

## Curriculum Vitae

### Dr. James Essegbey

Languages and Literatures and Cultures,  
University of Florida,  
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### ACADEMIC DEGREES

- 1999 Ph.D., Leiden University, The Netherlands. Thesis: *Inherent complement verbs revisited: towards an understanding of argument structure in Ewe.*
- 1994 Candidatus Philologiae, University of Trondheim, Norway, 1994. Thesis: *The anaphoric phenomena of Ewe*
- 1988 B A Honours (Second Upper) in Linguistics and French, University of Ghana, Legon, 1988.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2005- Assistant professor: Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of Florida, Gainesville (Affiliated to Linguistics, Center for African Studies, Center for Latin American Studies and African American Studies).
- 2004-2005 Visiting Assistant Professor: Department of African and Asian Languages and Literatures, University of Florida, Gainesville
- 2003-2004 Postdoctoral Fellow, Research School for Asian, African and Amerindian Studies (CNWS), Leiden University (The Southern Ghana-Togo Mountains Languages Project)
- 2000-2003 Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Leiden Center for Linguistics (ULCL) (The Trans-Atlantic Sprachbund)
- 2003 Postdoctoral Fellow on Kwa, University of Leiden Center for Linguistics (ULCL) (The Spinoza Lexicon and Syntax Project)
- 1998-1999 Lecturer in African Linguistics, Leiden University
- 1995-1998 Doctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen. The Netherlands.

### RESEARCH INTERESTS AND AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Descriptive, documentary and theoretical linguistics
- Syntax-semantics interface
- Semantics-Pragmatics interface
- Contact linguistics
- African languages, especially Gbe, Akan, and Ghana-Togo Mountain languages
- Creole studies

#### **MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- West African Research Association (WARA)
- Linguistic Society of America (LSA)
- Ghana Study Council
- Society for Pidgins and Creole Languages (SPCL)
- Society for Caribbean Languages (SCL)
- African Studies Association (ASA)
- African Language Teachers Association (ALTA)
- The West African Linguistics Society (WALS)

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE/ORGANISATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Vice-President, West African Research Association (2005- )
- Co-organiser, Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Florida, Gainesville (March 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> 2007)
- Co-organiser, Ghana-Day Workshop. University of Florida, Gainesville (March 2<sup>nd</sup>).
- Co-organiser, International Workshop on the description and documentation of Ghana-Togo Mountain Languages. Bishop Konings Social Center, Ho. (July 24<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 2006)
- Co-organiser, Inter-European Universities Summer Course of African Languages on the Internet (ALI) Akan II. Leiden University (Spring 2001)
- Organiser, Ewe Summer Course in Ho, Ghana. July-August 1999
- Co-organiser, Workshop on Ghanaian Languages, Leiden University. May 1998
- Co-organiser, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nordic Conference on African Linguistics, University of Trondheim. July 1994

#### **EDITORIAL WORK**

1998-2004 Review Editor: *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics (JALL)*

#### **REVIEWING**

Occasional Reviewer: *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics (JALL)*, *Journal of Pragmatics (JOP)*, *Journal of Pidgin and Creole Linguistics (JPCL)*, *Legon Journal of Humanities*

Reviewed grant proposals for The Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Project at SOAS and the West African Research Association (WARA).

#### **PH.D. COMMITTEES**

Weihoa Zhu                    Interaction in Chinese and ELFP: Behavior and Perception (University of Florida, Committee member)

Courtney Micots Zimmerman    University of Florida (Committee member)

Mercy Lamptey                A grammar of Tafi, A GTM Language (Leiden University, Committee member)

Jose Roberto Alexander Quintanilla The pluralization of  
 existential *haber* in Salvadoran Spanish. A change  
 in progress? Defended 11/24/2009 (University of  
 Florida. Committee member)

Kofi Dorvlo: A grammar of Logba, A Ghana-Togo Mountain  
 (GTM)Language. Defended 05/27/2008. (Leiden  
 University Committee member)-)

Victoria Nyst Sign Language in Adamorobe, an Akan village.  
 Defended March 2007 (University of Amsterdam,  
 Committee member)

Evershed Amuzu Ewe-English Code-Switching. Australian National  
 University. Degree awarded 2005 (Committee  
 member)

#### **MASTERS THESIS SUPERVISION**

Mirjam van Westen Analysis of the Doctrina Christina (Degree  
 awarded at Leiden University, May 2002)

Frans Nederstigt Acquisition of Dutch Posture Verbs by  
 English and Akan Speakers (Degree awarded at  
 Leiden University, 2004)

#### **GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

2009 Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Fund, University of  
 Florida

2007-2009 NSF #0651800 Documentation of Nyangbo (NYB)

2007 Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Fund, University of  
 Florida

2003-2004 Postdoctoral Fellowship from the Netherlands  
 Organization for Scientific Research (NWO)

2000-2003 Postdoctoral Fellowship from the Netherlands  
 Organization for Scientific Research (NWO)

1995-1998 Doctoral stipend at the Max Planck Institute for  
 Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen

1993 - 1994 Norwegian Science Foundation for Humanities  
 Fellowship

#### **LANGUAGES**

Ewe (native proficiency)

Akan (native proficiency)

English (bilingual proficiency)

French (professional working proficiency)

Dutch (limited working proficiency)

Tutrugbu/Nyagbo (limited working proficiency)

Norwegian (elementary proficiency)

Sranan (elementary proficiency)