

Karolina Achirri

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A. Education

Academic Qualifications

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, USA

PhD Candidate in Second Language Studies

August 2016-till now

Doctoral Candidate since January 2019

Planned graduation: May 2020

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:

March 2019 *A dynamic interplay of professional identities: An instrumental case study of a teacher-researcher's identity (re)construction* – under review in *Journal of Language, Identity, and Education.*

- Dec 2018 “*Life is splendid here in the U.S.*”: *Intercultural learning in contemporary Chinese students’ academic adjustment* – under review in *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*.
- 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 15-18, 2019 15th International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry (ICQI), University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; Poster to be presented: *A dynamic interplay of professional identities: An instrumental case study of teacher-researcher’s identity (re)construction*.
- March 26, 2019 CELTA Professional Development Series: *Teaching Interculturality Across the Curriculum: Activities for instructors of International Students*.
- March 18, 2019 *Teaching Interculturality at James Madison College: A Practical Workshop* for the faculty. Project for Interdisciplinary Inquiry and Teaching Fellowship.
- March 1, 2019 Michigan Academy 2019 (MASAL), Alma College, Alma, MI; Research paper to be presented: *A dynamic interplay of professional identities: An instrumental case study of teachers’/researchers’ identity (re)construction*.
- Feb 16, 2019 COGS Graduate Academic Conference 2019, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI; Paper to be presented: *A dynamic interplay of professional identities: An instrumental case study of teacher-researcher’s identity (re)construction*.
- 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

March 2019 MSU Dissertation Completion Fellowship.
 2018-2019 Interdisciplinary Inquiry and Teaching Fellowship Program, The Graduate School and James Madison College, Michigan State University (\$5000).
 Fall 2018 Pronunciation Instruction Graduate fellowship by the MSU English Language Center and Graduate School (\$1000).
 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

2019-present Member of Team Program for Second Language Research Forum (SLRF 2019)
 March-April 2019 Abstract/Proposal Reviewer for Second Language Research Forum (SLRF 2019)
 2018-present Graduate Employees Union Pedagogy Committee member
 2018-present Association for Interdisciplinary Studies
 2018-2019 Co-chair of Student Organization of Second Language Acquisition and Pedagogy (SOSLAP)
 2018-2019 SLS program steward for Graduate Employees Union at MSU
 2018-2019 SLS program student representative for Faculty meetings
 February 2018-present Reviewer for Journal of Language and Education
 2017-present National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity
 2017-2018 Testing & Tasting (A reading group on language testing and assessment)
 Fall 2017 SLS Weekly Digest Editorial Assistant
 2016-2017 MSU Working Papers: Editor
 2012-present Modern Language Association of Poland (PTN)
 2015-present Asia TEFL (Teaching and Learning English in Asia)
 2015-present Linguistic Society of America
 2017-2018 Midwest Association of Language Testers: MwALT Graduate Student Representative
 2016-present American Association for Applied Linguistics

F. Professional Experience

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, USA (Aug 2016-till now)
 PhD Student
 Teaching Assistant of LLT 361: Second Language Learning (undergraduate course) & LLT 346: Pedagogical Grammar (undergraduate course)
 Research Assistant to Dr. Shawn Loewen (November 2017-May 2018)
 Research Assistant to Dr. Peter De Costa (August-October 2017)
 Research Assistant to Drs. Gass and Winke (Academic Year 2016-2017)

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)
English (master)

Russian (advanced)
Ukrainian (intermediate)
Latin (intermediate)
Chinese (HSK4)