

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Educational Technology
Extended Reality (VR, AR, MR) for Education
Instructional/Learning Design
Learning Sciences

EDUCATION

PhD Student in Interdisciplinary Design and Media 2025-
College of Arts, Media and Design
Northeastern University

MSc in International Relations and Diplomacy (GPA 4.92/5.00) 2019
Department of International Relations and Diplomacy
Afe Babalola University, Nigeria
Thesis: Cross-Border Prostitution and Nigeria's National Image
Thesis Supervisor: Dr Ajinde Oluwashakin

BSc in International Relations and Diplomacy (GPA 4.85/5.00) 2015
Department of International Relations and Diplomacy
Afe Babalola University, Nigeria
Thesis: United Nations Security Council and Chemical Inspection: Case of Syria
Thesis Supervisor: Dr Tayo Oke

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant | Extended Reality Education Lab Sept. 2025-
Northeastern University PhD Student

Education/Immersive Tech Researcher | Remote Nov. 2024 -Sept. 2025
Independent and Pre-doctoral research

- Consulting on the start of a research lab at the intersection of extended realities(XR), education, and policy.
- Conceptualising stealth assessment for a VR escape room to evaluate cognitive reflexivity in problem-solving among learners.
- Researching how immersive environments impact decision-making, user agency, and learning in high-pressure scenarios.
- Collaborating with other researchers to research and write empirical journal articles, currently under peer review
- Curriculum development for online learning platforms for teacher training

Research Project Administrator | Virtual Human-Computer Interaction Lab
Templeton World Charity Foundation grant (\$233,918.83) August 2022 - Oct 2024
"Teaching Children Empathy and Compassion through Virtual Reality Games."

Meta (former Facebook) grant (\$500,000.00) November 2022 - Oct 2024
"Identity & Ethnic Discrimination in Africa: from VR Perspective-taking to Action"

- Maintained institutional compliance, including documentation, for studies (signed consent forms, etc.)
- Wrote and reviewed drafts of abstracts, syllabi, manuscripts, grants, posters, assure timely submission, and edits abstracts and manuscripts
- Organised a game jam for secondary school students, including a Virtual Reality game conceptualization and design process
- Gathered data from the research subject
- Randomization of collected data

- Moderated focus group discussions at the study location
- Quantitative analysis of data (using R)

Administrative Responsibilities

- Coordinated completion of research projects – assigned tasks to research assistants, sets deadlines, and monitored progress
- Assisted with screening/interviewing/hiring of new research personnel and supervised their work
- Provided administrative support for PI's research and teaching activities, including travel arrangements, CV updates, and student management
- Maintained database for research projects
- Organized research team meetings, including conference calls and video conferences—responsible for scheduling, room reservation, and IT arrangements.
- Maintained the line of communication with external partners, stakeholders and collaborators
- Prepared and maintains regulatory approvals for research projects
- Coordinated new staff onboarding and training.

Graduate student | Afe Babalola University, Nigeria

2017-2019

Cross-Border Prostitution and Nigeria's National Image

- Collected primary and secondary data
- Conducted key informant interviews
- Coded and analysed data using a content analysis approach

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University Lecturer II | Afe Babalola University, Nigeria

Nov 2020 - Aug 2022

Taught over 300 undergraduate students with a 95 percent pass rate. Courses taught include Introduction to International Relations and Diplomacy, Structure of International Society, Asia in World Politics, etc. Supervised ten undergraduate theses, with the majority achieving A and B grades.

Academic/Administrative Responsibilities

- Examination supervision for undergraduate and postgraduate students, College of Social and Management Sciences.
- Programme Examination Officer.
- Collation of examination results.
- Department Timetable Officer
- Member, College timetable committee
- Supervision of undergraduate research dissertations.
- Department Financial officer
- Advisor, Library and Debating Society
- Member, ABUAD Blood Donors
- Student Advisor

Graduate Assistant | Afe Babalola University, Nigeria

April 2017– Nov 2020

- Coordinated tutorials for 100-400 level students.
- Grading of scripts of about 100 students per course.
- Organise seminar presentations for courses with Senior Lecturers.
- Co-taught at least two courses every semester, including Developmental Problems of Third World, Foreign Policy, Nigerian Politics, etc.
- Co-supervised six undergraduate theses.

English Instructor | Triumphant Divine Academy, Nigeria

Nov 2016-March 2017

- Taught 6-10 years old English language
- Grade 2 Classroom teacher

Teacher | Royal Kidz Castle Montessori Schools, Nigeria

Oct 2015 - Oct 2016

- Taught 6-12 years old English language, Social Studies and Civic Education
- Conduct tests and exams
- Marking and recording scripts

- Program planning and management
- Secretarial duties

PUBLICATIONS

Ohu, E. A., Schrier, K., Lansford, J., Emami, C., Alugo, M., Babatunde, A., Bodunde, I. J., **Olominu, O.**, Odumbo, D., Adetunji, S., Ogbitse, A., Okonkwo, J., & Anifowose, P. (2026). Virtual reality's promise in fostering empathy and compassion: Mode-specific interventions for adolescents facing ethnic discrimination. *Technology, Mind, and Behavior*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.10.1037/tmb0000199>

Ohu, E.A., **Olarinde, O.**, Adetunji, T. S., Ogbitse, A., and Odumbo, D (2026). "VR Builds Lasting Empathy & Compassion: Observation Edges Embodiment in Adolescents," 2026 IEEE Conference on Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces Abstracts and Workshops (VRW), Daegu, Korea, Republic of, 2026, pp. 547-550, doi: 10.1109/VRW70859.2026.00105.

Ohu, E., Schrier, K., Emami, C., Alugo, M., Babatunde, E., Bodunde, I., **Olominu, O.**, Odumbo D., Adetunji, S., Ogbitse, A., Lansford, J. E., Okonkwo, J (2025) "Virtual Reality Game Jam as a Character Development Tool in and beyond the Classroom" <https://doi.10.1080/15427609.2025.2524299>

Olominu, O. (2020) "Debunking the Third World Narrative: Africa in Global Politics", KUJUA Journal of African Studies Vol 1 (1/2), PP. 11-25.

Olominu, O. (2020) "Gender Perspective of Migration Experience", Journal of Contemporary International Relations and Diplomacy (JCIRD) Vol 1 (1), PP. 71-82. <https://doi.org/10.53982/jcird>

Osondu-Oti, A. and **Olominu, T.** (2018) "Breaking the Glass Ceiling for Nigerian Women Participation in Politics: A Gender Mainstreaming Approach", EPRA International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research (IJMR) Vol.4 (12), PP. 173-181. ISSN (Online): 2455-3662

Olominu, T. (2018) "Big Brother Country, Rubbished Citizens?" Regional Membership, Nigeria and Nigerians" In Ademowo. A.J & Balogun, N.O (Eds.) *Musings on Culture, History and Nigerian Peoples* (pp. 237-248). Ibadan: Tic-Tae-Toe Consulting

Olominu, T. (2018). "Youth education, Unemployment, and Entrepreneurship: Pointers for Achieving SDG 8", *Young African Journal of Development (YALJOD)* Vol.2, PP. 36-42 <https://doi.10.32727/24.2018.34>

Adesanya, O. P., and **Olominu, T.** (2017). "Fugitive Youth and Transnational Terrorism: The Nigerian/Cameroonian Perspectives", *SOCRATES*, Vol 5 (2), PP. 57-73 <https://doi.org/10.5958/2347-6869.2017.00014.0>

PAPER/POSTER PRESENTATION

Olarinde, O. (2026) Bridging Pedagogical Reporting Gap in Educational VR Research, MeaningfulXR Conference 2026

Olarinde, O. (2025). "Where is the Pedagogy?": Checking pedagogical considerations in Educational Virtual Reality Experience. Northeastern University

Olarinde, O., Eileen McGivney, Erica Kleinman, Fiona Shyne, Kaylah Facey, Seth Cooper, & Casper Harteveld. "Reflecting in-action: Improving learning in Extended Reality with AI-empowered Reflection" Connected Learning Summit (CLS)

Olominu, O (2019). Cross-border Prostitution and Nigeria's National Image. Redeemer's University Postgraduate Conference: Inter-disciplinarity and Methodical Issues in Postgraduate Studies and Research (May 27th-28th, 2019)

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

MeaningfulXR Conference 2026, University of Oregon, Portland. (May 30-31, 2026)

Play, Interaction, and Learning Conference: Critical Play, Syracuse University School of Education (March 21st, 2026)

Games for Good, Clark University (November 22-23, 2025)

Connected Learning Summit, MIT Campus (October 5-10, 2025)

Africa GICD Conference 2023, Nairobi, Kenya (October 4th - 6th, 2023)

International Relations and Diplomacy Virtual Conference: COVID-19 Pandemic and the Future of International Relations (Afe Babalola University, July 15th -16th 2020)

Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)/ University of Ibadan International Workshop on developing the next generation of researchers. (April 2-4, 2019)

Redeemer's University Postgraduate Conference: Inter-disciplinarity and Methodical Issues in Postgraduate Studies and Research (May 27th-28th, 2019)

Workshop on Cybersecurity: 'The Holistic Perspective Imperative for Cybersecurity Resilience and Survivability' (Afe Babalola University 25th-26th September 2017)

Conference on One-Health Approach And SDGs In Nigeria (Afe Babalola University, November 16-18, 2017)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING

Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research CITI Program Course December 2025

Human Subjects Research CITI Program Course December 2025

Contextualising Character Constructs and Measures facilitated by Dr Jennifer Brown, Montclair State University, 4th October, 2023

Using theories of Change to communicate with Stakeholders and Funders facilitated by Jane Buckley, JCB Consulting, 5th October 2023

Evolving Mixed Methods Research with NVivo Facilitated by Jane Elliot, University of Exeter, 16th February 2023

Global Virtual Teams Training, Global Network for Advanced Management 20 January - 28 February 2023

Qualitative Data Analysis Beyond Templates – How to make your Analytic Approaches Adaptable and Relevant, Facilitated by Dr. Tine Koehler, University of Melbourne CARMA, Texas Tech University, 16th September 2022

Tips and Tricks for Publishing Qualitative Research: An Editor's Perspective, Facilitated by Dr. Tima Bansal, CARMA, Texas Tech University

Rethinking the Qualitative Research Methods Section, Facilitated by Dr. Mike Pratt, CARMA, Texas Tech University

Research Methods Issues in Academic-Practitioner Collaborative Research, facilitated by Dr. Jean Bartunek, CARMA, Texas Tech University

Insufficient Effort Responding, facilitated by Dr. Huang CARMA, Texas Tech University, 28th October, 2022

Statistics with R training facilitated by Dr Francis Okoye, Lagos Business School 31 August - 2 Sept 2022

Developing the Next Generation of Researchers workshop. Organised by The Association of Commonwealth Universities. (April 2-4, 2019)

Reviewer

CHI '26 Poster Presentations - Learning, Games, Virtual Reality

Games for Change 2026 Juror -Social Impact Games

Professional Affiliations

Member, Young Talents Programme (YTP), Lagos Business School, Nigeria

Community Member, Lagos Studies Association

AWARDS AND HONOURS

2015 International Relations Students Association (IRSA) Award for Academic Excellence
2014 International Relations Students Association (IRSA) Award for Academic Excellence
2013 Pioneer Treasurer, International Relations Student Association (IRSA)
2012, 2013, 2014, Founder's Student Merit Award (Financial Award)

VOLUNTEERING/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Character Mentor for teenagers in Lagos State public secondary schools
Sunday School Teacher (Teens Church), Antioch Baptist Church, Ogbomoso, Nigeria
Teacher, Teens Church, Living Faith Church, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria
Team member, Maturity Unit, The Surge (Youth Ministry), The Elevation Church, Nigeria
Mentor, Teenz Nation Ministry, The Elevation Church, Nigeria