

Karolina Achirri

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A. Education

Academic Qualifications

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, USA
PhD student in Second Language Studies
August 2016-till now

Nicolaus Copernicus University of Torun, Poland
Master's Programme, Jun 2009
Master's Degree in English philology with the specialization in British Literature
Thesis: *Madness and Death in Virginia Woolf's Life and Selected Works.*

Pila Academy of Business, Pila, Poland
Bachelor's Programme, Jun 2007
Bachelor's Degree in English philology with the specialization in British Literature
Thesis: *Critical Reception of John Milton's <Paradise Lost>.*

TESOL & TEFL Qualifications

American TESOL Advanced Certification at American TESOL Institute (Obtained on June 25th, 2015)
Thesis: *Intercultural L2 Teaching in China and Abroad.*

British Council, Shanghai, China (Jun 2012 – Jun 2016)
Certified IELTS Speaking and Writing Examiner

Sutton College of Learning for Adults, Sutton, Surrey, United Kingdom
Cambridge Proficiency English Course, Jun 2004
Certificate in Advanced English (CAE)

B. Publications

Books

2017. *Call me Li Nana: Memoirs of a foreigner in China.* Kalahari Press.
2015. *IELTS Band 9: An Academic Guide for Chinese Students. Volume I.* Ann Arbor, MI: Chopstick Press.
2015. *IELTS Band 9: An Academic Guide for Chinese Students. Volume II.* Ann Arbor, MI: Chopstick Press.
2015. *IELTS Examiner's Tips: An Academic Guide to IELTS Speaking and Writing.* Ann Arbor, MI: Chopstick Press.

Journal Articles:

February 2018 "Life is splendid here in the U.S.": Intercultural learning in contemporary Chinese students' academic adjustment – submitted for publication to The Qualitative Report
October 2017 Perceiving Identity through Accent Lenses: A Case Study of a Chinese English Speaker's Perceptions of Her Pronunciation and Perceived Social Identity. MSU Working Papers in Second Language Studies, Vol. 8, Number 1.

- October 2017 Interview with Professor Martha Bigelow. MSU Working Papers in Second Language Studies, Vol. 8, Number 1.
- October 2013 “‘Panda-monium’ at Hangzhou Zoo”. A Cultural Article in *China That’s Zhejiang*.
- July 2013 ‘Touching Heaven: Venturing up high at Yellow Mountain’. (Travel Article) in *China That’s Zhejiang*.
- June 2013 ‘The conundrum of Chinese Bamboo’. A Cultural Article in *China That’s Zhejiang*.
- May 2013 ‘The Eyes are Useless When the Mind is Blind’. A Cultural Article in *China That’s Zhejiang*.

C. Conferences, Presentations & Workshops

- May 17-20, 2017 13th International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Poster presented: *I teach, therefore I am: An autoethnographic study of teacher identity development.*
- May 11-12, 2017 Certification in College Teaching Workshop, Graduate School, Michigan State University.
- March 10, 2017 Michigan Academy MASAL 2017 Conference, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan
Paper presented: *Input, output, and feedback in relation to <Duolingo>.*
- March 3-5, 2017 Purdue Languages and Cultures Conference (PLCC), Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana
Paper presented: *Chinese students’ academic adjustment in the US through the lens of interculturality.*
- November 6-8, 2015 13th Asia TEFL International Conference in Nanjing, China
IELTS BAND 9 (book series) – a product presentation.
- Sept 2015-June 2016 A series of presentations regarding *IELTS BAND 9 Book Tour* for teachers and students in language training schools in Hangzhou.
- June 2013 Strong International, Hangzhou, China
Workshop for teachers: *How to effectively teach IELTS Writing?*
- December 2012 Strong International, Hangzhou, China
Workshop for teachers: *The biggest challenges in achieving fluency with Chinese students.*

D. Honors, Awards, Fellowships

- 2018-2019 Interdisciplinary Inquiry and Teaching Fellowship Program, The Graduate School and James Madison College, Michigan State University (\$5000).
- Summer 2018 MSU College of Arts and Letters Summer Support Fellowship (\$4500).
- Summer 2017 MSU College of Arts and Letters Summer Support Fellowship (\$5000).
- May 2017 MSU Asian Studies Centre S.C. Lee Fellowship (\$500) for a research paper: “Perceiving identity through accent lenses: A case study of a Chinese English speaker’s perceptions of her pronunciation and perceived social identity”.
- 2006-2007 Nicolaus Copernicus University of Torun Research and Study Grant.
- 2005-2006 Pila Academy of Business Research and Study Grant.
- 2004 Polish Prime Minister’s Scholarship.

E. Memberships & Committees

- 2018-2019 Academic year: Co-chair of Student Organization of Second Language Acquisition and Pedagogy (SOSLAP)
- February 2018-till now Reviewer for Journal of Language and Education

2017-till now National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity
2017-2018 Academic year: Testing & Tasting (A reading group on language testing and assessment)
2017 Fall semester: SLS Weekly Digest Editorial Assistant
2016-2017 Academic year: MSU Working Papers: Editor
Modern Language Association of Poland (PTN)
Asia TEFL (Teaching and Learning English in Asia)
Linguistic Society of America
Midwest Association of Language Testers: MwALT Graduate Student Representative
American Association for Applied Linguistics

F. Professional Experience

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, USA (Aug 2016-till now)
PhD Student

Research Assistant to Drs. Gass and Winke (Academic Year 2016-2017)
Research Assistant to Dr. Peter De Costa (August-October 2017)
Research Assistant to Dr. Shawn Loewen (November 2017-May 2018)

Hangzhou No 4 High School, International Department, China (Sept 2014-June 2016)
Teaching English as a First Language, IELTS, TOEFL, SAT, Academic English.

Hangzhou Normal University, China (September 2013-July 2014)
Teaching College English.

Strong International Group, Binjiang, Hangzhou, China (October 2012 – August 2013)
English Teaching. Courses taught: IELTS (Writing, Speaking, Listening); TOEFL (Writing, Speaking, Grammar); English for Academic Purposes (EAP), Advanced English Language Skills (AELS); AP Literature and Composition; Developed curricula for IELTS Speaking, IELTS, Writing, IELTS Listening and EAP.

New Oriental Elite, Hangzhou, China (March 2011 - October 2012)
Teaching English as a Foreign Language; Curriculum Developer, Book Club Coordinator.
Courses taught: Spoken English; Grammar (basic and advanced); Pronunciation; Culture English Corners; Reading; Developed: Extensive Reading course for all levels from beginners to advanced learners; Advanced Grammar course; Designed and coordinated Book Club.

The TEFL Academy, Hangzhou, China (July 2010 - March 2011)
Teachers' Manager, and English Teaching. Courses taught: ESL classes, English Corners, Spoken English, Business English, English for Specific Purposes; Managed and scheduled a team of teachers including both Chinese and foreign teachers.

Shuren University, Hangzhou, China (September 2010 - February 2011)
English Teaching. Courses taught: Oral English and Business English.

'Progress' Private Language School, Cracow, Poland (August 2009 - June 2010)
Founder, Proprietor, Director, and English Teacher: Managed the school, handled marketing and sales, scheduled classes for all teachers, designed and developed curriculum for numerous courses, taught VIP students.

Public Primary School, Opoki, Torun, Poland (September 2008 - June 2009)
English Teacher: Taught primary school students of all grades English based on national curriculum provided by the government.

'Pigmalion' Language School, Torun, Poland (September 2008 - June 2009)

English Teacher: Taught Cambridge exams (FCE, CAE, CPE), Pronunciation, Comprehensive Reading, Speaking, Advanced Grammar.

Grammar School, Pila, Poland (September 2007 - August 2008)

English Teacher, Home-room Teacher: Taught high school students English based on a national program, prepared students for Polish Matriculation Exam.

English and German Teachers Training College, Zlotow, Poland (September 2007 - August 2008)

English Teacher, Lecturer: Taught Practical English, Phonetics, Writing, Speaking, Extensive Listening, Extensive Reading, British Literature, British History and Culture.

Technical High School, Pila, Poland (September 2004 - June 2007)

English Teacher, Home-room teacher: Taught students English based on national curriculum developed for technical high schools, English for Specific Purposes, Polish Matriculation Exam classes.

Private Language School 'Accent plus', Pila, Poland (September 2004 - June 2007)

English Teacher: Taught Cambridge courses (FCE, CAE, CPE); Pronunciation and Phonetics; Reading, Grammar (Basic and Advanced); Literature; Culture classes; British and American History.

G. Languages Spoken and Written and Proficiency Levels

Polish (native) 33 years

English (master) 27 years

Russian (advanced) 27 years

Ukrainian (intermediate) 4 years

Latin (intermediate) 2 years

Chinese (HSK4) 6 years