

Ann Njogu Wachira

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Professional Summary

Experienced educator and researcher with a PhD in Education Administration and Planning, specialising in the relationship between soft skills development and soft skills acquisition in higher education. With over 15 years of experience in teaching and administration, I focus on teaching the English language and have a strong foundation in academic research, which boosts my confidence to contribute to the field. I also possess expertise in curriculum development, management and leadership, administration and planning, and student support services. I am dedicated to improving educational methods and fostering academic growth in various learning settings.

EDUCATION

PhD in Education- Administration and Planning

Catholic University of Eastern Africa | January 2017-October 2024

- **Research topic:** *Relationship Between Soft Skills Development and Soft Skills Acquisition Among Undergraduates of Information Technology Courses in Selected Universities in Nairobi Metropolitan, Kenya*

Master of Education in Management and Leadership

Mount Kenya University | January 2012 - December 2015

- Research topic: *An assessment of student leaders' involvement in decision-making in public secondary schools in Kilifi County, Kenya*

Master in English Language Teaching

The University of Reading | September 2005- 2006

- Research topic: *An investigation into the effects of extrinsic rewards by the teacher on intrinsic motivation to learn English as a second language in secondary schools in Bahari Division.*

Higher Diploma in Counselling Psychology

Kenya Association of Professional Counsellors | August 2004-August 2005

- Research topic: *Factors influencing adolescent drug use in Kilifi Township Secondary School.*

Certificate in Guidance and Counselling

University of Nairobi | April 2002 - June 2002

Diploma in Education, English, P.E, Home Science

Siriba Teachers' Colleges | 1984 – 1986

Professional Experience

Associate Dean - Resident Services

Daystar University | 2022 - Present

- Developing and implementing student support programs, enhancing student satisfaction.
- Efficiently manage a team of 6 resident tutors, ensuring smooth operations and effective student support.
- Providing training and resources to improve student engagement and retention.
- Utilising guidance, counselling, and mentorship to instil mature and courteous behaviour among students.
- Maintains visible presence and participation through Community involvement- attending orientation, monthly meetings, house Meetings, and performing "on-call" duty when required

Lecturer, English Language

Daystar University | 2010- Present

- Teaching Advanced English, Advanced Writing, Phonetics and Phonology, English Structure, Psycholinguistics, Second Language Learning Principles, and Basic English.
- Leading curriculum revisions to incorporate current teaching methods and digital resources.

Exams officer

Daystar University | 2014- 2020

- Ensured strict adherence to academic standards and reduced grading time by streamlining the examination process.

Resident Tutor

Daystar University | 2013-2022

- Guided and counselled students on campus
- maintained a visible presence and active participation in the community
- fostered mature and courteous behaviour among students
- Community involvement- attend orientation, monthly meetings and all house Meetings.
- Participated in community events and performed on-call duties with a strong focus on ensuring law and order were maintained in the hostel.
- Dedicated and committed to creating a positive and supportive environment, with a keen eye on safety and security.

Lecturer, Literature

Mount Kenya University | 2010 - 2012

- Delivered courses on Southern African Literature and Stylistics, engaging students through interactive teaching approaches.

Lecturer, Language and Literature

Pwani University | 2009 – Present

- Specialised in courses such as Phonetics, Phonology, East African Oral Literature, Introduction to the Study of Language, Language for Early Childhood, and Language Teaching Methods, focusing on contextual and cultural relevance in language studies.

Tutor of English

Shanzu Teachers College | 2009- 2012

- Specialised in teaching student teachers, assessing and monitoring them during Teaching Practice.
- Headed the research committee and the procurement committee.

Teacher of English

Everest Community College, Basingstoke, Hampshire | 2007-2008

- Provided English instruction to students in grades seven through eleven

Teacher of English and Home Science

Select Education Plc | 2005- 2007

- Taught English, Home Economics and P.E to different secondary schools in the U.K.

Teacher of English and Home Science

Kilifi Township Secondary School | 1991-2005

Head of the Guidance and Counselling Department

- Academic Guidance: Offered comprehensive academic support to assist students in establishing and attaining educational objectives.
- Career and Vocational Guidance: Facilitated exploring vocational training opportunities and career options for students.
- Social and Interpersonal Relationships: Promoted the development of positive interpersonal skills and social interactions among students.
- Individual Counselling: Provided personalised counselling services to students and teachers, addressing various personal and academic concerns.

Teacher of English and Home Science

- English Grammar and Literature: Provided instruction in English grammar and literature to students in preparation for the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE).
- Home Science: Provided students with practical life skills by instructing them in Home Science.

Coach and Referee of Basketball and Netball

- Training and Development: Provided instruction to students in preparation for school championships in basketball and netball.
- Cooperation and Discipline: Facilitated cooperation and maintained discipline during competitions and training sessions.

Organiser of District Netball

- Event Administration: Coordinated district school netball tournaments to guarantee seamless and effective operations.
- Umpire Training: Conducted training sessions for umpires to improve the quality of officiating at district events.

Teacher of English and Home Science and Head of the Languages Department

Mutira Girls Secondary School | 1986-1990

Leadership and Coordination: Coordinated with teachers to ensure the effective and smooth teaching of English in the Languages Department.

Library Management: Managed library services, fostering a culture of reading among students and facilitating access to resources.

Exam Preparation: Improved students' academic performance and assessment preparedness by preparing them for national English and Home Science examinations.

Other Employment

Other Employment | 1990-2005

- KCSE English Examiner: Ensured the accurate and fair assessment of students' performance by grading Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) English examinations.
 - Primary Teachers Examination Marker: Contributed to the quality of teacher training by assessing professional studies papers for primary teachers' examinations.
 - National Exam Supervisor: Oversaw the Kenya National Examinations, ensuring a secure testing environment and strict adherence to examination procedures.
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Research and Publications

- Walker, H., Njoya, W., Wachira, A., Bedsole, D., & Duffy, W. K. (2015). Connecting. *The Journal of the Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning*, 20 (14), 120-121. <https://doi.org/10.7290/jaep120zk0a>
- Wambua, B. M., Maurice, P. M., Wachira, A.N., Menecha, J.B. & Kabaji, E. (2023). The exploitation of religious symbols in political rhetoric in Kenya: A critical perspective. *The International Journal of Humanities & Social Studies*, 11 (7), <https://doi.org/10.24940/theijhss/2023/v11/i7/HS2307-034>
- Wachira, A. N., Koros, P., & Kanga, A. (2024). Stakeholders' perspectives on development and acquisition of soft skills among information technology undergraduate students in Nairobi, Kenya. *East African Journal of Education and Social Sciences*, 5 (2), 14-22. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.46606/eajess2024v05i02.0364>
- Wachira, A. N., Koros, P. & Kanga, A. (2024). Examining instructional approaches to foster soft skills among Information Technology undergraduates in Nairobi Metropolitan Area,

- Kenya. *International Journal of Latest Technology in Engineering, Management & Applied Science* 13(8), 198-204. <https://doi.org/10.51583/IJLTEMAS.2024.130824>
- Wachira, A. N., Mutai, N. C., & Sambiri, B.B. (2024). Paideia Patristic Education: Analysis into the acquisition of soft skills in universities in Machakos County, Kenya *GILE Journal of Skills Development* 14 (2), 92-105. <https://doi.org/10.52398/gjsd.2024.v4.i2.pp92-105>
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Professional Development

- Attended the Regional Conference on E-Learning in March 2010
 - Completed Staff Training on Integration of Faith and Learning at Daystar University in 2013
 - Participated in various workshops and seminars on educational leadership, student engagement, motivation, e-learning, faculty development, and digital learning tools.
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Skills

Research: Proficient in qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods research

Teaching: Experienced in curriculum development, linguistics, administration and planning, management and leadership, e-learning platforms, and student engagement strategies.

Languages: Fluent in English and Kiswahili.

Technology: Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite, Moodle, and Blackboard.

Certifications and Awards

- Best Umpire in Netball - Coast, 2004
 - Certificates in Guidance and Counselling, In-Service Training for Teachers of English
 - Best Lecturer in the School of Communication
 - Best Lecturer in the Language and Performing Arts Department
 - Best female Staff in Daystar University, 2023
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Volunteer Work and Interests

- Provides counselling services for people living with AIDS, prisoners, and drug addicts.
 - Coordinates Kilifi Teachers Association of Counsellors.
 - Serves as the Secretary of the Central Committee at Mary Mount Catholic Church.
 - Enjoys hobbies such as basketball, cycling, jogging, reading, and swimming.
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REFEREES

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