

KWAKU A. GYASI

University of Alabama in Huntsville
Dept. of World Languages and Cultures
Huntsville, AL 35899

Areas of Research:

Translation and Cross-cultural texts Francophone Literatures & Cultures
Language in African Literature

Areas of Teaching:

French Language (all levels) Francophone Literatures & Cultures African
Literatures and Cultures

EDUCATION:

Ph.D.: The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
M.A.: The Ohio State University Columbus, Ohio
M.A. (International Affairs): Ohio University, Athens, Ohio
B. A. Honors. (French/Linguistics): University of Ghana
Diplôme Supérieur d'Etudes Françaises: Université de Dakar, Senegal

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING:

2002: Language for Business Workshop, University of Memphis, Memphis,
TN 2002: Stage pédagogique, Institut Méditerranéen d'Etudes Françaises
(IMEF), Montpellier, France

AWARDS & GRANTS

Humanities Center Research Grant, University of Alabama in Huntsville, 2007
Instructional Mini-Grant Award, University of Alabama in Huntsville, 2002
Research Mini-Grant Award, University of Alabama in Huntsville, 2001
Humanities Center Research Grant, University of Alabama in Huntsville, 2001
Excellent Teacher Recognition, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 1996
SGAES Fellowship, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, 1995

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

2005 - Present: Associate Professor of French, University of Alabama in Huntsville
1999 - 2005: Assistant Professor of French, University of Alabama in Huntsville 1998 -
1999: Adjunct Assistant Professor of French, Union University, Jackson, TN 1997 -
1999: Assistant Professor of French, Lane College, Jackson, TN 1996 - 1997: Visiting
Assist. Prof. of African and Comparative Literature, University of Illinois,
Urbana-Champaign
1989 - 1996: Graduate Teaching Assistant, French, Ohio State University.

PUBLICATIONS:

Book:

The Francophone African Text: Translation and the Postcolonial Experience.
New York: Peter Lang, 2006.

Book Chapter:

“Translation as a Postcolonial Practice: the African Writer as Translator.”
Writing Back in/and Translation. Ed. Raoul Granqvist. Frankfurt am Main:
Peter Lang, 2006: 103-118.

Articles:

“‘Le français petit nègre’ and the Construction of Social Identity in Colonial and Postcolonial Africa”. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science* 2.9 (2012): 224-231

“Translation as a Postcolonial Practice: the African Writer as Translator.”
Translation and Interculturality: Africa and the West. Stella Linn, Maarten Mous, Marianne Vogel (eds.). Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2008: 1-13.

“From *God’s Bits of Wood* to *Smouldering Charcoal*: Decolonization, Class Struggle, and the Role of Women’s Consciousness in Postcolonial Africa.”
French Colonial History 5 (2004): 175-194.

“The African Writer as Translator: Writing African Languages through French.”
Journal of African Cultural Studies, 16.2 (2003): 143-159.

“Amadou Hampâté Bâ,” “Language Question,” and “Translation.” *Encyclopedia of African Literature*. Ed. Simon Gikandi. London and New York: Routledge, (2003): 42-44, 281-283, 535-536.

“Ahmadou Kourouma: Translation and Interpretation as Narrative Configurations of the African Text.” *The Creative Circle: Artist, Critic, and Translator in African Literature*. Ed. Overvold, Angelina, Richard Priebe and Louis Tremaine. Trenton, NJ: African World Press, 2003: 150-164

“Writing and the Power of Words: Translating Sony Labou Tansi’s *Les yeux du volcan*.” *Translation Review*, 62 (2001): 65-72.

“Writing as Translation: African Literature and the Challenges of Translation.”
Research in African Literatures, 30.2 (1999): 75-87.

“Maintaining an African Poetics: Translation in/and African Literature.”
Translation Review, 56 (1998): 10-21.

Book Reviews:

“Ecriture et texte: contribution africaine,” by Simon Battestini. *Research in African Literatures*, 33.1 (2002): 217-218.

“Between Languages and Cultures: Translation and Cross-Cultural Texts,” by A. Dingwaney and Carol Maier. *Research in African Literatures*, 30.3 (1999): 232-235.

“La langue d’Ahmadou Kourouma, ou le français sous le soleil d’Afrique” by Makhily Gassama. *Research in African Literatures* 28.1 (1997): 202-203.

Translations:

“Two Sages of Troyes: Rashi and Chrétien,” by Danielle Buschinger. *German Literature between Faiths*. Peter Meister (ed). New York: Peter Lang, 2004: 27-38

“The Postcolonial Condition: The Archeology of African Knowledge: From the Feat of Ogun and Sango to the Postcolonial Creativity of Obatala,” by Nouréini Tidjani-Serpos. *Research in African Literatures* 27.1 (1996): 3-18.

“Renunciation and Victory in Black Shack Alley,” by Sylvie Kandé. *Research in African Literatures* 25.2 (1994): 33-50.

“Narrative Genres and Intertextual Phenomenon in the Sudanese Region: Myths, Epics, and Novels,” by Bassirou Dieng. *Research in African Literatures* 24.2 (1993): 33-45.

“Women’s Literature in Algeria,” by Anne Roche. *Research in African Literatures* 23.2 (1992): 209-215.

“Tusumu: Dévinettes tonales luba,” by T.K. Biaya. *Research in African Literatures*, 21.3 (1990): 146-151.

PRESENTATIONS: Academic Conferences

“Intertextuality, Memory and Orality in Alain Mabanckou’s *Verre Cassé*.” Annual Conference of the French Colonial Historical Society, Université de Sherbrooke, Longueuil, Montreal, Canada, June 2019

“Space, Magic and Violence in Sony Labou Tansi’s *Les Yeux du volcan*.” Annual Conference of the French Colonial Historical Society, Seattle, Washington, June 2018

“In Search of an Authentic Narrative Voice: Henri Lopes and his Narrators,” Annual Conference of the French Colonial Historical Society, Aix-Marseille Université, Aix-en-Provence, France June 2017.

“Henri Lopes and the Search for a Hybrid Identity in *Le Lys et le Flamboyant*,” Annual Conference of the French Colonial Historical Society, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada, May 2016.

“African Theater as a Means to Awaken Consciousness.” Annual Conference

of the French Colonial Historical Society at Binghamton University,
Binghamton, NY, May 7-9, 2015.

“Religion and Missionaries in the Francophone African Novel.” Annual
Conference of the French Colonial Historical Society at the Université Paris 8,
Saint-Denis, Paris, France, June 2010.

“Colonialism and Identity Theft: Jean-Marie Adiaffi’s *La carte d’identité*.”
Annual Conference of the French Colonial Historical Society at the Université
Laval, Quebec, Canada, May 15-18, 2008.

“Ahmadou Kourouma and the Impossibility of Translation.” Annual Conference
of the French Colonial Historical Society at the Université de La Rochelle, La
Rochelle, France, June 2007.

“Le Français Petit-Nègre and the Construction of Social Identity in Colonial and
Postcolonial Africa.” Annual Conference of the French Colonial Historical
Society at Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada, June 2005.

“Translation as a Postcolonial Process: the African Writer as Translator.”
International Conference on Translation and Inter-culturality: Africa and the
West. University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands, April 2004.

“Women’s Consciousness and Class Struggle in *Smouldering Charcoal* and
God’s Bits of Wood.” Annual Conference of the French Colonial Historical
Society at the University of Toulouse, Toulouse, France, May 2003.

“The African Writer as Translator: Writing African Languages through French.”
Annual Conference of the French Colonial Historical Society at Yale University,
New Haven, CT, May 2002.

“Ahmadou Kourouma: Translation and Interpretation as Narrative Configurations
of the African Text.” Annual Conference of the African Literature Association at
the University of Richmond, Richmond, VA, April 2001.

“Using African Film and Video in the Language and Literature Classroom.”
Tennessee Foreign Language Teachers Association Conference in Nashville, TN,
November 1998.

“Writing and Translation: The Francophone African Text.” Colloquium, African
Studies: the State of the Art in the State of Ohio. OSU, Columbus, OH, May,
1995

PRESENTATIONS: *University Forums*

“Translation and the Postcolonial Experience in African Literature.” College of
Liberal Arts Forum, RELACS, Union Grove Gallery, UAH, March 2002

“Multiculturalism and Foreign Language Education.” Jackson-Madison County Board of Education, Foreign Language Section, Jackson, TN, December 1997.

“Language, Writing, and Translation in African Literature.” Comparative Literature Lecture Series, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, February 1997.

“The African Writer and the Language of Writing.” Brown Bag Lecture Series, Center for African Studies, University of Illinois, March 1996.

Participation: *Academic Conferences*

Annual Conference of the French Colonial Historical Society, New Orleans, LA
May 30 – June 3, 2012 (Panel Chair)

Annual Meeting of the Alabama Association of Foreign Language Teachers,
Huntsville, AL, February 2010

Annual Meeting of the French Colonial Historical Society at the Université
Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Dakar, Senegal, May 16-22, 2006.
(Co-organizer)

Annual Meeting of the Alabama Association of Foreign Language Teachers,
Huntsville, AL, February 6-8, 2003.

Workshop on Language and Culture for International Business, University of
Memphis, Memphis, TN, February 22-24, 2002.

Faculty resource person, Rockefeller Dissertation and Research Workshop,
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, May 7-10, 1998.

Workshop on “The Use of African Film and Video in the Teaching of Language
and Literature,” Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans, March 12-14,
1998.

ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Conference
in Nashville, TN, November 20 to 23, 1997

Chair of a panel at the University of Illinois’ Center for African Studies’ 24th
Annual Spring Symposium: “The Creation and Consumption of Leisure in Urban
African,” April 3-5 1997.

Discussant, University of Illinois’ Center for African Studies’ 23rd Annual Spring
Symposium: “Space, Culture and Society in Africa.” March 28 to 30, 1996.
African Literature Association Conference at Ohio State University, Columbus,

Ohio, 1995

African Literature Association Conference at Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, Spring 1992.

African Literature Association Conference at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Spring 1990.

Professional Service:

2020 – Present: Journal Reviewer, *Wasafiri*

2012: External Examiner, PhD Dissertation Defense, University of Ottawa,

Canada 2009 – Present: Associate Editor, *Journal of Arts and Culture*.

2002 - Present: Contributing Editor, *African Symposium: A Journal of Educational Research on Africa*

1999 – Present: Journal Reviewer, *Research in African Literatures*.

1989 – 1990: Editorial Assistant, *Research in African Literatures*, Ohio State U.

1987: Proofreader and Translator, 10th Plenary Session of the International Civil Aviation Organization, (ICAO), Brazzaville, Republic of Congo

1984-1987: Translator, Pan African News Agency (PANA), Dakar, Senegal,

Service at UAH:

2018 - Present: Member, Library Committee

2018 – Present: Faculty Advisor, African Students Association

2018: Member, Search Committee, Dean of College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

2014: Member, Search Committee, Dean of Honors College

2012 - 2014: Member, University Honors Council, UAH

2012: Member, Search Committee, VP for Advancement, UAH

2011- 2012: Member, PTAC, College of Liberal Arts

2009 - 2014: Faculty Senate Rep., Dept. of Foreign Languages

2003 - 2005: Member, Global Studies Study Committee

2002-2009: Director, Foreign Language Lab

1999 - Present: Faculty Advisor, French and French FLIT Majors and

Minors 1999 - Present: Faculty Advisor, *Le Cercle français*

1999: Member: Curriculum, Placement Mechanism, and Study Abroad Committees.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

African Literature Association (ALA)

Alabama Association of Foreign Language Teachers (AAFLT)

American Association of Teachers of French (AATF)

French Colonial Historical Society (FCHS)

Modern Language Association (MLA)