

Seline Ayugi Okeno

PROFILE

Diligent and ambitious individual, constantly seeking avenues to improve my teaching skills for the benefit of the 21st Century learner. Experience includes 5 years of secondary school teaching in East Africa, and more than 4 years of higher education teaching in the US and UK. Presently a Course Organizer/ Teaching Fellow (Swahili) and Teaching Fellow (General English) at University of Edinburgh.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts **2022**
Ohio University, Athens, Ohio

- Applied Linguistics

Bachelor of Education Arts **2012**
Maseno University, Maseno, Kenya

- English Language and Literature

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow & Course Organiser (Swahili) **Current**
University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK

- Designing a suitable Swahili curriculum.
- Teaching undergraduate and postgraduate Swahili for credit courses.
- Teaching non-credit Swahili evening provision.
- Preparing all teaching material.
- Facilitating cultural events and discussions.
- Grading assignments and assessments.

Teaching Fellow (General English)
University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK

- Teaching communicative English to displaced persons living in Edinburgh.
- Facilitating discussion on Life in the UK and Scottish culture.

Teaching Assistant and Coordinator of Swahili Language Program **2020-2022**
Ohio University, Athens, Ohio

- Designing the curriculum.
- Teaching elementary Swahili.
- Offering support services to new Teaching Assistants in the program.
- Preparing appropriate teaching material.

- Facilitating cultural discussions.
- Grading assignments and tests.

Graduate Assistant

Global Outreach Online Programs, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio

- Providing online feedback on English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI) assignments for 25 students.
- Monitoring student progress.
- Offering support services for content-related inquiries.

Writing Tutor

Aug 2020-Apr 2021

AGC Undergraduate Writing & Reading Lab, Athens, Ohio

- Guided undergraduate students through brainstorming sessions.
- Modeled information search and academic writing techniques for students.
- Assisted students in developing and organizing their ideas.
- Guided students through proofreading and editing of written drafts.

Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant

Aug 2018-Aug 2020

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

- Assisted in teaching Swahili Beginner and Intermediate classes.
- Facilitated Swahili language table discussions to enhance speaking skills.
- Formulated real-life scenarios to be performed in class.
- Assisted in preparation of teaching material and cultural performances.
- Graded tests and assignments.
- Administrator of LinguaFolio.

Teacher of English Language

2018

One Planet School Dodoma, Dodoma, Tanzania

- Taught English Language to KS3 and KS4 learners following the Cambridge International Education syllabus.
- Implemented active learning strategies to keep learners engaged in lesson activities.
- Evaluated students' classwork and assignments.
- Recorded and maintained accurate student attendance records and grades.

Administration Assistant

One Planet School Dodoma, Dodoma, Tanzania

- Coordinated parental contact and arranged tours of the school grounds.
- Supported the production of school publications.
- Set up classrooms for display during the first phase of school set up.

Teacher of English Language and Literature**Jan-Dec 2017***Wamy High School, Nairobi, Kenya*

- Taught English Language and Literature to Forms One and Two learners following the Kenya National Curriculum.
- Introduced 'Just a Minute' which increased students' confidence and ability to express themselves in English.
- Created an interactive classroom atmosphere to nurture the learners' verbal skills while maintaining their interest.
- Successfully guided students to use a variety of language devices to create effects.

Teacher of English Language**Jun 2015-Jan 2017***Canon Andrea Mwaka School International, Dodoma, Tanzania*

- Taught English Language to secondary learners of different age groups from Year 7 to Year 11 following the Pearson Edexcel-London Examinations curriculum.
- Led KS4 learners to an 83% pass rate in the 2016 May/June IGCSE.
- Managed the English Department as the only Teacher of English in the Secondary School.
- Introduced 'Guest Speakers', an initiative to encourage other teachers to speak on topics under discussion in class, thereby increasing students' interests in the literature books being studied.
- Managed to encourage withdrawn students to join in active classroom discussions by introducing peer assessment and peer discussion sessions.
- Led 1 sporting and fitness activity each semester.

Teacher of English Language**Sept 2013-Jun 2015***Arusha Modern Schools LTD, Arusha, Tanzania*

- Taught Cambridge Secondary 1 English and Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language.
- Cultivated and nurtured a reading culture among the learners.
- Succeeded in encouraging learners to employ an extensive and ambitious vocabulary to express ideas with precision while writing.
- Improved the students' expressive skills using various speaking tasks.

Teacher of English Language and Literature**May-Aug 2013***Highway High School, Kisumu, Kenya*

- Taught English Language and Literature to Forms Two and Four learners following the Kenya National Curriculum.
- Facilitated after-school tutoring sessions.

LEADERSHIP

Treasurer**2021-2022**

African Students' Union (ASU), Ohio University, Athens

- Prepare semesterly budgets.
- Manage organization funds.
- Collaborate with team to organize academic and social events that help African students navigate academic, social, and administrative structures at Ohio University and the US in general.

PUBLICATIONS

Okeno A. & Heddi A. (2024). *Swahili for Dummies*. New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

PRESENTATIONS

Language Policy, Implementation and Effects in Kenya

Talk presented at the Undergraduate Language Sustainability Colloquium, Ohio University, Athens in October 2021.

Homorganic Nasal Assimilation in Swahili

Talk presented at the Graduate Phonetics Colloquium, Ohio University, Athens in October 2021.

To Converge or Diverge: Kenyan Students' Phonetic Decisions in America

Paper presented at Ohio TESOL Graduate Symposium 2021.

AWARDS & HONORS

Fulbright Scholar**Aug 2019-Jun 2020****Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA)**

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois