

# RAYMON K. AWADZI

Email: [rawad003@fiu.edu](mailto:rawad003@fiu.edu) | Tel. 7866163941 | Department of Global & Sociocultural Studies,  
Florida International University (FIU) SIPA 11200 S.W. 8th Street Miami, Florida 33199.

## SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATION

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- **PhD Sociocultural Anthropology**
  - Africa and African Diaspora Studies
  - African History (Precolonial, Colonial and Post-colonial)
  - Ethnicities, and transcultural and transnational Social Formations
  - Identity Politics at Local and Global Level
- **MA Global and Sociocultural Studies**
  - Globalization and African Development
  - African Diaspora and Development initiatives
  - Social Transformation in American Societies
- **MPhil and MA Religious Studies**
  - African Indigenous Religions
  - Religions in the African Diaspora
  - Church History and Christian Missions
  - Religion and State Interface
  - Studies in World Religions

## EDUCATION

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- PhD, Anthropology, Florida International University, to be complete by Spring 2025.  
  
Dissertation Title: “Ewe Networks of West African Diaspora in North America: Ethno-Re-Genesis Reaching Postcolonial Africa”  
Committee: Jean M. Rahier (Advisor), Benjamin Smith, Andrea Queeley, Albert Wuaku.
- MA, Global Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University, Miami, Summer 2023.
- MA, Religious Studies, Florida International University, Miami, Spring 2016.
- MPhil, Study of Religions, University of Ghana, Legon, June 2011.
- BA, Study of Religions and Political Science, University of Ghana, Legon, June 2008.
- Certificate, Career Development Program (Counselling and Placement Centre), University of Ghana, Legon, May 2008.
- Intermediate Certificate, Computer Training Program (ICT Directorate), University of Ghana, Legon, May 2008.

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- **Adjunct Professor**, Religious Studies Department, Florida International University, Miami, Fall, 2016- Date.
  - Taught two undergraduate courses and engaged in all other responsibilities the lectureship position required.
- **Examiner and Ewe Language Consultant**, Boston College, Massachusetts, Spring 2022.
  - I examine students' proficiency in foreign Languages (Ewe and Ge)
- **Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant**, Department of Global Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University, Miami, Spring, 2018- Fall, 2022.
  - Assist assigned professor in grading student research papers and other teaching duties.
- **Teaching and Research Assistant**, Religious Studies Department, Florida International University, Miami, Fall, 2014 - Spring, 2016.
  - Graded Student Research Papers and Taught Class in the absence of the main professor.
- **Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant**, Dept. for the Study of Religions, University of Ghana, Legon, 2011/12 Academic Year.
  - Organized tutorials for level 200 students in "Introduction to Philosophy of Religion" and "Introduction to Ethical Theories and Religious Ethical System."
  - Assisted assigned lecturer in grading and assigned teaching duties.
- **Graduate Assistant**, Dept. for the Study of Religions University of Ghana, Legon, 2010/11 Academic Year.
  - Organized tutorials for level 200 students in "Introduction to Philosophy of Religion" and "Introduction to Ethical Theories and Religious Ethical Systems".
  - Assisted my lecturer in assigned research duties.
- **Assistant Examiner**, West African Examination Council, 2009-2014.
  - Marking 'Social Studies' and 'Christian Religious Studies' at BECE and WASSCE levels respectively.

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING FOCUS

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- Awadzi's research and teaching focus on transnational and transcultural networking in the African diaspora, globalization and transnational cultures, identity politics in local and global contexts, using theoretical and conceptual paradigms that employs historical knowledge (cultural and collective memory) to evoke rethinking and rewriting dominant narratives to accelerate freedoms for societal development. His research and teaching addresses issues relating to topics such as ethnicity, race and identity politics in colonial and post-independent Africa, Africa and African diaspora, diaspora and development, African history, transcultural and transnational social formation, and networking in Americas and beyond, religions in Africa and its diaspora, from the perspectives of postcoloniality, agency, intersectionality, ethnogenesis, invention of traditions, and related sociocultural theories.

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### PUBLICATIONS

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- Witkowski, Kaila, *et al.* 2021. "Miami in Transformation during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Participatory Visual Culture Analysis" *eTropics. 20.1 Special Issue: Pandemic, Plague, Pestilence and the Tropics.*
- Awadzi, Raymond K. 2016. "Entrenching African Pentecostalism in the United States of America: A Study of a Ghanaian Founded Charismatic Church in South Florida" *FIU Electronic Theses and Dissertations. 2475.* [https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/etd/2475.](https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/etd/2475)
- Awadzi, Raymond. 2011. "From Syncretism to Inculturation: Changing Approaches to African Indigenous Cultural Elements in the African Instituted Churches - the case of Apostles Revelation Society, *MPhil Thesis*, University of Ghana, Legon-Accra.
- Awadzi, Raymond. (Forthcoming) "Towards Afrocentric Discourse on African Indigenous Religious" *Journal of Africana Religions.*
- Awadzi, Raymond. (Forthcoming) "Rethinking the Agency of South-South Alliance: The Case of China Africa Cooperation" Macmillan, NY.

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- **Presenter**, November 18-20, 2021. "Under the Emperor's Watch: Combatting the Epidemic amidst a Pandemic-Governmentality Revisited," *AAA 2021 Annual Meeting, Baltimore.*
- **Co-Presenter**, *COVID-19 beyond Borders: Rethinking Medical Humanities at the Frontlines.* Vienna, Austria, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
  - Researched and presented on the topic "Lenses of Compassion: Exploring the COVID-19 Pandemic Through Participatory Photographs Across Borders,"
- **Panelist**, *10<sup>th</sup> Annual SAGGSA Conference*, Florida International University, Miami, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
  - Presented research findings on "Greetings, Covidians: Participatory Visual Analyses of Vulnerabilities and Transformation amidst COVID-19 in Miami" People's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in South Florida.
- **Presenter**, International Studies Association Conference, Accra, Ghana, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.
  - Researched and presented a paper on the topic "Towards Repositioning Agency of the Global South: Rethinking the National Agenda."

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- **Presenter**, Transnational Futures: (Re)Imagining Diaspora, Borders, and politics, University of Miami, Miami, (Feb. 22. 2019).
  - Researched and presented a paper on “Voodoo Reinforcement: Transnational and Transcultural Connection between West Africa and the African Diaspora.”
- **Presenter**, *8th Annual SAGGSA Graduate Student Conference* – Florida International University, Miami, (March 1, 2019).
  - Researched and presented a paper on “Confronting Violence and Hostilities in Multiple Diaspora Spaces: Living Vodou in American Cities.”
- **Presenter**, Graduate Student Appreciation Week (GSAW) Scholarly Forum, Florida International University, Spring, 2016.
  - Researched and presented a paper on the “Impact of Immigration on the Religious Landscape of America: A Case for Teaching Religious Subjects.”
- **Presenter**, Michigan State University Graduate Student Research Conference on Migration, “*Migration without Boundaries*,” Lansing, Michigan, October 2015.
  - Researched and presented a paper on the “Impact of Immigration on the Religious Landscape of America: A Case for Teaching Religious Subjects.”
- **Presenter**, Zygon Center for Religions and Science Conference, Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago, February 27, 2015.
  - Researched and presented a paper on Ghanaian Religious Bodies and their Response to the Impact of Illegal Gold Mining on the lives of Ghanaian mining communities.
- **Presenter**, 10<sup>th</sup> Faculty of Arts Annual Colloquium University of Ghana, Legon, April 18, 2012.
  - Researched and presented a paper on “Religion and Politics in Ghana’s Fourth Republic.”

## SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

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- Provost Tuition Waiver Scholarship – Florida International University (**\$7000**) Fall 2022 and Spring 2023.
- The Graduate & Professional Student Committee – Florida International University: Travel Grant for Field Research, Houston, TX (**\$732**), Fall 2022.
- Graduate Research/Teaching Assistantship, Spring 2018-Fall 2021.
- Provost Research Award, Florida International University, (**\$200**), Spring 2016.

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- The Graduate & Professional Student Committee – Florida International University: Travel Grant to participate in Academic Conference, Lansing MI (\$485), Fall 2015.
- Graduate Research/Teaching Assistantship, Fall 2014- Spring 2016.
- Member, American Anthropological Associations (AAA), 2018-Date.
- Member, American Association of Religions (AAR), 2015-Date.
- Member, Theta Alpha Kappa (TAK), 2016-Date.
- Member, Golden Key International Honor Society, 2015-Date.

### SKILL

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- Designs Interdisciplinary Oriented and Innovative Curriculum.
- Zotero research data and reference management (RefWorks)
- (NVIVO) data analysis and management software.
- Photo-voice; community-based participatory research methodologies.
- Excellent verbal and written communication.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EXTRACURRICULAR SERVICES

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- **Youth Coordinator:** United Ghanaian Associations of South Florida, January 2016 – December 2018.
  - Coordinated educational and socialization programs for Ghanaian youth in South Florida.
  - Coordinated activities during the commemoration of Ghana's 60<sup>th</sup> and 61<sup>st</sup> Independence Day.
- **Volunteer:** Feeding South Florida, June 2018 – December 2020.
  - Help management of Feeding South Florida to organize relief items for vulnerable communities in South Florida.
- **Lay-Preacher and Bible Class Teacher:** Riverside Baptist Church Miami, Florida Summer 2017-Date

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### **REFERENCE**

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- Dr. Jean M. Rahier  
Professor of Anthropology and African & African Diaspora Studies  
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11200 S.W. 8th Street  
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- Albert Wuaku  
Associate Professor  
Department of Religious Studies  
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- Andrea J. Queeley  
Associate Professor of Anthropology  
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