Paa Kwesi Amissah-Odoom

Ph.D. Candidate
Department of Economics
Texas Tech University

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EDUCATION

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas
Ph.D. in Economics (STEM) — May 2027 (Expected)

Texas Tech University , Lubbock, Texas
Master of Arts in Economics — Dec 2025

University of Clermont Auvergne (CERDI), Clermont-Ferrand, France
MSc. Development Economics (M1 & M2) — July 2022

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana
Bachelor of Arts in Economics — June 2018

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Labor Economics; Energy Economics; Development Economics; Health Economics; Applied Econometrics.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Job Market Paper

- **Industrial Energy Usage and Job Polarization in the United States.** [SSRN]
  Abstract: This paper examines the long-run relationship between energy use, employment by skill type, and, consequently, job polarization across industries in the United States. The study utilizes a panel dataset covering 49 industries from 2002 to 2023 and employs a panel ARDL model to estimate the long-run relationships between energy use and employment outcomes. This paper also adopts a Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) model to simulate how external energy price shocks affect job polarization in the U.S. labor market. The findings indicate that changes in energy use have stronger long-run effects on middle-paid employment than on low-paid and high-paid employment. However, this relationship differs between energy-intensive and less energy-intensive industries, highlighting important heterogeneity in how industries adjust their labor demand to changes in energy conditions. The CGE simulation results further show how energy price shocks can reshape employment across the skill distribution and influence job polarization. These findings underscore the importance of strengthening workforce development, promoting energy efficiency, and providing appropriate social safety nets to mitigate labor market disruptions and support a more inclusive and resilient workforce.

Working Papers

- **Telehealth Expansion and Its Differential Wage Effects in the United States.** [SSRN]
  Abstract: This paper examines the impact of the expansion of private insurance coverage for telehealth following the CARES Act (2020) on the earnings of registered nurses (RNs) in the U.S. Using a panel dataset for 21 US states spanning from 2016 to 2023, while employing a Difference-in-Differences (DiD) approach to compare the differential hourly wage and annual wage outcomes of registered nurses between states that changed their requirements for private telehealth insurance and those that did not. The results show a significant increase in hourly and annual wages at the 25th percentile for the treated states compared to the control states, while no meaningful results were found at higher wage levels. These findings suggest that the expansion of telehealth not only improved healthcare access but also contributed to improving the welfare of healthcare providers.
- **The Effects of Internet Usage on Health Outcomes in Africa: A Short-Run and Long-Run Analysis.**
  Abstract: This paper examines the effects of internet usage and mobile subscriptions on health outcomes in 43 African countries from 2000 to 2022, while employing both panel ARDL and panel VAR models. The findings suggest that both internet usage and mobile subscriptions have long-term impacts on health outcomes in Africa. The impulse response functions suggest that the internet and mobile subscriptions have some instantaneous effects on life expectancy, highlighting the essential role of digital infrastructure in public health initiatives and, hence, the need to advocate for increased investments in digital access to improve health outcomes globally.

Work in Progress

- The Impact of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) on Labor Market Outcomes in the United States.
- The Impact of Social Media on Governance in Africa.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Economics, Texas Tech University 2022–Present

Graduate Part-Time Instructor

- ECO 2301 - Principles of Economics (undergraduate) Fall 2026

Teaching Assistant

- ECO 3302 - Intermediate Macroeconomics (undergraduate) Summer 2026
- ECO 2301 - Principles of Economics (undergraduate) Fall 2025, Spring 2026
- ECO 3327 - Antitrust Law and Economic Regulation (undergraduate) Spring 2025
- ECO 5311 - Macroeconomic Theory and Policy I (Ph.D.) Fall 2024
- ECO 3320 - Managerial Economics (undergraduate) Fall 2023, Spring 2024 & Summer 2024
- ECO 2301/2/5 - Principles of Economics (undergraduate) Fall 2022 & Spring 2023

Department of Economics, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology 2018–2019

Teaching Assistant

- Econ 467/468 - Labor Economics Semesters I & II
- Econ 253/254 - The Economy of Ghana Semesters I & II

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

United Kingdom Education Advisory Services (Now Intake Education), Kumasi, Ghana 2019–2020
Education Consultant (Intern)

- Assisting in organizing educational fairs for students who want to study abroad
- Reviewing resumes, research proposals, and personal statements of applicants
- Following up with students who attended the educational fairs
- Providing counseling to students concerning their preferred destination for studying abroad
- Assisting in organizing educational fairs for students who want to study abroad

World Vision International (VisionFund), Agona Swedru, Ghana 2018
Research Assistant (Intern)

- Conducting field research for data collection and analysis
- Collecting installments from clients on a weekly basis
- Assisting the Finance Officer

Ghana Revenue Authority, Agona Swedru, Ghana 2017
Research Assistant (Intern)

Facilitating tax collection from taxpayers

- Registering Taxpayers for the Taxpayers Identification Number (TIN)
- Educating taxpayers on tax payment and other tax-related issues
- Preparing monthly tax assessments for taxpayers

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE & PRESENTATIONS

- **3-Minute Thesis Competition**, Texas Tech University. (Presenter) 2026
  Paper Title: "Industrial Energy Usage and Job Polarization in the United States."
- **American Economic Association (AEA) Annual Meeting**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. (Presenter) 2026
  Paper Title: "The Effects of Internet Usage on Health Outcomes in Africa: A Short-Run and Long-Run Analysis"
- **Graduate Student Research Poster Presentation**, Texas Tech University. (Presenter) 2026
  Paper Title: "Telehealth Expansion and Its Differential Wage Effects in the United States."

- **The 2025 Arts & Humanities Graduate Student Research Conference**, Texas Tech University. (Presenter) 2025
  Paper Title: "Telehealth Expansion and Its Differential Wage Effects in the United States."
- **American Economic Association (AEA) Annual Meeting**, San Francisco, California. (Attendee) 2025
- **Graduate Student Research Poster Presentation**, Texas Tech University. (Judge) 2024

AWARDS AND HONORS

- **Graduate Assistantship**, Department of Economics, Texas Tech University 2022–Present
- **Graduate Student Research Support Award, Graduate School**, Texas Tech University 2026
- **Research Travel Grant, Department of Economics**, Texas Tech University 2025
- **French Government Scholarship (WOW! Master Fellowship)**, University of Clermont Auvergne 2020–2022
- **Students' Representative Council (SRC) Fund**, KNUST 2015–2018

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Statistical software: Stata, R, Python, SQL, LaTeX, Vensim

Methods: Panel Econometrics, CGE Modeling & Causal Inference

PROFESSIONAL BODIES

- American Economic Association (AEA) - Student Member
- European Economic Association (EEA) - Student Member
- African Finance and Economic Association (AFEA) - Student Member

REFERENCES

Professor Misak Avetisyan
Dissertation Committee Chair & Advisor
Texas Tech University
Department of Economics
misak.avetisyan@ttu.edu

Professor Xiaohan Ma
Dissertation Committee Member
Texas Tech University
Department of Economics
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