WEMIMO ALUKO

Ph.D. Student in English (Applied Linguistics) | TESOL | AI-Assisted Language Learning

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SUMMARY

Applied Linguistics Ph.D. student and TESOL M.A. with 4+ years of experience teaching English to multilingual learners in Nigeria and the U.S., designing course materials and assessments, and researching L2 writing, pronunciation, and AI-assisted language learning. Evaluated an AI writing assistant for L2 academic writing and completed Instructional Design training (UIUC). Seeking a remote summer role in language-learning content, curriculum, or learning design.

SKILLS

Learning design: Curriculum and lesson design, rubric and assessment design, instructional design (UIUC certificate), slide and course-material development

Language expertise: L2 writing instruction and feedback, pronunciation and intelligibility, pragmatics, translanguaging, English for academic purposes

AI and language data: Evaluation of AI writing assistants, AI tools for lesson and course creation, linguistic analysis of social media data, LIWC text analysis

Research: Study design, qualitative and quantitative analysis, IRB/CITI certified (Social and Behavioral Research)

Tools: Canvas LMS, D2L Brightspace, Blackboard; Canva; Adobe tools; generative AI tools for learning and course creation; Microsoft Office 365, Zoom, Google Workspace

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English (Applied Linguistics), East Texas A&M University 2026-2031 (expected)

M.A. in TESOL/Applied Linguistics, University of Northern Iowa 2026

Thesis: *Translanguaging Practices among Highly Proficient and Low-Proficient Nigerian English-Speaking Influencers on Social Media*

B.A. in English and International Studies, Osun State University, Nigeria 2021

Certificate: Instructional Design Foundation, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (Coursera)

TEACHING AND CURRICULUM EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant, Teacher of Record, East Texas A&M University, Commerce, TX Fall 2026-present

- Teach two sections of ENG 1301 College Reading & Writing (face-to-face, D2L Brightspace) to 45 first-year students, covering rhetorical analysis, literacy narrative, and discourse analysis writing
- Design interactive slide decks, discussion questions, and activities (rhetorical situation speed rounds, scene vs. summary workshops, structured peer review) that move students from reading to drafting
- Run a draft, feedback, and revision cycle with about 4 days to revise, supported by reverse outlines, revision memos, and peer review
- Give rubric-based feedback with comments anchored to specific passages, and teach students to document AI use under the Writing Program's critical AI literacy policy

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA 2025-2026

- Taught TESOL 2015 Language Today (UNIFI, Educator Essentials), a 3-credit course on language, identity, and digital communication, to 21 students in each of Fall 2025 and Spring 2026
- Assisted Dr. Hilal Ergül with TESOL 4510/5510 Language Development in Spring 2025
- Managed Blackboard course components, including weekly online discussions with peer replies, two scholarly-source papers, and paired presentations on language change, all graded with posted rubrics
- Led activities such as etymology research, infographic creation, and poster projects tracing the history of internet words, memes, and emojis

ESL Instructor (Adult and Literacy), Internship, Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo, IA 2026

- Taught academic writing, speaking, and English for specific purposes to adult ESL learners
- Through the TESOL 6297 Graduate Practicum, applied standards-based adult ELL instruction, designed and implemented a lesson plan, created a language assessment, and wrote four field experience reflections

Volunteer ESL Instructor, Academic Writing and Speaking Fall 2025-Spring 2026

- Taught and tutored multilingual learners in English composition, with a focus on college-level reading and writing
- Guided learners through academic writing tasks such as planning, drafting, and revising essays, and gave individual feedback during tutoring sessions
- Built learners' academic reading and speaking skills so they could take part in college-level coursework

Teaching Assistant, Osun State University, Osogbo, Nigeria 2022-2024

- Supported instruction in ENG 113 Introduction to English Language and ENG 118 English Composition for undergraduate students
- Tutored students in college reading and writing, giving feedback on their essays and assignments
- Helped students develop academic writing, reading comprehension, and basic language analysis skills

English Language Instructor, High Flier College, Ibadan, Nigeria 2021-2022

- Taught English language and literature

RESEARCH AND PROJECTS

AI Writing Assistant Evaluation 2025

- Co-led a study assessing an AI writing assistant for L2 academic writing analysis; presented at the 17th ELTT Conference, Nigeria (Aluko & Fabunmi, 2025)

Research Assistant, University of Northern Iowa 2024-2025

- Summer 2025 (Dr. Joshua Gordon): Explicit L2 pronunciation instruction and its effects on intelligibility, comprehensibility, and accentedness in EFL learners
- Fall 2024 (Dr. Hilal Ergül): Chinese kinship and address terms and their pragmatic implications

Volunteer Research Assistant, Osun State University 2020-2021

- Studied production and interpretation of accentual intonation tunes in L2 acquisition (Dr. Richard Akano)

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Aluko, W. (2027). Translanguaging among Nigerian influencers on social media. Presentation accepted, AAAL 2027, Atlanta, GA.
- Aluko, W. (2027). Translanguaging among Nigerian influencers on social media. Presentation accepted, TESOL 2027, Houston, TX.
- Gordon, J., Darcy, I., & Aluko, W. (in press). Explicit L2 pronunciation instruction and intelligibility, comprehensibility, and accentedness in EFL learners. *Proceedings of EPIP9: English Pronunciation, Issues & Practices*. Paper accepted at EPIP9, Manchester, UK (April 2026).
- Aluko, W., & Fabunmi, V. (2025). Assessing the efficacy of an AI writing assistant in L2 academic writing analysis. 17th Annual ELTT Conference, Nigeria.
- Aluko, W. (2025). Linguistic analysis of an American native speaker of English and a Nigerian native speaker of English. Poster, 18th Annual SLA Student Symposium, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- **Volunteer Head of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)**, Chayil Charis Foundation, Nigeria | Feb 2026-present: lead monitoring, evaluation, and learning for the foundation's outreach programs, including research and follow-up planning
- **Member-at-Large for Applied Linguistics (elected)**, TESOL International Association | 2026-2027
- **Global Panthers Success Representative and Involvement Officer**, International Student Promoters, University of Northern Iowa | Fall 2025-present
- **Exhibitor**, MIDTESOL Conference, Cedar Rapids, IA | October 2025
- **Graduate student volunteer**, Iowa Symposium on English Language Teaching (ISELT) | 2025 and 2026

AWARDS

- **AAAL Indigenous Language Scholarship Support Fund**, American Association for Applied Linguistics, for AAAL 2027, Atlanta, GA (2026)
- Graduate Fellowship and Global Panthers Success Scholarship (2025/2026), Graduate Research Fellowship (2024/2025), and SLA Symposium Travel Award (2025), University of Northern Iowa
- Linguistics Association of Nigeria Conference Travel Grant, 2020

AFFILIATIONS

AAAL | TESOL International Association | Linguistics Association of Nigeria