

Aleksandra Maria Adach

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Learning Sciences Research Institute
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Education

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

Doctor of Philosophy in Learning Sciences

2017 – present

Advisor: Joshua Radinsky, PhD

Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL

Master of Arts degree in Sociology

2014 – 2016

Advisor: Jessica Crowe, PhD

Master of Arts Thesis: “Why would you choose it?” – Exploring Culturally Motivated Life Choices Through In-depth Interviews with American University Students of Chinese Origin

Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin, Poland

Bachelor of Arts degree in Applied Linguistics (English – French)

2010 – 2014

Advisor: Jarosław Krajka, PhD

- Teaching, Translation, and Interpreting specializations
- 150 hours of teaching practicum (Elementary and Junior High School)

Bachelor of Arts Thesis: *The Use of Verbal and Non-verbal Communication in the EIL (English as an International Language) Environment*

Research Interests

- heritage language learning
- bilingual education
- language and identity
- narrative
- informal learning environments

Research Experience

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

MA Thesis Researcher

2015 – 2016

- Conducted interviews with nine international students from Mainland China as well as with four second-generation Chinese-American students.
- Asked the interviewees about life choices they recently made or will make in the near future.
- Questions focused around four areas: ethnic identity, study, work, and romantic relationships.
- Employed the constant comparative method to code emergent themes connected to the interplay between traditional cultural values and life choices of the respondents.

Research Assistant

- Catalogued and Transcribed videos of classroom observations in project READi (Reading, Evidence, and Argumentation in Disciplinary Instruction)
- Transcribe audio and video files of teachers' reflective interviews for TOD² project on teacher learning
- Assist in organizing Professional Development workshops for science teachers in ALPs project on NGSS-aligned 3-dimensional instruction and assessment
- Organize and transfer data

Teaching Experience

Polish Museum of America

Tour Guide, Chicago, IL,

09/2016 – 06/2017

- Through formal and informal guided tours of the Museum, utilized techniques of dialogue, inquiry, and storytelling to engage with visitors and to encourage exploration of the exhibits.
- Provided staff support during events held at the PMA, ensuring operations run smoothly and without incident.
- Provided guided tours to 300+ individual visitors and 20+ groups from schools and associations home and abroad

Berlitz

Part-time Polish/English Instructor, Cincinnati, OH, online

07/2016 – 06/2017

- Deliver curriculum of Polish and English in accordance with Berlitz teaching principles of prioritizing the interests and needs of students; work with students in one-on-one sessions as well as in group classes
- Demonstrate advanced learning, teaching, and communication skills by integrating learning technology into teaching programs, keeping student records and profiles up to date, and promoting a student-oriented and interactive approach in a diverse environment
- Completed systematic training of the Berlitz method and received excellent reviews from peer instructors, teaching managers, and students

Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC), Sociology Department

Teaching Assistant, Carbondale, IL

08/2014 – 05/2016

- Designed lesson plans and facilitated 2 weekly discussions in class and online for around 60 students per semester and received very positive feedback from students and the leading professor
- Coordinated group projects for students, mediated conflicts, and motivated students to take part in extracurricular activities and to seek meaning out of their college experience
- Collaborated with professors and fellow TAs in conducting Core Curriculum assessment, grading individual papers, and double-checking exam questions to ensure the learning outcomes of students and achievement of departmental goals
- Promoted diversity and inclusion of the Sociology Department by incorporating opinions and contributions from colleagues from a wide variety of cultural backgrounds and accommodated needs of students with disabilities

Tianjin International School

Teacher, Tianjin, China

07/2012 - 08/2012

- Performed administrative duties on a macro scale (including designing summer camp activities and curriculum for the whole project, conducting daily assessment of students' progress) with a team of 30+ people consisting of instructors from 7 countries and professors and administrators from local schools
- Managed a project team of instructors in designing specific lesson units, encouraging students' social communication skills, cross-cultural understanding, and creative expression, and ensuring students' safety during the training
- Implemented a teaching project for 2 groups of elementary school and middle school students and familiarized them with the operations of Model UN and discussed about important issues such as human rights, and climate change

Conference Presentations

- Learning Sciences Graduate Student Conference, Nashville, TN
Presentation title: Translanguaging and Productive Disciplinary Engagement
October, 2018

Service Experience

Learning Sciences Graduate Student Conference

Reviewer

**International Society of Learning Sciences (ISLS)
American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL)
International Association of Applied Linguistics (AILA)**

Member

University of Illinois at Chicago

Learning Sciences Student Association Social Committee Member 12/2018 – present

Learning Sciences Student Association Secretary 08/2018 – present

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Graduate Student Representative to Faculty Meetings 08/2015 – 05/2016

- Was elected by all Sociology graduate students to attend monthly faculty meetings on their behalf and communicated information between the faculties and the student body in a timely manner
- Demonstrated strong analytical and organizational skills as well as detail-focused approach in preparing meeting materials and note-taking

AIESEC Poland

Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator 10/2010 – 02/2011

- Coordinated recruitment by initial screening, scheduling and conducting interviews, and preparing necessary documents for visa applications for six Cultural Ambassadors from five countries
- Prepared information package and orientation materials for the upcoming Cultural Ambassadors and provided assistance in navigation and translation to ensure their smooth transition into a new culture
- Established partnerships with schools and local community centers to provide space and staff for cultural workshops for over 1,800 audiences

Technical Skills

- MS Office
- SPSS
- InqScribe
- MAXQDA

Languages

- French (intermediate)
- Polish (native)
- Mandarin Chinese (beginner)
- Spanish (intermediate)