

LATEEF ADETUNJI ADELEKE

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RESEARCH INTEREST

Language Description and Documentation, Natural Language Processing, Grammatical Tone, Morphosyntax.

EDUCATION

PhD in Linguistics 2023 – present

University of Rochester

Advisor: Nadine Grimm

QP1: Negation in Uhami.

Committee Members: Nadine Grimm, Asia Pietraszko, Joyce McDonough, Hannah Sande.

QP2: An Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) for Uneme.

Committee Members: Agatha Downey and Nadine Grimm.

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics (First Class Honors) 2015 – 2019

Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko.

Project: Syntactic and Pragmatic Analysis of Questions in Efunroye Tinubu

Advisor: Simeon Olaogun

GRANTS/AWARDS

Endangered Languages Documentation Programme- IGS1048 (€91,267) [🔗](#) 2025 – 2028

Project: Documentation of Uneme Indigenous Iron Technology.

Donald M. and Janet C. Barnard Fellowship [🔗](#)

Recognizes outstanding achievement for one graduate student in engineering or natural science disciplines.

Award for Nigeria's Exceptional Fresh Graduates, i-Scholar Initiative [🔗](#) 2022

Covered costs for standardized tests (GRE and TOEFL), and graduate school application fees.

Vice Chancellor's Prize for Overall Best Graduating Student #150,000 [🔗](#) 2021

Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko, Ondo State (Nigeria).

Clement Bamiduro's Prize for Overall Best Graduating Student. #100,000 [🔗](#) 2021

Adekunle Ajasin University.

Faculty Prize for Best Graduating Student in the Faculty of Arts. #100,000 [🔗](#) 2021

Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko, Ondo State (Nigeria).

Dare Akande Vanguard Scholarship. #250,000 2019

Tuition support for exceptional undergraduate students from Okeogun.

NALLS Tutor of the Year [🔗](#) 2019

National Association of Linguistics and Languages Students Association (NALLS), Adekunle Ajasin University.

Best Student in Okeogun 2019

Progressive Movement of Okeogun.

Winner, Fitrah Review Competition, Poetry Category [🔗](#) 2019

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

MCFG_Parser: A Python Package for Parsing Natural Languages with Multiple Context-Free Grammars (MCFGs) [🔗](#) 2024

Project: Developed a Python package that implements an agenda-based parser to efficiently handle complex syntactic structures, including discontinuous categories in human language.

Advisor: Aron White

Collaborator, Grammar and Variation Lab, University of Rochester 2023 – present
Ongoing Research: Tense, Aspect, and Polarity in West African Languages.
Advisor: Nadine Grimm

Collaborator, Science in Yoruba 2021 – present
Ongoing Project: Building an Online Archive to Promote STEM Education in Yoruba, and Translating STEM content into Yoruba for secondary school students.
Director: Taofeek Adebayo

Research Assistant, Linguistics and Languages Department, Adekunle Ajasin University 2018 – 2019
Data Collection and Corpus Building.
Advisor: Simeon Olaogun

FIELD EXPERIENCE

- Conducted an ELDP sponsored fieldwork on Uneme in Ekpedo, Edo state, Nigeria. June-Sept, 2025.
- Uhami (Edoid): Conducted fieldwork in Isua Akoko, Ondo state, Nigeria. Sept-2025
- Igasi (Benue-Congo, Nigeria): Conducted fieldwork on Igasi, Ekiti state, Nigeria. August 2022
- Uhami (Edoid): Conducted fieldwork in Isua Akoko, Ondo state, Nigeria. January 2019
- Uneme (Edoid): Conducted fieldwork in Ekpedo, Edo state, Nigeria. February 2019

LAB AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Grammar and Variation Lab, University of Rochester
- Member, Fieldsyntax Lab, University of Rochester
- Member, Phonetics and Phonology Lab, University of Rochester

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Linguistics Department, University of Rochester 2025
Course: Language and Culture

Teaching Assistant, Linguistics Department, University of Rochester 2025
Course: Linguistic Analysis

Tutor, National Association of Linguistics and Languages Students, AAUA 2016 – 2019
Courses: Phonetics, Phonology and Syntax

Tutor, Faculty of Arts Student Association (FASA), Adekunle Ajasin University. 2016 – 2019
Courses: First year students' courses on communication in English (GST111 & GST122) and Philosophy, Logic, and Human Existence (LIN112)

PUBLICATIONS

Linguistically Informed Evaluation of Multilingual ASR for African Languages
To appear: Proceedings of the 7th Workshop on African Natural Language Processing (AfricaNLP)
Fei-Yueh Chen, **Lateef Adeleke**, C.M. Downey

Adeleke, L. & Olaogun, S. (2025) NPI-Licensing: The case of N-kankan in Yoruba. Ekiti Journal of Language, Literature and Culture

Olaogun, S. & Adeleke, L. (2022) A Pragmatic Analysis of Questions in Efunroye Tinubu. Language Review An International Journal of Linguistics. 181-184


Adeleke, L. & Simeon, O. (2022) Pragmatic Functions of Rhetorical Questions in Efunroye Tinubu. Journal of Yoruba Studies Association of Nigeria -222-235

PRESENTATIONS

Adeleke, L.A. 2025. "The Morphosyntax of Tense in Uhami". Talk at the 56th Association of Contemporary African Linguistics (ACAL, 56) Conference. University of Minnesota Twin Cities. 05/2025

Adeleke, L.A. 2025. "Two Types of M-Merger: A Case of Tense and Negation in Uhami". Presented at the Research Methods Class, Department of Linguistics, University of Rochester.	05/2025
Adeleke, L.A. 2025. "The Morphosyntax of Tense in Uhami". Presented at the Field Syntax Lab, Department of Linguistics, University of Rochester.	05/2025
Adeleke, L.A. 2025. "Tense and Aspect in Uhami". Presented at the Ph2 Lab, Department of Linguistics, University of Rochester.	03/2025
Adeleke, L.A. 2025. "Negation in Uhami". Presented at the Field Syntax Lab, Department of Linguistics, University of Rochester.	02/2025
Adeleke, L.A. 2019. "Linguistic Landscape of Ijero Local Government of Ekiti State". Presented at the Department of Linguistics and Languages, Adekunle Ajasin University.	2019
Adeleke, L.A. 2019. "Pragmatic Analysis of Inscriptions on vehicles in Ibadan". Paper Presented at the 2nd National Universities Linguistics Students' Annual Conference, held at University of Lagos Nigeria.	2019
Adeleke, L. Simeon, O. 2019. "Pragmatic Functions of Rhetorical Questions in Efunroye Tinubu." 2nd National Universities Linguistics Students' Annual Conference, University of Lagos.	2019

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CERTIFICATIONS

Language Documentation and Archiving Training, Berlin, Germany <i>Participated in the 2025 ELDP Training by the Endangered Languages Documentation Programme.</i>	06/2025
Certified Participant, Summer School in Language Science and Technology, Warsaw, Poland  Completed courses in Phonetics and Speech Technology and Natural Language Processing , earning 3.5 ECTS	2024
Introduction to Programming with python <i>Via edu</i>	2024
NLP- Natural Language Processing with Python <i>Via Udemy</i>	2024
TESOL and TPRS Course (For Language Teachers) <i>Via Udemy</i>	2022
The Melody of English <i>Via Udemy</i>	2022
The Python Programming <i>Via Udemy</i>	2022

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Editor-in-Chief <i>Dailyinsiderng</i> 	02/2023 – 08/2023
Office Assistant, Vice-Chancellor's office, Obafemi Awolowo University	01/2022 – 11/2022

LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

Team Lead, Daily Insider	2023
General Secretary, Okeogun People's Award <i>Progressive Movement of Okeogun</i>	2021 – 08/2023
Financial Secretary <i>Muslim Corpers Association of Nigeria</i>	2021 – 2022
Director, Tutorial Committee <i>National Association of Linguistics and Languages Students, Adekunle Ajasin University</i>	2018 – 2019
Student Ambassador <i>Poets in Nigeria Initiative</i>	2018 – 2019

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, Organizing Committee, Semantics and Linguistic Theory (SALT34), University of Rochester.	2024
Member, Linguistic Society of America (LSA)	2024 – present
Member, Association of Contemporary African Linguistics	2023 – present
Member, Pragmatic Association of Nigeria	2022 – present
Member, International Association for Translation and Intercultural Studies	2022 – present
Member, International Pragmatic Association	2022 – present
Member, Africa English Language Teacher Association	2022 – present

SKILLS

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming: Python.

Annotation: ELAN, FLex, Praat.

Typesetting: LaTeX, Word, Excel, PowerPoint.

Corpus Tools: Antconc, Search Engine.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Yoruba: Native Speaker.

English: Bilingual Proficiency.

Nigerian Pidgin: Native Speaker.