

Elsie Rebecca Osei (erosei@ualberta.ca)

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Education

1. **PhD. Human Ecology** | January 2023- Present | University of Alberta

Human Ecology is a multidisciplinary field of study that focuses on understanding the complex relationships between humans and their environments, including both the natural and social environments. It explores how individuals and communities interact with and are influenced by their surroundings, and how these interactions can impact human well-being and the sustainability of the planet.

Courses taken:

- a. HECOL 569- Material Culture in Practice
- b. HECOL 661 - Perspectives on Material Culture and Design Studies
- c. HECOL 668 - Material Culture and Curatorship
- d. HECOL 692- Professional Seminar 2
- e. INT D 710 - Ethics and Academic Citizenship
- f. INT D 720 - Advanced Ethics and Academic Citizenship
- g. EDSE 612 - Arts Based Research
- h. HECOL 601 - Ways of Knowing in Human Ecology
- i. HECOL 664 - Fashion and Material Culture: Politics, Economies, Societies, c. 1600-1900
- j. HECOL 691- Professional Seminar 1
- k. HECOL 693- Professional Seminar 3
- l. EDPS 509 - Research Data Collection and Analysis
- m. HECOL 694- Professional Seminar 4
- n. SOC 580 - Colonialism, Post-colonialism and Globalization
- o. HECOL 662 - Themes in Material Culture and Design Studies
- p. HECOL 672 - Topics in Material Culture

University of Alberta Awards and Scholarships:

1. September 01, 2022: Awarded University of Alberta Graduate Recruitment Scholarship
2. September 01, 2022: Awarded Dianne Kieren Graduate Award in Human Ecology
3. January 01, 2023: Awarded University of Alberta Graduate Recruitment Scholarship
4. September 01, 2023: Awarded Dianne Kieren Graduate Award in Human Ecology
5. September 01, 2024: Awarded Doris Badir Graduate Research Fellowship in Human Ecology

6. September 01, 2024: Awarded Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship (AGES)
7. September 01, 2024: Awarded Graduate Student Engagement Scholarship

2. ***M.F.A. Textiles Design*** | Masters | Sep. 2017-November 2019 | Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
3. ***B.A. Industrial Art*** |Textile and Fashion Major| 1st Degree | Sep. 2011- May 2015 |Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (1st Class Honors).

Experience

A. Non-Profit Board Internship Program, 2025/2026, University of Alberta- Community Service-Learning (CSL)/Career Centre (CC)

Placement: Intervivos

[interVivos - Community Engagement & Mentorship Organization](#)

B. Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant | Department of Human Ecology |

Courses taught as GTA (2023/2024), (2024/2025):

HECOL 333: Cross-Cultural Textiles.

HECOL 201: Introduction to Material Culture

HECOL 250: Design Studies and Practices

Research Assistant to Dr. Megan Strickfaden on the Crippling Masculinity Project, May 2023.

C. Community Disability Support Worker (CDSW- Relief) and Volunteer Chrysalis: An Alberta Society for People with Disability. February 2024 – August 2025

A CDSW is a front-line position that provides direct support to individuals with disabilities. The main responsibilities include:

- a. Carrying out quality of life plans to support individuals with disabilities.
- b. Providing direct assistance and support to clients in various aspects of their daily lives.
- c. Implementing programs and activities designed to enhance the well-being and independence of individuals with disabilities (Currently facilitating Textile and clothing programs).
- d. Working as part of a team to ensure comprehensive care and support for clients

Volunteering at Chrysalis:

Facilitator, Textile Art program April 2024- present.

Art Market, April 2024-November 2024.

E.R.O, 2025

Breakfast Gala, September 2024.

Annual Achievement Awards for People with disabilities, November 2024

D. Students Success Manager| BlueCrest College | February 2021-July 2022

The manager, Students Success (SS Manager) at BlueCrest Ghana (BCC Ghana) is a senior supporting position with the key responsibility of ensuring that students retain a high satisfaction level and receive a high-quality experience, obtain the relevant skills to be a high-quality employee and entrepreneur as per the policy, guidelines and plans of the BCC.

Other Responsibilities

- Analyzing the needs and skills of students of BlueCrest University College to be employable and successful professionally. Arranging means to develop these skills of students using organized activities, clubs, workshops, training, and courses.
- Managing all communication between different offices of the College, Students, College partners and Alumni.
- Working closely with SRC body, Class representatives and Program chairpersons to ensure smooth communication
- Finding areas/skills students can improve/enhance. Design and organizing regular skills training for them by engaging internal and external trainers.
- Supervising all SRC activities, students' clubs of the schools, college-level events and activities where students, partners, and alumni are involved. Enhance student's engagement
- Organizing career days, workshops, brand building activities, and engaging students in such activities regularly with the help of other units and offices of the college.

E. Lecturer| School of Fashion and Design, BlueCrest College | February, 2020- July 2022

As a lecturer at the School of Fashion and Design, I am assigned to a number of courses in Pattern Making, Garment Construction, Fashion Trends and Forecasting, Seminar and Fashion show, Perfume making. My duty is to help teach students in acquiring the utmost skill in the field of fashion to equip them with the right skills in taking and dominating the fashion industry.

Other Responsibilities

- Committee member, BlueCrest University College -Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) – 2020-2022
Members represent their colleagues in the center and help in decision making for effective teaching and learning practices.

E.R.O, 2025

- School of Fashion and Design (SFD) fashion show officer. – 2020 till 2022
- Acting Marketing officer, SFD- 2020

VOLUNTEERING (University of Alberta)

1. **President**, Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences Graduate Students' Association (ALES GSA).
2. **Chair**, Graduate Students' Association Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC), September 2024- Present.
3. **Co-coordinator**, Human Ecology Research Seminar (September 2023-Present)
4. **Member**, General Faculties Council (2024/2025, 2025/2026), University of Alberta-Canada
Sub Committees
 - a. University Teaching Awards Committee
 - b. GFC Nominating Committee
5. **VP**, Academic (2024/2025). BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) and Allies Students' Association at the U of A.
6. **VP**, Marketing, Human Ecology Graduate Students Association (2024/2025).
7. Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, Graduate Students Association (ALES GSA) **Human Ecology Representative**, May 2023- April 2024.
8. **ALES GSA Representative** at Human Ecology Graduate Students Association (HEGSA), 2023/2024 Academic Year.
9. **ALES Dean Selection Committee member** | Graduate Student Representative | September 2023- December 2023.

The committee member is responsible for being part of the team that interviews and selects the next dean of the Faculty of ALES, University of Alberta.

EXHIBITION

Woven Identities: Ghanaian and Guatemalan Textiles in the Face of Globalization: April 12, 2023 - March 1, 2024.

Curators: Siming Guo, PhD, Elsie Osei, MFA, and Chiara Power, BA, Anne Bissonnette, PhD.

This exhibition received a commendation from the Costume Society of America's Richard Martin Award.

CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR ATTENDED AND PRESENTATIONS

1. 2025 ITAA Annual Conference, *Non-African Perceptions of Traditional African Fashion*, November 2025. St. Louis, USA.
Contributors: Elsie Osei, Megan Strickfaden (Oral presentation)

2. Ghosts-American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, *Entangled Realms: African Fertility Figurines as Spiritual and Material Agents*, November 2025. New Orleans, USA.
Oral Presentation, Elsie Osei
3. 16th International Conference on Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics, *Provoking Students to Re-story Stakeholders in their Design Process*. (AHFE 2025) and the Affiliated Conferences, Florida.
Contributors: Elsie Osei, Megan Strickfaden and Joyce Thomas (Oral presentation)
4. Sustainable Fashion and Textile Production Conference by the Institute of Textiles and Fashion Professionals, *Digital Strategies for Sustainable Fashion: Insights from Emerging Ghanaian Fashion Designers*, Ghana (2024)
5. Human Ecology Lunch Time Seminar, September 2023.
6. Alberta Home Economics/ Human Ecology Association (AHEA), April 2024.
Poster presentation (Runner-up and People's Choice Awards recipient). AHEA Conference 2024, *Empowerment through Fashion Hacking*.
7. Canadian Society for the Study of Education Conference, June 2024- Montreal.
Loving Acts of Transgression. Dialogical performance through image theatre, Oral Presentation.
Contributors: Rebecca Collins, Joyce de Gooijer, Elsie Osei, and Diane Conrad.
8. ALTER disability Conference 2024, Leuven, Belgium
9. Dis/Ability Mundus Doctoral School, 2024. Leuven- Belgium

PUBLICATIONS

1. Osei, E., Thomas, J., Strickfaden, M. (2025). Provoking Students to Re-story Stakeholders in their Design Process. In: Yong-Gyun Ghim and Cliff (Sungsoo) Shin (eds) *Interdisciplinary Practice in Industrial Design*. AHFE (2025) International Conference. AHFE Open Access, vol 183. AHFE International, USA.
<http://doi.org/10.54941/ahfe1006426>
2. Osei, E. R., & Bosro, F. E. S. (2024). Digital Strategies for Sustainable Fashion: Insights from Emerging Ghanaian Fashion Designers. *Fashion and Textiles Review*, 5, 3-21.
<https://doi.org/10.35738/ftr.v5.2024.11>
3. Osei, E. R., Amankwah, A., & Frimpong, C. (2021). Culturally influenced garment designs: Focused on Ga-Adangbe cultural elements in Ghana. *Fashion Practice*, 13(3), 407–423.

Conference Proceedings (Unpublished)

- Woven Identities: Ghanaian and Guatemalan Textiles in the Face of Globalization.
Contributors: Chiara Power, Elsie Osei, and Anne Bissonnette. Costume Society of America. Washington 2024.

- Strickfaden, M., Devlieger, P., Osei, E. R., Su, Y., Viaene, P. Liu, X. Presentation on Dis/Ability Mundus Doctoral School, “RUIN-CARNATING DISABILITY” Leuven, 2024.

SKILLS & ABILITIES

Interpersonal & Support Skills:

- **Empathy & Compassion** – Understanding and responding to individuals' emotions and challenges with care.
- **Active Listening & Communication** – Engaging attentively and expressing ideas clearly to foster trust and understanding.
- **Patience & Adaptability** – Remaining calm and flexible when working with diverse individuals and dynamic situations.
- **Conflict Resolution & De-escalation** – Managing tensions effectively and promoting positive interactions.

Support & Development Skills:

- **Person-Centered Support** – Recognizing and responding to individuals' unique needs and strengths.
- **Mentoring & Coaching** – Encouraging skill-building and personal development through guidance.
- **Crisis Intervention** – Identifying distress signals and responding appropriately in challenging situations.
- **Advocacy & Empowerment** – Supporting individuals in making choices that enhance their independence and well-being.

Organizational & Professional Skills:

- **Time Management & Reliability** – Prioritizing tasks effectively and maintaining consistency in support roles.
- **Collaboration & Teamwork** – Coordinating with colleagues, families, and other professionals for holistic support.
- **Record-Keeping & Documentation** – Maintaining accurate reports to track progress and ensure accountability.
- **Cultural Competency** – Respecting diverse backgrounds and ensuring inclusivity in interactions and programming.
- **Creative Problem-Solving**: Thinking outside the box to develop innovative solutions for challenges.