



Joe K. Amoako Ph.D.

Department of Languages & Literatures
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Profile

I am a professor of English at Delaware State University. My teaching interests are English (Composition, Structure, and Literature); Linguistics (Sociolinguistics and Applied Linguistics/ESL); Africana/Black Studies (African and Afro-American Languages [Swahili and Akan {Asante Twi}]; Literatures and Cultures). My research interests are Sociolinguistics and Ethnography of African Languages and Cultures; Pidgins and Creoles in Africa, the Caribbean, and the U.S.A.; African American Literature; and Ashanti Chieftaincy and Culture in the African Diaspora. My book, Amoako, Joe (2011). *Ghanaian Pidgin English: Diachronic, Synchronic, and Sociolinguistic Perspectives*. New York: Nova Science Publishers, Inc., is one of the best works on Pidgin English. I am a poet in English and Akan (Asante Twi).

I have been a teacher at all levels of education: Ghanaian Elementary and Middle Schools (8 years); Ghanaian Teacher Training Colleges (2 years); University of Ghana (2 years); University of Iowa (2 years); University of Florida (3 years); Ohio University (6 years); The Ohio State University (1 year); Jackson State University (1 year); Delaware State University (26 years). I am at the twilight of my professional career because I will be 80 in 2024!

Education

University of Florida Gainesville, Florida.
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Linguistics, December 1992.

Dissertation Topic: Ghanaian Pidgin English: In Search of Diachronic, Synchronic, and Sociolinguistic Evidence.

Certificate in African Area Studies

University of Iowa Iowa City, Iowa.

Master of Arts (M.A.), Linguistics, May 1987.

University of Ghana Legon, Ghana.

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.[Honors]), Linguistics and Swahili, July 1981.

University of Dar Es Salaam Tanzania 9/79-7/80. For Swahili Proficiency.

School of Ghana Languages (Cape Coast University) Ajumako, Ghana.

Diploma Certificate, Twi, June 1976.

St. Joseph's Teacher Training College Bechem, Ghana

Teacher's Certificate "A" Diploma, May 1968

Experience

Teaching Experience

Delaware State University, Dover, Delaware.

Professor of English and Foreign Languages.

- 08/2016-06/2019 Chair, Department of English and Foreign Languages
- 11/2011-06/2013 Interim Chair, Department of English and Foreign Languages
- 8/98-Present Teaching Composition, Structure of Modern English, Literatures, Linguistics, Black Studies, and African Languages
- 5/2005-8/2011 Acting Department Chair during Summer Semesters

8/97-7/98 Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi

Assistant Professor of English and Modern Foreign Languages

- Taught Composition, Literature, and Linguistics

9/96-7/97 The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Instructor of African Literature and Culture, and Swahili Language and Culture

- Taught Black Studies: Introduction to Black Literature and Culture, and Introduction to Black Studies.
- One of three administrators of the 1996 African Languages Summer Institute.

- Taught Intermediate Swahili Language and Culture at the 1996 African Languages Summer Institute.

9/90-6/97 Ohio University, Athens, Ohio.

Instructor of Linguistic

- Taught Phonetics and Phonology of English and African languages; Introduction to Linguistics; and Language and Culture.
- Provided academic advising to students.
- Supervised Master of Arts theses.

Instructor of Swahili Language and Culture.

- Taught Swahili language and culture using communicative and multi-media approaches.
- Conducted written and oral examinations that involved performance and videography.
- Supervised teaching assistants.
- Administered Conversation Hours, Study Abroad Programs, and Annual Language Fairs

Imani Cultural Educational Program

- Organized and taught community children Swahili and African Literature and Culture on each Saturday. The program provides African American, African, and Caribbean youngsters with African culture.

8/87-5/90 University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Graduate Teaching Assistant.

- Developed course outline and reading list for Language and People (Introduction to Linguistics).
- Taught Language and People (Introduction to Linguistics) to both linguistic and non-linguistic majors.
- Developed and graded examinations.
- Assisted professors in instruction of Sociolinguistics course.

2/85-5/87 University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

Graduate Teaching Assistant.

- Developed course outline and reading list for English Comprehension (Reading) for Foreign Students as part of the English as a Second Language (ESL) program.
- Taught English Comprehension (Reading) to Foreign Students.
- Developed course outline and reading list for English Grammar for Foreign Students as part of the English as a Second Language (ESL) program.
- Taught English Grammar for Foreign Students.
- Assisted professors in instruction of Sociolinguistics and Applied Linguistics courses.

6/86-8/86 Administrator/Instructor of African Arts

- One of three instructors who organized, administered, and recruited children for Children's Workshop on Art on The Continent of Africa which was funded by the Museum of Arts of the University of Iowa.
- Taught children effectively the different arts and art forms of African countries (textiles, paintings, carvings, sculptures, and some cultural displays and performances).
- Motivated and encouraged children to draw, paint, and display different African arts and art forms.
- Conducted museum tour and explained to children the different art exhibitions on Africa.

9/81-12/84 University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana.

Ghana National Service and Graduate Teaching Assistant.

- Fulfilled Ghana National Service requirement as a teaching assistant at the Department of Linguistics.
- Taught Phonetics to undergraduate students
- Taught Akan (Twi) as part of the African Studies Program.
- Conducted qualitative research on Role of Language in Ghana Education System.
- Consulted with teachers and education officials in seven of the ten political regions of Ghana on Role of Language in Ghana Education System.

Other Work Experience

8/08-Present FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI), U.S.A.

Akan-Twi Tester

Test the competency of Akan-Twi speakers to be employed by the FBI

1/01-12/08 CYRACOM INTERNATIONAL Tuscon, Arizona

Akan (Twi, Fante, Akwapim) Interpreter (Part-time)

- Interpreted Akan into English and vice versa on telephone.
- Customers were from Medical, Tourist/Hospitality, and Governmental facilities.

9/83-12/84 Advanced Teacher Training College, Winneba, Ghana.

Instructor (Part-time).

- Taught Linguistics (Phonetics) and English to students who would be teaching English in high schools.

9/81-12/84 West African Examinations Council, Accra, Ghana.

Examiner (Part-time).

- Graded High School English language written examinations.
- Conducted High School English oral examinations.

- 7/83-12/84 Royal Society of Arts (RSA), Accra, Ghana.
Chief Examiner (Part-time).
- Administered the development and grading of examinations for English Language Stage II of the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) in Ghana.
- 8/62-6/74 Ghana Education Service, Accra, Ghana.
Headteacher (Principal) and Classroom Teacher of Elementary Schools.
- Administered the day-to-day activities of the school.
 - Organized in-service training for the teachers.
 - Raised funds for the school.
 - Collected and accounted for students' school fees.
 - Organized the Parent-Teacher-Association (PTA) as well as Speech Days.
 - Taught Grades One, Two, Five, Nine, and Twelve

Other Leadership Roles

- Chair, National Association of African American Studies, State of Delaware (2000-Present)
- Students Representative on Faculty: University of Florida, University of Iowa, and University of Ghana.
- Vice-President, Legon National Service and Teaching Assistants Association (LENSTAA).
- Secretary of Student Body, School of Ghana Languages, Ajumako, Ghana.
- Sports and Games Captain, Saint Joseph's Teachers Training College, Bechem, Ghana.
- President of Student Senate, Offinso-Ahenkro Local Authority Middle School, Ghana.

Research Interest

Sociolinguistics and Ethnography of African Languages and Cultures.

Pidgins and Creoles in Africa, the Caribbean, and the U.S.A., African American Literature

Oral Literature (Praise Poetry, Drum Language, Libation, African Traditional Songs, and Proverbs)

Ashanti Chieftaincy and Culture in African Diaspora

Books, monographs, compilations and manuals

Book

Amoako, Joe (2011). *Ghanaian Pidgin English: Diachronic, Synchronic, and Sociolinguistic Perspectives*. New York: Nova Science Publishers, Inc.

Chapters in book, anthologies, encyclopedia, and journals

Amoako, Joe K. (2011). *Funeral Ode for Yaw Ackah* (Poem) In Potts, James (ed) *POMPA (Publications of Mississippi Philological Association)*. Mississippi College, Jackson, Mississippi

Amoako, Joe K. (2006c). *Ethnic Identity, Conflict, and Diasporic Constructions in the New World: The Case of Asante in North America*. In Konadu –Agyemang, K., Takyi, B. K., and Arthur, John (eds). *The New African Diaspora in North America: Trends, Community Building, and Adaptation*. Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books

Amoako, Joe K. (2006b). *Nonverbal Communication: Taboo Left Hand among the Akan of Ghana*. In Gyasi Obeng, Samuel and Sem Obeng, Cecilia (eds). *From Linguistics to Cultural Anthropology: Aspects of: Language, Culture and Family Issues in Ghana (West Africa)*. Lincom Europa: LINCOM GmbH

Amoako, Joe K. (2006a). *The Morning Before School* (Poem) In Elkins, Carolyn (ed) *POMPA (Publications of Mississippi Philological Association)*. Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi

Amoako, Joe K. (2005). *A Little A Bit There* (Poem) In Elkins, Carolyn (ed) *POMPA (Publications of Mississippi Philological Association)*. Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi

Amoako, Joe K. (2004b). *Pidgins and Creoles in Africa* In Peek, Philip M. & Yankah, Kwesi (eds) *African Folklore: An Encyclopedia* New York: Routledge.

Amoako, Joe K. (2004a). *Open Sesame for Sessoms* (Poem) In *Delaware State News*. January 29, 2004

Amoako, Joe K. (2003). *Oh Mother Ghana* (Poem) In Elkins, Carolyn (ed) *POMPA (Publications of Mississippi Philological Association)*. Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi

Amoako, Joe K. (2002b). *Royal Titles and Names as Pointers to Political Office: Exemplification from Asante Royal Titles Bestowed on Three African Americans*. In Gyasi Obeng, Samuel and Hartford, Beverly (eds). *Surviving Through Obliqueness: Language of Politics in Emerging Democracies*. New York: Nova Science Publishers, Inc.

Amoako, Joe K. (2002a). *Defenders of the Defenceless* (Poem) In Elkins, Carolyn (ed) *POMPA (Publications of Mississippi Philological Association)*. Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi

Amoako, Joe K. (2001c). *Who Art Thou Man* (Poem) In Elkins, Carolyn (ed) *POMPA (Publications of Mississippi Philological Association)*. Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi

Amoako, Joe K. (2001b). *Issues of Writing in African Languages: Ghanaian Perspective*. In Karim Bangura, Abdul (ed). *African Journal of Languages and Linguistics*. Washington, D.C.: The African Institution.

Amoako, Joe K. (2001a). *Lend Me Your Ears, Mortals and Immortals: Analysis of Literary Aural Effect in Akan Libation Text*. In Berry, Jr., Lemuel (ed). *2001 Language Monograph Series*. National Association of African American Studies. Morehaed, KY: Morehead State University.

Amoako, Joe K. (1999b). *Substrate Theory Revisited Through Ghanaian Pidgin English*. In Kotey, Paul (ed) *New Dimensions in African Linguistics and Languages: Trends in African Linguistics, Vol 3*. Trenton, NJ, Africa World Press Inc.

Amoako, Joe K. (1999a). *The Inactive Cat* (Poem) In Elkins, Carolyn (ed) *POMPA (Publications of Mississippi Philological Association)*. Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi

Amoako, Joe K. (1998). *Examination; Nostalgia* (Poems). In Elkins, Carolyn (ed) *POMPA (Publications of Mississippi Philological Association)*. Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi.

Conference Presentations

Ode to Yaw Ackah and Other Poems presented at the Mississippi Philological Association Annual Meeting, February 18-19, 2011, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi

When the Mouth Slips, It is more Dangerous than when the Foot Slips: Language I Traditional African

Jurisprudence The 27th Annual Conference of the Association of Third World Studies (ATWS), November 21-24, 2009, Cape Coast, Ghana

Sweet is the Sense of Touch and Other Poems presented at the Mississippi Philological Association Annual Meeting, January 26-27, 2007, Mississippi Valley State University, Itta Bena, Mississippi

Lend Me Your Ears, Mortals and Immortals: Customs, Beliefs, and Analysis of Literary Aural Effects in

Akan Libation presented at the 32nd Annual Meeting and Conference of the African Literature Association [ALA], La Palm Royal Beach Hotel, Accra, Ghana, May 17-21, 2006

“Atumpan, Kasa”: *Manifestation of the Beliefs and Customs of the Akan of Ghana through the Language of the Talking Drums*. presented at the 2006 National Conference of the National Association of African American Studies, Marriot Hotel, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, February 13-18, 2006.

The Morning before School and Other Poems presented at the Mississippi Philological Association Annual Meeting January 27-28, 2006, University of Mississippi, Starkville, Mississippi

From Africa to the Diaspora: Language and Law among African Immigrants in the United States. presented at the 36th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Coastal Georgia Center, Savannah, Georgia, March 31 - April 3, 2005.

The Power of the King of Ashanti through the Works and Words of the Ashanti Praise Poet at NAAAS 2005 National Conference. February 14-19, 2005. Omni Houston Hotel at Westside, Houston, Texas.

A Little Bit There and Other Poems presented at the Mississippi Philological Association Annual Meeting January 28-29, 2005, Mississippi Valley State University, Itta Bena, Mississippi

Lend Me Your Ears, Mortals and Immortals: Customs, Beliefs, and Analysis of Literary Aural Effects in Akan Libation Luncheon Presentation in Memoriam of Paul Kotey at the 8th African Language Teachers Association (ALTA) at University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, April 29-May 2, 2004.

Lend Me Your Ears, Mortals and Immortals: Customs, Beliefs, and Analysis of Literary Aural Effects in Akan Libation presented at the 2004 National Conference of the National Association of African American Studies, Omni Houston Hotel Westside, Houston, Texas, February 16-21, 2004.

Joe Amoako chaired three panels at the 2004 National Conference of the National Association of African American Studies, Omni Houston Hotel Westside, Houston, Texas, February 16-21, 2004.

Open Sesame for Sessoms and Other Poems presented at the Mississippi Philological Association Annual Meeting January 30-31, 2004, Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, Mississippi

Akan Customs and Beliefs through Libation Pouring presented at the 36th Annual Conference of African Heritage Studies Association at Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 6th - November 8, 2003.

Oh Mother Ghana and Other Poems presented at the Mississippi Philological Association Annual Meeting January 30-31, 2003, Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi

Diaspora Chieftaincy in North America at the International Conference on *Chieftaincy in Africa: Culture, Governance, and Development* at the International conference Center and the University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, Ghana, January 6th - January 10th, 2003.

Asante Royal Titles Bestowed on African Americans at Southern Interdisciplinary Roundtable on African Studies. April 11-13, 2002. Kentucky State University, Frankfort, Kentucky.

Joe Amoako chaired two panels at the 33rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics and African Language Teachers Association. March 22-24, 2002. Ohio University, Athens, Ohio.

Poetry Presentation at the Mississippi Philological Association. January 24-26, 2002. University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Park, Mississippi.

Poetry Presentation: Delaware State University 2001 Beatrice L. Henry and John McCollough Annual Arts Festival. April 6, 2001. Delaware State University, Dover, Delaware.

Luncheon Poet at the 19th Annual Meeting of the Association of Third World Studies (ATWS). October 11-13, 2001. Coastal Georgia Center, Savannah, Georgia

Asante Royal Titles Bestowed on African Americans (at ATWS), 19th Annual Meeting of the Association of Third World Studies (ATWS), October 11-13, 2001. Coastal Georgia Center, Savannah, Georgia.

Soweto Shall Be Victorious and other Poems. Annual Meeting of Mississippi Philological Association. January 26-27, 2001, Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, Mississippi.

Asante Royal Titles Bestowed on African Americans. 1999 Conference of National Association of African American Studies. 02/09-02/13, 1999. Houston, Texas

Asante Diaspora Chieftaincy in North America. 41st Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. 11/29/98. Chicago, Illinois.

Akan Customs and Beliefs Through Libation Pouring. 40th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. 13/11/97. Columbus, Ohio.

Manifestations of Cultural Beliefs and Customs of Akans Through Drum Language. 38th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. 11/4/95. Orlando, Florida.

"Ibi Ma On" (It's Mine): A Syntactic Survey of Ghanaian Pidgin English. 26th Annual Conference on African Linguistics. 3/26/95. Los Angeles, California.

The Power of the Ashanti King Through the Works and Words of the Ashanti Praise Poet. 93rd Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. 12/4/94. Atlanta, Georgia.

Ghanaian Pidgin English: In Search of Sociolinguistic Evidence. 25th Annual Conference on African Linguistics. 3/26/94. New Brunswick, New Jersey.

The Phonological Characteristics of Assimilated Borrowed Words in Akan. 24th Annual Conference on African Linguistics. 7/24/93. Columbus, Ohio.

Professional service activities

Service to the university

Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee; Chair

Search Committee for the Women's Basketball Head Coach; Member

Search Committee for the Chief of Police; Member

Interim Chair, Department of English and Foreign Languages

Honors Council Sub-Committee (DSU) Member

Student-Faculty Judiciary Council (DSU) Chair

General Education Committee (DSU) Member

Faculty Senate (DSU) Member

Curriculum Committee (Department) Member

Foreign Language Club Advisory Committee (Department)

Outreach Committee (Department)

Scholarship Committee (Department)

Sponsor and Adviser of DSU International Students Association.

Chairperson, Promotion and Tenure Appeals Committee (Ad Hoc); Two times

Member, Excellence Award Committee (Ad Hoc)

Faculty Self-Study Team (DSU) Member (Ad Hoc)

Member, AAUP Nominating Committee (Ad Hoc)

Mentor, Scholars Teacher Education Program (STEP)

One of the Models at DSU Employee Recognition Awards Program ..

International Student Program Committee, Member (Ad Hoc)

Member, Judicial System Review Committee
Zero Tolerance Hearings, Chair, (Ad Hoc)
NCATE 2003 Standards Committees, Member (Ad Hoc).
Team Leader: DSU Annual Fund Campaign (2003-2004)
Team Leader: DSU Annual Fund Campaign (2001-2002)
Team Leader: DSU Annual Fund Campaign (2000-2001)
Team Leader: DSU Annual Fund Campaign (1999-2000)
Member of the President's Club Donors: DSU Annual Fund Campaign
DSU United Way Campaign, Participant and Contributor
Presenter: 7th annual Foreign Language Awareness Day, DSU
Master of Ceremony of Departmental Celebration, DSU
Pathway Program Committee (DSU), Member (Ad Hoc)
Search Committee for the Dean of School of Management; Member
Moderator, DSU Honors Day Presentations
Sponsor, DSU Honors Day Presentations
Sponsor, DSU Campus Ministry

Service to the professional community

Presenter, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
African Language (Twi) Program Evaluator, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio
Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *Collegiate Handbook*, 5th Edition
Editorial Board Member: *African Journal of Languages and Linguistics*
Moderator of Three Panels at NAAAS 2004 National Conference
Moderator at Mississippi Philological Association Annual Meeting
Akan-English Interpreter for CyraCom International
Editor of *The Bright Side of Life*
Peer Reviewer for Ms. Monica Fisher
Chair of Two Panels at the Annual Conference of African Linguistics, Athens, Ohio

Poet at Bowie State University during Black History Month

Conference Poet at the 19th Annual Meeting of Association of Third World Studies

Poet of the Beatrice Henry and John McCollough Annual Arts Festival

Chairperson, National Association of African American Studies, Delaware Branch

Chair of a Panel at the CCC Convention, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Chairperson, Cover Design Committee, 42nd Annual Meeting of African Studies Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Member: Philadelphia Local Arrangement Committee, 42nd Annual Meeting of African Studies Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Organizer and Master of Ceremony: Ghana Studies Council (GSC) Durbar of Asante Chiefs in Chicago at the 41st Annual Meeting of African Studies Association in Chicago

Professional Memberships

College Language Association (CLA).

African Studies Association (ASA).

African Languages Teachers Association (ALTA).

National Association of African American Studies (NAAAS); Chairperson for State of Delaware

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).

African Journal of Languages and Linguistics (Editorial Board Member)

Issues in Intercultural Communication (Editorial Board Member)

Awards and Honors

Academic Enrichment Award, 2012, 2011, 2010, & 2009

Title III Funds Award, 2009

Professional Development Fund Award, 2006

Academic Enrichment Award, 2006

Academic Enrichment Award, 2005

2005 Faculty Excellence Award for Service, Delaware State University

Who is Who Among America's Teachers, 2003

Who is Who Among America's Teachers, 2002

Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Beta Delta.

Five-Year Service Award, Delaware State University, 2003

Merit Pay Award, Delaware State University, 2004

Merit Pay Award, Delaware State University, 2003

Merit Pay Award, Delaware State University, 2002

Merit Pay Award, Delaware State University, 2001

Nomination, Delaware State University Excellence Award, Service Category, 2004

Nomination, Delaware State University Excellence Award, Service Category, 2003

Certificate of Recognition, Ohio University, 1996.

Certificate of Appreciation, University of Florida, 1990.

Presidential Recognition, University of Florida, 1988.

Certificate of Appreciation, University of Iowa, 1986.

VALCO Fund Literary Award (Poetry), Ghana, 1978.