

John Acquaful

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WORK EXPERIENCE

RESIDENT DIRECTOR

June 2026 to August 2026

Harvard Summer School (General Program)

Cambridge, MA

- Oversaw the safety and social interactions of 200-400 HSS students
- Served on and managed a 24-hour on-call rotation and responsibilities with live-in staff; this includes documentation and student follow-up
- Enforced HSS and Program policies and procedures for students
- Conducted student discipline meetings & prepared cases for the Dean's Council and Administrative Board, as needed
- Supported Program efforts to orient students, which may include hosting orientations and supervising proctors' student orientation efforts
- Led weekly one-on-one and/or group meetings with assigned proctors
- Enforced HSS and Program policies and procedures for proctors
- Coordinated and supported procedures related to student arrivals/check-ins, departures/check-outs, room changes, and other residential operations

SITE LEAD

May 2025 to August 2025

Envision by Worldstrides Educational Tours

MI/MA/CO

- Coordinated logistics—check-in, classroom setup, materials handling, transportation, and speaker support—to ensure smooth daily operations.
- Managed program paperwork and materials, including nightly and arrival reports, inventory, and administrative documentation.
- Supervised and supported seasonal staff—including Advisors and support personnel—through training, daily meetings, and performance feedback.
- Served as Crisis Lead and maintained overnight availability for emergencies while the program was in session.

- Assessed student performance through graded assignments, fostering improvement through constructive critiques and supportive coaching.
- Collaborated with co-leads and the senior leadership team to address participant concerns and ensure program success.
- Fostered a safe, engaging, and inclusive learning environment, serving as a mentor and role model to students.

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN Graduate Assistant

January to April 2025

Bowling Green State University (BGSU)

Bowling Green, OH

- Assisted Instructional Designers in designing and enhancing course materials using instructional design best practices and technology integration.
- Created tutorial videos on various inclusive teaching methods and the appropriate use of Turnitin.

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD (COMM 1020)

August, 2024 - Present

Bowling Green State University (BGSU)

Bowling Green, OH

- Instructed a class of 25 students in public speaking fundamentals, focusing on effective verbal and nonverbal communication techniques.
- Developed and delivered engaging lectures and interactive activities to enhance students' confidence and presentation skills.
- Guided students through the preparation and delivery of speeches, providing individualized feedback to support their growth and mastery.
- Assessed student performance through graded assignments, fostering improvement through constructive critiques and supportive coaching.

PROGRAM LEADER

May – August 2024

Recreation Unlimited & Farms

Ashley, OH

- Facilitated inclusive and engaging camp programs for over 100 individuals with disabilities and health concerns, ensuring a safe and supportive environment.
- Developed tailored activities that balanced fun and challenge, promoting confidence, social

interaction, and skill-building among campers.

- Monitored and addressed campers' unique needs, collaborating with staff to provide individualized support and positive experiences for each participant.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

August – May 2024

Bowling Green State University (BGSU)

Bowling Green, OH

- Collaborated with three Interdisciplinary program directors on student recruitment and retention through outreach events and promotional efforts, and develop, implement, and coordinate co-curricular activities.
- Supervised and collaborated with three undergraduate interns in developing a social media presence, social media campaigns, other digital efforts, and face-to-face outreach efforts.
- Maintained and updated two program websites, International Studies & Asian Studies.

OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

May – August 2023

Envision with WorldStrides Educational Tours

College Park, MD

- Assisted the operations manager with planning routine operations and special projects related to a summer camp.
- Provided administrative support with accurate document preparation and data entry.
- Proofread and edited 75 documents for accuracy and grammar.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Jan – May 2023

BGSU

Bowling Green, OH

- Per my supervisor's request, I completed all administrative and research duties, including data analysis, literature reviews, and manuscript preparation, for 10 hours a week.
- Performed statistical, qualitative, and quantitative analyses of over 1000 datasets.
- Collected, organized, and entered complex research data into Microsoft Excel.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Oct 2021 – Aug 2022

University of Ghana

Accra, GHANA

- Managed classroom activities, tutoring, and reviewing student's work for two Russian

Language and Culture sections.

- Partnered with two instructors to plan and implement lessons following the school's curriculum, goals, and objectives.
- Tutored thirty five students in small groups to reinforce learning concepts.

BROADCAST JOURNALIST

May 2017 – July 2019

Radio Uniers 105.7fm

Accra, GHANA

- Wrote daily news stories for online publication, coordinating images and layouts to deliver a proper presentation.
- Delivered high-quality reporting, commentary, and analysis in both on-air and off-air environments.
- Collaborated with over 20 multidisciplinary teams of managers, producers, and technical specialists.
- Disseminated numerous news content through social media for better audience engagement and faster reporting.

EDUCATION

Bowling Green State University

Aug 2024 – Present

PhD, Media and Communications

Bowling Green, OH

Bowling Green State University

Aug 2022 – May 2024

Master of Public Administration (MPA)

Bowling Green, OH

University of Ghana

Sep 2016 – Nov 2021

Bachelor of Arts (Political Science & Russian)

Accra, Ghana

Belgorod State Technological University

Nov 2019 – July 2020

Certificate (Russian Language & Culture)

Belgorod, Russia

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Social Media Coordinator, Graduate Communications Association, BGSU (Aug 2025 – present)
Peer Reviewer, International Communications Associations Annual Conference, Denver, USA (2025)
Peer Reviewer, National Communications Association Annual Convention, Denver, USA (2025)
President, Master of Public Administration Students Association, BGSU (Aug 2023 – May 2024)
Vice President, Master of Public Administration Students Association, BGSU (Aug 2022 – May 2023)

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

In-progress - Gajjala, R, Makmun. T, Gajjala, V., Jacob, J., Stanfield, K and **Acquaful, J** and Rahut, D.: Imaging and Imagining Subalternity: Thinking across generations and across two decades of online microlending in Elgar Companion on Gender and the SDGs, Edited by Chopra D and Raghavan P.

In-Progress – **Acquaful, J** and Jia, X: Exploring the Influence of Chatbots on Purchase Decisions and Customer Loyalty: A Meta-Analysis and Systematic Review

In-Progress – **Acquaful, J**: Reimagining Black Activism: Afro-Pessimism, Black Optimism, and the Role of Social Media

CONFERENCES

Presenter: National Communications Associations Annual Convention, 2025, Denver, USA

Presenter: 25th Black Issues Conference, BGSU, March 2025 (Afro-Pessimism and Black Optimism in the Digital Age: Exploring Black Identity, Activism, and Resistance)

Panel: Central States Communication Association Convention, April 2025 (How Do Students Consume Humanitarian Crisis Media Content? Discussing, Deliberative Democratic Pedagogy, and the Israel-Hamas Conflict)

Panel: Central States Communication Association Convention, April 2025 (Political Social Media Influencers and Generative Artificial Intelligence in an Election Year and Beyond: Similarities and Differences across the Globe)

PROJECTS

City of Tampa Employee Retention Study

Participated in a research project with the City of Tampa, analyzing employee turnover rates, conducting comparative studies on pay, benefits, and work environments in similar cities, surveying Collection Drivers for job satisfaction insights, and presenting findings in a 24-page report.

Toledo ZOOTEen Evaluation Project

Evaluated the Toledo ZOOTEen program, utilizing, surveys, interviews and focus groups, resulting in a comprehensive 20-page report informing program enhancements and strategic improvements.

Research Poster Presentation

Conducted a successful poster presentation on the impact of resident participation in recycling on availability in Detroit, analyzing 1,021 data points from the Michigan Public Policy survey public use database using SPSS and Stata, achieving a score of 97%.

DIGITAL & LANGUAGE SKILLS

- **Digital:** MS Office Suite | WordPress | Tableau | AirTable | Canva | Social Media | Smartsheets | R (Data Analysis Software)
 - **Languages:** English | Russian | Akan | Hausa
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