of Beginner Level French Students. Oral Presentation at the 13th Annual Pathways Student Research Symposium. Prairie View, Texas.

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

Summer Conference Assistant for the Residential Living and Learning Department at Texas A&M University-Commerce, May – August, 2017

Student recruiter for Texas A&M University-Commerce at TEXTESOL, Austin, TX, October, 2016