ADAM PFAU
PH. D CANDIDATE

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

PHD IN SECOND LANGUAGE STUDIES
[2020-EXPECTED GRADUATION SPRING 2024]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
Currently completing a PhD in Second Language Studies with a focus on data-driven learning, computer assisted language learning (CALL), assessing language learning technology and user experience, and corpus linguistics. Working on a dissertation (P.I.: Dr. Charlene Polio) centered around the construction and implementation of online data-driven learning modules for Chinese EFL learners' academic English, and learners' user experiences when engaging with them. **GPA: 4.0**

M.A. IN TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEARKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (TESOL)
[2018-2020]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
This included working on a M.A. thesis research project (supervised by Dr. Debra Hardison and Dr. Sandra Deshors) that aimed to re-examine the idea of functional load by looking at English raters' perception of Japanese speech and comparing that data to corpus data that was analyzed with a phonological corpus software tool set. **GPA: 4.0**

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY
[2020-2023]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
Completed simultaneously while doing my Ph.D. This included graduate coursework related to K-12 educational technology, which I used to focus on technology for language learning. **GPA: 4.0**

B.A. IN HISTORY EDUCATION (SECONDARY EDUCATION)
[2014-2017]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
This involved all the required coursework to be certified to teach (secondary) Social Studies in the state of Michigan. **GPA: 3.7**

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B.A. IN ENGLISH
[2009-2014]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
This included a minor in religious studies. GPA: 3.7

EXPERIENCE

T.A. INSTRUCTOR
[2023-PRESENT]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
I am currently teaching the undergraduate course, LLT 346: Pedagogical Grammar, required for Teacher Education students pursuing a TESOL Minor. Duties include instructing class sessions, grading assignments, and managing online course materials.

MSU GRADUATE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP FELLOWS
[2023-PRESENT]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
Engage in workshops related to campus leadership and develop (and implement) a leadership project designed to address a certain issue, or population, at MSU's campus.

WRITING CENTER CONSULTANT
[2020-PRESENT]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
Work involves assisting university students with their writing projects as a consultant, facilitating writing groups, as well as serving on the Writing Center's Media and Technology Team to assist in updating website content and creating promotional materials.

COLLEGES ONLINE LEARNING ACADEMY (COLA)
[2023]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
Engage in projects related to digital teaching and learning, with a focus on mentorship, peer review, and collaborative work on digital teaching practices.

GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT (T.A.)
[2022-2023]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
I taught three sections of the under-graduate course, IAH 206: Self, Society, and Technology, during the Fall 2022 and Spring

2023 semesters. Duties included instructing class sessions, grading assignments, and managing online course materials.

GRADUATE WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT/SOCIAL MEDIA ASSISTANT
[2019-2022]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
This involved working closely with college faculty to develop and maintain department websites (MSU's TESOL and SLS pages). I oversaw creating visual content, video editing, maintaining the website itself, updating its code, and updating student information.

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT
[2019-2022]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
This work involved assisting faculty on research projects and papers related to technology and language learning and assisting with workshops for introducing different software to students. This work also involved being a lab personnel member for **MSU's Second Language Studies' Corpus Linguistics Lab**. I am involved in helping arrange events for the lab, managing the lab's social media presence and membership, and designing and updating the lab's website.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TESOL M.A. PROGRAM
[2019-2020]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
Involved canvassing student concerns or questions and then presenting them to the faculty during faculty meetings. This also included relaying information from those meetings to the other students.

EPIC ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR
[2018 & 2019]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
Work involved serving as one of four teachers in a team-taught English language program for residents around the East Lansing area. The program focused on teaching language through practical task-based lessons and (in 2019) was taught entirely online using digital language learning practices and Zoom class sessions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

MSU TESTING OFFICE
[2019]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
Work involved assessing and evaluating large batches of written essays from prospective international students.

BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CHILDCARE AID ASSISTANT
[2017-2018]
OKEMOS, MI
Work involved assisting the Lead Teacher in different Before/After school programs at various elementary schools in the Okemos area.

VETP (VOLUNTEER ENGLISH TUTORING PROGRAM) TUTOR
[2014-2015 & 2017]
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI
Service involved tutoring International MSU students in conversational English, grammar, and American culture. This involved both one-on-one instruction, and small class sessions.

EAST LANSING HIGH SCHOOL/MACDONALD MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT TEACHER
[2015-2017]
EAST LANSING PUBLIC SCHOOLS, EAST LANSING, MI
Three years of field placement that involved working with Secondary Education teachers to guide classroom activities, develop teaching material, and assist with the daily classroom operations.

PRESENTATIONS/WORKSHOPS/TALKS

(2023, UPCOMING) UNIVERSITY OF BAMAKO (MALI, WEST AFRICA)
Will present an invited (virtual) talk on digital teaching practices and digitalization in research.

(2023, UPCOMING) TSLL 2023 (IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY)
Will present my work, alongside co-author Dr. Charlene Polio, centered on using ChatGPT to assess writing accuracy.

(2023) TESOL CONFERENCE (PORTLAND, OREGON)
Presented my research project, Construction and Implementation of Data-Driven Learning Modules for Hedging.

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(2023) SECOND LANGAGE STUDIES SYMPOSIUM (EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN)
Presented my research project, Construction and Implementation of Data-Driven Learning Modules for Hedging.

(2022) UNIVERSITY OF BAMAKO (MALI, WEST AFRICA)
Presented an invited (virtual) talk, and workshop, on developing academic posters for conference presentations.

(2021) ANTCONC WORKSHOP (EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN)
Presented a workshop for a corpus software, AntConc, to MA TESOL students in MSU's LLT 809 course.

RECENT AWARDS

MSU Dissertation Funds (2023) - a fellowship awarded to compensate participants in my dissertation research.

MSU Graduate School Leadership Fellowship (2023) - a fellowship to develop my leadership skills while creating (and implementing) a project designed to address a certain issue at MSU's campus.

MSU Colleges' Online Learning Academy (COLA) Summer Fellowship (2023) - a fellowship to work on collaborative projects related to digital teaching and learning, with a focus on mentorship, peer review, and digital teaching practices.

TASK Ed GA Fellowship (2023) - a fellowship given to assist with MSU's "Child Second Language Learning" course. I helped develop pedagogic materials and maintain the online component of the course.

Social Media/Journalism Fellowship (2022) - a fellowship given from MSU's LiLaC department for online news stories/blog posts I developed and published for them as part of their social media outreach.

"Seasons of Graditude" Award (2021) – the Graduate School at MSU held "a contest to hear inspiring stories about graduate students" as nominated by a faculty member, and my story was voted as one of the winners. The prize included fellowship money, and money sent to the department.

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MSU Dean Choice Grant - a scholarship given for a website I developed that was related to the experiential education opportunities I pursued at local high schools.

MSUFCU Book List Grant Award – a prize I won from the College of Education for creating a project based on classroom "book lists".

Ramadan Unity Essay Award – a prize I won for scoring 1st place in an essay contest for all local university/Secondary Education students centered around the topic of "feeding the hungry".

The Nye Prize in American History - a scholarship for an essay I wrote relating to the themes of American history/culture.

The Dean's Honor List for academic achievement, consistently awarded during my time at MSU.

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

Using an AI program to assess L2 writing accuracy for research purposes (Pfau, Polio, & Xu, under review)

Construction and Implementation of Data-Driven Learning Modules for Hedging (Pfau, in progress)

A comparative study of hedges across Asian learner English: a corpus-based approach (Pfau & Pham, in progress)

A Research Synthesis on the Accuracy and Usefulness of Automated Writing Evaluation Tools (Pfau & Pham, in progress)