




# Mofart Ayiega

 MofartAyiega |  0000-0001-7218-3991  ayiegamo@msu.edu

## EDUCATION

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**Michigan State University**  
PhD in Linguistics.

East Lansing, Michigan  
Ongoing.

**Kenyatta University**  
Master of Arts in Kiswahili.

Nairobi, Kenya  
May 2019 – Feb 2022

*M.A. thesis:* “Ukiukaji wa Kanuni ya Kufuta Mabano katika Uundaji wa Nomino Ambatani za Kiswahili. Mtazamo wa Mofolojia Leksia.”

(\*Violation of Bracket Erasure Rule in the Formation of Swahili Compound Nouns: A Lexical Morphology Perspective\*)

**Kibabii University**  
Bachelor of Education Arts in Kiswahili and History (Upper Class).

Bungoma, Kenya  
May 2015 – Aug 2018

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### Employment

**Michigan State University**  
Swahili Summer 2025 Instructor.

East Lansing, Michigan  
May 12–June 27, 2025

**Department of Linguistics, Languages, and Cultures (MSU)**  
Teaching Assistant.

East Lansing, Michigan  
Fall 2024 / Spring 2025

**Michigan State University**  
Swahili Summer 2024 Instructor.

East Lansing, Michigan  
May 13–June 28, 2024

**Daystar University**  
Adjunct Kiswahili Faculty.

Nairobi, Kenya  
June 5–24, 2023

**Kenyatta University**  
Part-time Marking Assistant and Invigilator.

Nairobi, Kenya  
Feb 2021

**Access Publishers Limited**  
Part-time Swahili Editor.

Nairobi, Kenya  
Mar 2020–May 2023

**Butere Boys’ High School**  
High School Kiswahili Teacher and History.

Butere, Kenya  
Jan 2018–Dec 2018

### Research Experience

**Michigan State University (LILAC)**  
Graduate Research Assistant for Faculty.

East Lansing, Michigan  
Aug 2025–May 2026

**Michigan State University (LILAC)**  
Graduate Research Assistant for Faculty.

East Lansing, Michigan  
Aug 2023–May 2024

**Kenya National Examinations Council**  
Research Assistant.

Nairobi, Kenya  
June 2021

**Evidence Matters™ Company**  
Research Assistant.

Nairobi, Kenya  
Dec 15–21, 2021

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

1. Ayiega, M. O. & L. C. Mwita. (2023). Kiswahili Compound Nouns: Reasons for Violation and Non-Violation of the Bracket Erasure Rule. *Journal of African Language and Culture Studies*, 4(4), 58–83.
2. Ayiega, M. O. (2022). Utata katika Ufasiri wa Maana za Sitiari za Kiswahili. *Jarida la Fahari ya Kiswahili*, 1(1), 77–91. <https://rucu.ac.tz/JAFAKI.html>
3. Ayiega, M. O. & L. C. Mwita. (2021). Nomino Ambatani za Kiswahili Zinazokiuka Kanuni ya Kufuta Mabano. *East African Journal of Swahili Studies*, 4(1), 30–42. DOI: [10.37284/eajss.4.1.452](https://doi.org/10.37284/eajss.4.1.452)

### Co-authored Books

1. Ayiega, M.O., Wasike, K., & Kikechi, K. B. (2023). *Mwongozo wa Mapambazuko ya Macheo na Hadithi Nyingine*. Nairobi: Jesma Publishers & Educational Boosters Limited.
2. Ayiega, M. O., & Kombo, K. B. (2023). *Mwongozo wa Nguu za Jadi*. Nairobi: Jesma Publishers & Educational Boosters Limited.

### Refereed Short Course Modules

1. Ayiega, M. O., Chege, J., & Nandama, S. (2023). *KEC 100: Kiswahili Elementary Course*. Daystar University.
2. Ayiega, M. O., Chege, J., & Nandama, S. (2023). *KIC 101: Kiswahili Intermediate Course*. Daystar University.
3. Ayiega, M. O., Chege, J., & Nandama, S. (2023). *KAC 102: Kiswahili Advanced Course*. Daystar University.

## ONGOING PROJECTS

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| 1. A Taxonomy of Swahili Applicatives  | <i>on-going project</i> |
| 2. Morphosemantics of NP-Internal and Sentence-Level Agreement                                       | <i>on-going project</i> |
| 3. Morphological Leveling of Noun Class Agreement in Urban Swahili                                   | <i>on-going project</i> |
| 4. Morphological Non-agreement on Animate Nouns in Swahili   | <i>on-going project</i> |
| 5. /N/ Preservation in Prenasal Stops and Compensatory Lengthening in Ekegusii: A Stratal OT Account | <i>on-going project</i> |

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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1. **Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 56)**, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis — August 15 and 16, 2025
  - *Tense Marking and the Order of Suffix in Ekegusii Verbs* (co-authored with Deo Ngonyani)
  - *Morphosemantics of NP-Internal and Sentence-Level Agreement* (co-authored with Alan Ke and Deo Ngonyani)
2. **International Conference on Bantu Languages (Bantu 10)**, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania — August 12–14, 2024 *Typology of Swahili Applicatives* (co-authored with Deo Ngonyani)

3. **CHAUKIDU International Conference**, Arusha, Tanzania — December 15–16, 2023 *Upanuzi wa Maana ya Baadhi ya Msamiati wa Kiswahili: Mtazamo wa Ubadilikaji*
4. **International Conference on Culture and Languages (BAKIZA)**, Wete, Pemba — December 17–18, 2022 *Usawiri wa Mabadiliko ya Mwanamke Mswahili katika Riwaya ya Nyuso za Mwanamke (2010): Mtazamo wa Utamaduni Mageuzi*
5. **International Conference on African Language & Culture Studies**, Beijing, China — December 4, 2021 *Swahili Compound Nouns: Reasons for Violation and Non-Violation of the Bracket Erasure Rule*

## HONORS, FUNDING & AWARDS

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- Alliance for African Partnership (AAP) and African Studies Center (ASC) — 2025
- Special College Research Abroad Monies (SCRAM) — 2025
- Summer Graduate Fellowship — 2024

## WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS ATTENDED WITH CERTIFICATION

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- **Writers Workshop for Freshman English**, Daystar University — December 7, 2022
- **The International Webinar with Chris Lonsdale** *Linguistics and Pedagogy* — November 22, 2021
- **Asosiasi Linguistic Terapan Indonesia** *The Role of Linguistics Studies in the Pandemic Era* — July 11, 2021
- **Kenyatta University Linguistics Workshop** in collaboration with SOAS University of London, the University of Essex, the University of Dar es Salaam, and Kenyatta University *Variation in Swahili: Contact, Change and Identity* — February 15, 2022

## SERVICE

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### Department

- Vice President — Linguistics Student Organization (MSU), August 16, 2025–present

### School

- Graduate & Professional Student Fall Welcome Celebration (Council of Graduate Students), August 24, 2024

### Community

- Treasurer — Association of Kenyans in East Lansing (AKL), East Lansing, MI, October 2023–October 2024

### Reviewing

- Reviewer — *Journal of Open Humanities Data*
- Reviewer — *Language Science Press*

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- Member — Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL), May 2025–present
- Member — Linguistic Society of America (LSA), July, 2025–present
- Member — Baraza la Kiswahili Zanzibar (BAKIZA), 2022–2023
- Member — Chama cha Ukuzaji wa Kiswahili Duniani (CHAUKIDU), 2023–2024

## SKILLS

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### Technical

- Advanced Excel, WordPress, Microsoft Word, and Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS)  
— Basic and Intermediate
- L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X
- Mendeley
- RStudio

### Languages

- Ekegusii, Swahili, and English

## REFEREES

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Available upon request.