

# MERCHADES METHOD RUTECHURA

African and Middle Eastern Languages & Literatures  
Stanford Language Center  
Building 240, Room 211  
Stanford CA, 94305

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## FORMAL EDUCATION

- M.A. (African Languages and Literature), August 2007–May 2009; University of Wisconsin-Madison, U.S.A. (“Evolution and survival of the *ebyebugo* tradition among the Haya: From-pre-colonial times to the present”).
- B.A. Education (Kiswahili and English), June 2002 - June 2006; University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- Advanced Certificate of Secondary School Education (Kiswahili, English and French), 1999- 2001: Milambo High School, Tabora, Tanzania.
- Certificate of Secondary School Education, 1995 -1998: Ihungo Secondary School, Bukoba, Tanzania.

## CAREER PROFILE

- Excellent communication skills.
- An active listener, presentations, and motivator.
- Strong background in meditation, facilitation and rehabilitation.
- Extreme adaptable, works well in multicultural groups or independently.
- Flexible with multi-task management skills.
- Speaks fluently Swahili, English, Haya, and some French.

## EMPLOYMENT AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Lecturer:** Swahili Language and Literature. Division of African and Middle Eastern Languages, Stanford Language Center, Stanford University; September 2009 to present.  
**Duties:** Teaching five Swahili language Courses, starting with AMELANG 106A, 106B and 106C: Beginning Swahili.
- **Teaching Assistant:** AF 201: Introduction of African Languages and Literature. Department of African Languages and Literature, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Fall 2008 semester.  
**Duties:** Attending 2 lectures per week and leading 3 designated discussion sections (54 students) each week, grading student papers, and carrying out other duties as expected of a Comm. B teaching assistant.
- **Project Assistant:** National African Languages Resource Center (NALRC);

University of Wisconsin - Madison; Fall 2007 – Spring 2008.

**Duties:** Writing English – Swahili, Swahili - English Pocket dictionary for American students of Swahili, maintaining administrative duties assigned by Supervisor e.g. inventorying, answering to phone calls and acting as a resource person for matters related to Swahili language and culture at the center.

- **Foreign Language Teaching Assistant:** University of Wisconsin-Madison, January - May 2007.  
**Duties:** Teaching Swahili, leading conversation groups, tutoring, supervising language tables/events and occasional lectures and acting as a resource person for the students' interest in the study of the Swahili language and culture of Tanzania.
- **Foreign Language Teaching Assistant:** World Learning: School for International Training, Brattleboro, VT. August - Dec. 2006.  
**Duties:** Teaching Swahili and Tanzanian Culture as a Fulbright Scholar, supervising language tables/events and occasional lectures and acting as a resource person for the students' interest in the study of the Swahili language and culture of Tanzania.
- **Tutor of Communication Skills:** Royal College of Tanzania; January – Aug. 2006.  
**Duties:** Developing communication skills course materials, conducting classes for students of journalism and providing other instructional works to develop and improve students' English proficiency. Grading students' examinations, devising the English curriculum for the college and overseeing the running of the Communication Skills Unit at the college.
- **Student-Teacher:** Teaching Practicum: Pandahill High School; June – August 2005.  
**Duties:** Teaching English and Swahili to High School and ordinary level students.
- **Student-Teacher:** Teaching Practicum: Ihungo Secondary School; June - August, 2004.  
**Duties:** Teaching English and Swahili to Secondary School students.
- **English Teacher:** Amani Boarding English Medium Primary School; January - June 2001.  
**Duties:** Teaching English and Swahili to elementary school pupils.
- **Volunteer Teacher:** Metro Education Program; June - November 1999.  
**Duties:** Teaching English and Swahili to adult primary school teachers upgrading to qualify as ordinary secondary school leavers.

#### **WORKSHOPS AND INSTITUTES ATTENDED**

- Chairing session: ALTA/NCOLCTL 2008 Conference: " LCTLs and Globalization: Challenges, Expectations and Possibilities" Madison, Wisconsin,

April 24<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

- Chairing session: NCOLCTL 2007 Conference: "Professional Horizons in the LCTLs: Reality and Promise" Madison, Wisconsin, April 26<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup>, 2007.
- Summer Institute 2007: Second Language Acquisition Certificate Program for African Language Instructors: Organized by National African Languages Resource Center University of Wisconsin - Madison, May 29<sup>th</sup> - June 8 2007.
- Chairing session: NCOLCTL 2007 Conference: "Professional Horizons in LCTLs: Reality and Promise" Madison, Wisconsin, April 26<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup>, 2007.
- Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship; Washington D.C. December 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006. "The Teaching of Foreign Language in the U.S.A".
- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL): "Discover the Languages Discover the World": Nashville, Tennessee November 16<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup>, 2006.
- "Cross - Cultural Management and Learning": SIT, Brattleboro, VT. Sept. 2006.
- Pre-Departure Workshop "Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship": Cairo, Egypt July 2006.

#### **OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE PROFESSION**

- Teaching Swahili to university students who plan to go to East Africa for summer study abroad programs as well as community members who plan to go to East Africa as volunteers.
- Proctor for Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA) University of Wisconsin-Madison February 8, 2008.
- Assisting in Presentation on "Khangas: An Amazing Swahili Cloth" at the World Languages Day: April 22, 2007; University of Wisconsin - Madison February 7, 2007.
- Presentation on "Tanzania: Her History and Economic Activities"; Sun Prairies High School: Madison-Wisconsin April 7, 2007.
- Presentation on "Tanzania Story Telling and Songs", at Cottage Grove School; Madison - Wisconsin February 7, 2007.

#### **COMPUTER SKILLS**

Good working knowledge of computer applications such as: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, Email and Internet.

#### **HOBBIES:**

- Learning and teaching languages; reading and writing Swahili novels, short stories as well as plays; playing soccer, swimming, traveling, listening to music, meeting and talking to people and watching movies.

## REFERENCES:

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