

# Christopher M. Amissah, PhD

## Assistant Professor

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### EDUCATION

<b>Postdoctoral Fellow</b> University of Maryland School of Pharmacy Baltimore, Maryland	2024-2025
<b>Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Psychometrics</b> Morgan State University Baltimore, Maryland	2019-2024
<b>Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Social Psychology</b> University of Ghana Legon, Greater-Accra, Ghana	2013-2015
<b>Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Psychology with Sociology</b> University of Ghana Legon, Greater-Accra, Ghana	2007-2011

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### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

<b>Assistant Professor</b> , Department of Psychology, Morgan State University	2025-present
<b>Research Associate</b> , Center for Urban Health Equity, Morgan State University	2025
<b>Research Associate</b> , Center for Measurement Justice	2022
<b>Research Associate</b> , Educational Testing Service	2021-2022
<b>Graduate Student Lab Director</b> , Culturally Responsive Measurement Lab Graduate Program in Psychometrics, Morgan State University	2020-2024
<b>Research Assistant</b> , Department of Psychology, University of Ghana	2012-2015
<b>Census Field Supervisor</b> , Ghana Statistical Service	2010-2011

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### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

#### Morgan State University

Assistant Professor, Psychometrics/Psychology	2025-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Teaching graduate and undergraduate courses, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Test Equating, Scaling, and Linking (PSYM 750)</li><li>General Psychology (PSYC 101)</li></ul></li></ul>	

## University of Maryland

Guest lecturer, School of Pharmacy 2024-2025

- Lectured on advanced psychometric methods in health research

## Morgan State University

Adjunct Professor, Psychometrics/Psychology 2024-2025

- Taught graduate and undergraduate courses, including:
  - Multivariate Statistics I (PSYM 760)
  - Multivariate Statistics II (PSYM 765)
  - Principles and Foundations of Statistical Methods (PSYM 560)
  - Psychological Statistics I & II (PSYC 316 & 317)

Adjunct Professor, School of Education and Urban Studies

- Taught Quantitative Data in Education II (EDSR 819) 2025

Instructor, Psychology

2021-2024

- Taught Psychological Statistics I & II (PSYC 316 & 317)

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Psychology

2020-2021

- Taught General Psychology (PSYC 101)

## Baltimore City Community College

Adjunct Professor, Psychology

2022

- Taught Introduction to Psychology (PSY 101) and Research Methods (PSY 210)

## University of Ghana

Teaching Assistant, Psychology

2011-2015

- Taught undergraduate courses, including:
  - Introduction to Experimental Psychology (PSYC 204)
  - Statistics for Psychologists (PSYC 303)
  - Measurement and Evaluation (PSYC 312)
  - Methods of Psychological Investigation (PSYC 304)

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## PUBLICATIONS

Contreras, J., **Amissah, C. M.**, Khademi, A., Valeriann, C., & Villalonga-Olives, E. (in press). Measuring the relationship between social capital, race, and education. *Frontiers in Public Health*.

Gyasi-Gyamerah, A. A., Quansah, C., **Amissah, C. M.**, & Gyasi-Gyamerah, K. (2024). Development and validation of cohabitation intentions scale (CIS). *Cogent Psychology*, 11(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311908.2024.2304923>

Amissah, N. B. F., **Amissah, C. M.**, & Amponsah, B. (2022). Assessing psychosocial distress associated with homelessness in Ghana: A springboard for interventional policy design. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 27(14), 3085–3096. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13591053221082767>

**Amissah, C. M.**, & Nyarko, K. (2020). Facing the ills of unemployment: The role of religiosity and social support. *Journal of Religion and Health*, 59(5), 2577–2594. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10943-019-00977-6>

- Gyasi-Gyamerah, A. A., **Amissah, C. M.**, & Danquah, S. A. (2019). Changing attitudes toward homosexuality in Ghana: The power of attributional discourse. *SAGE Open*, 9(2), 1 – 9.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2158244019856712>
- Nyarko, K., Nuworsa, K., **Amissah, C. M.**, Ansah-Nyarko, M., & Boateng, F. (2017). Teacher identified giftedness qualities in a Ghanaian school setting: A brief report. *Journal of Psychology in Africa*, 27(6), 545–548. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14330237.2017.1375224>
- Amissah, C. M.** & Nyarko, K. (2017). Psychological effects of youth unemployment in Ghana. *Journal of Social Sciences*, 13(1), 64–77. <https://doi.org/10.3844/jssp.2017.64.77>
- Amissah, C. M.**, Gadosey, C. K., Nyarko K., & Agyemang, C., B. (2016). Contextual analyses of attitudes toward persons with physical disabilities. *Current Research in Psychology*, 7(2), 27–35.  
<https://doi.org/10.3844/crsp.2016.27.35>
- Nyarko, K., Nuworsa, K., **Amissah, C. M.**, Ansah-Nyarko, M., & Dedzo, B. Q. (2016). Influence of the big five personality and motivation on academic achievement among university students in Ghana. *British Journal of Education, Society & Behavioural Science*, 13(2), 1–7.  
<https://doi.org/10.9734/bjesbs/2016/19618>
- Amissah, C. M.**, Nyarko, K., Gyasi-Gyamerah, A. A., & Anto-Winne, M. N. (2015). Relationships among body image, eating behavior, and psychological health of University of Ghana students. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, 5(6), 192–203. <http://www.ijhssnet.com/journal/index/3111>
- Nyarko, K., Addae, P., & **Amissah, C. M.** (2015). Influence of childhood attachment on adolescents' interpersonal relationship and self-esteem among undergraduate students of the University of Ghana. *British Journal of Education, Society & Behavioural Science*, 5(3), 368 – 376.  
<https://doi.org/10.9734/bjesbs/2015/13623>
- Nyarko, K., **Amissah, C. M.**, Addae, P., & Dedzo, B. Q. (2014). Effect of child abuse on children's psychological health. *Psychology and Behavioural Science*, 3(4), 105–112.  
<https://doi.org/10.11648/j.pbs.20140304.11>
- Nyarko, K. & **Amissah, C. M.** (2014). Cognitive distortions and depression among undergraduate students. *Research on Humanities and Social Sciences*, 4(4), 69–75.  
<https://www.iiste.org/Journals/index.php/RHSS/article/view/11304>
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## PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Fu, Y.-H., Jay, U., **Amissah, C. M.**, & Villalonga-Olives, E. (2025, November). *Employment status and mental health: Examining longitudinal effects and COVID-19 pandemic impact* [Poster presentation]. American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting & Expo, Washington, DC.
- Amissah, C. M.**, Contreras, J., & Villalonga-Olives, E. (2025, October). *Refining the Spanish version of the Awareness and Beliefs about Cancer (ABC) instrument: Supporting valid assessment for cancer knowledge and screening interventions* [Paper presentation]. International Society for Quality-of-Life Research (ISOQOL) Annual Conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- Amissah, C. M.**, Crump, A. A, Fu, Y., Khadka, S., Contreras, J., Jones, S. M., Reeve, B. B., & Villalonga-Olives, E. (2025, June). Developing an index to measure structural racism: Methodological challenges and considerations [Paper presentation]. Society for Epidemiologic Research (SER) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Amissah, C. M.**, Anderson, R. J., Kumolalo, F. B., UMEOBI, G. C., Alkhalaiwi, A., Rollins, T., Buame, G., & Haines, R. T., (2025, April). *Assessing researchers' adherence to ITC translation and adaptation guidelines: Application of the Many-Facet Rasch Model* [Paper presentation]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

- Amissah, C. M.,** Rollins, T., Alkhalaiwi, A. A., & Haines, R. T. (2023, April). *Using video survey administration (ViSA) as a reliable tool for data collection* [Demonstration]. National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Alkhalaiwi, A. A., **Amissah, C. M.,** Rollins, T., & Haines, R. T. (2023, April). *Introducing ViSA: An initial report on video survey administration* [Paper presentation]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Middleton, K. V. & **Amissah, C. M.** (2023, April). *Validating a new Academic Acculturation Scale (AAS): A Preliminary report* [Poster presentation]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Alkhalaiwi, A. A., Rollins, T., **Amissah, C. M.,** & Haines, R. T. (2023, April). *Video Survey Administration (ViSA): A new method for collecting survey data* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association (APA) Annual Convention, Washington, DC.
- Amissah, C. M.,** Liu, B., & Finnegan, R. (2022, April). Diving deeper into the 2021 NAEP monthly school survey results. In Y. H. Jia & A. Drescher (Chairs), *2021 NAEP monthly school survey: Learning from U.S. schools on their response to pandemic* [Symposium]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Amissah, C. M.,** Amissah, N. B. F., & Haines, R. T. (2021, July 19-23). A Rasch analysis of a Twi translation and adaptation of the Revised UCLA Loneliness Scale. In R. T. Haines (Chair), *Topics in cross-cultural measurement: Translation, adaptation, and manifestation* [Symposium]. International Meeting of the Psychometric Society. Virtual.
- Haines, R. T., **Amissah, C. M.,** Jackson, J. A., Buame, G., Rollins, T., Alkhalaiwi, A. A., Martin, B., & Taylor, T. (2021, July 19-23). Cross-cultural translation and adaptation: Examining adherence to International Test Commission guidelines. In R. T. Haines (Chair), *Topics in cross-cultural measurement: Translation, adaptation, and manifestation* [Symposium]. International Meeting of the Psychometric Society, Virtual.
- Rollins, T., **Amissah, C. M.,** Jackson, J. A., Alkhalaiwi, A. A., Buame, G., Jackson, Y., Martin, B., Taylor, T., & Haines, R. T. (2021, July 19-23). Prevalence of commonly reported response styles in a representative sample of American adolescents and young adults. In R. T. Haines (Chair), *Topics in cross-cultural measurement: Translation, adaptation, and manifestation* [Symposium]. International Meeting of the Psychometric Society, Virtual.
- Amissah, C. M.,** Amissah, N. B. F., & Haines, R. T. (2021, August 12-14). *Validating the response structure of the Suicidal Behavior Questionnaire-Revised (SBQ-R) in Ghana* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association (APA) Annual Convention, Virtual.
- Amissah, C. M.,** Jackson, A. J., Tonya, R. T., & Haines, R. T. (2020, August 6-9). *Examining instrument adaptation methodologies in cross-cultural studies* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association (APA) Annual Convention, Virtual.
- Rollins, T. R., Jackson, J. A., Boyd, D. K., Taylor, T. R., & **Amissah, C. M.** (2020). *The test-optional model: Determining the usefulness of the SAT at an HBCU* [Accepted conference presentation]. Association of Institutional Research (AIR) for the AIR Forum, New Orleans, LA. (Conference cancelled).
- Amissah, C. M.,** Gadosey, C. K., Nyarko K., & Agyemang, C., B. (2015). *Attitude of Ghanaians toward the Physically Challenged: Analyses in dating, marital, and workplace contexts* [Paper presentation]. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the Ghana Psychological Association, Accra, Ghana.
- Nyarko, K., Kugbey, K., **Amissah, C. M.,** Ansah-Nyarko, M., & Dedzoe, B. Q. (2015). *Academic achievement among university students in Ghana: The role of personality and motivational factors* [Paper presentation]. School of Social Sciences Colloquium of University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana.
- Amissah, C. M.** & Nyarko, K. (2014). *Child abuse and its effect on children's anxiety and depression* [Paper presentation]. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Ghana Psychological Association, Accra, Ghana.

- Amissah, C. M.**, Nyarko, K., Gyasi-Gyamerah, A. A., & Anto-Winne M. N. (2014). *The relationship between body image, eating behaviour, and psychological health among University of Ghana students* [Poster presentation]. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Ghana Psychological Association, Accra, Ghana.
- Gyasi-Gyamerah, A. A., **Amissah, C. M.**, & Asante, N. A. K. (2014). *Helping behaviour: A replication of classic experiments at the University of Ghana* [Poster presentation]. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Ghana Psychological Association, Accra, Ghana.
- Nyarko, K. & **Amissah, C. M.** (2014). *Sex differences in dysfunctional thoughts and depression among college students* [Poster presentation]. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Ghana Psychological Association, Accra, Ghana.
- Nyarko, K., Kugbey, N., **Amissah, C. M.**, Ansah-Nyarko, M., & Dedzo, B. Q. (2014). *Intrinsic and extrinsic motivation among university students: The role of personality and sex* [Poster presentation]. 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Conference of the Departments of Psychology and Psychiatry, University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana.
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## SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- Villalonga-Olives, E., Crump, A. A., & **Amissah, C. M.** (2024, November 14). *The development of a multilevel and multidimensional measure of structural racism* [Seminar presentation]. Center for Anti-Racism, Social Justice, & Public Health, School of Global Public Health, New York University.
- Amissah, C. M.** (2023, October 19). *Constructing interval-level measurement using the Rasch model: Preliminary results on the Academic Acculturation Scale* [Colloquium presentation]. Graduate Program in Psychometrics, Morgan State University.
- Amissah, C. M.** & Middleton, K. V. (2023, February 2). Preliminary results from the validation of an Academic Acculturation Scale (AAS) for College Students [Paper presentation]. Center for Measurement Justice Professional Development Workshop, Virtual.
- Amissah, C. M.**, Liu, B., & Finnegan, R. (2022, June). Diving deeper into the 2021 NAEP monthly school survey results. In Y. H. Jia & A. Dresher (Chairs), *2021 NAEP monthly school survey: Learning from U.S. schools on their response to pandemic* [Symposium]. NAEP Support and Service Center (NSSC) Assessment Literacy Workshop, Virtual.
- Amissah, C. M.** (2021, November 17). *Understanding differential impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on learning opportunities in U.S. schools: Analysis on race/ethnicity, school location, and region* [Colloquium presentation]. Graduate Program in Psychometrics, Morgan State University.
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## GOVERNMENT REPORT CONTRIBUTION

- National Center for Education Statistics. (2022, June). *Highlights from the 2021 NAEP Monthly School Survey*. U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences. <https://ies.ed.gov/schoolsurvey/mss-report/>. \*Conducted regression analysis published in supporting file: [https://ies.ed.gov/schoolsurvey/mss-report/supporting\\_files/mssregressionsummary.pdf](https://ies.ed.gov/schoolsurvey/mss-report/supporting_files/mssregressionsummary.pdf)
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## DISSERTATIONS

- Amissah, C. M.** (2024). *Advancing scientific measurement of latent constructs: Comparative evaluation of the stability and precision of exploratory factor analyses (EFA) and Rasch models* (Doctoral dissertation). Morgan State University.

**Amissah, C. M.** (2015). *Psychological effects of youth unemployment in Ghana: A case study of the Greater Accra Region* (Master's thesis). University of Ghana. <https://ugspace.ug.edu.gh/items/18ac5603-fece-44a4-9c41-31eb893a303e>

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## MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

- Fu, Y.-H., Jay, U., **Amissah, C. M.**, & Villalonga-Olives, E. (under review). Assessing the longitudinal impact of employment status and COVID-19 pandemic on mental health: Evidence from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. *SSM-Mental Health*.
- Villalonga-Olives, E., Khademi, A., Crump, A., **Amissah, C. M.**, Adams, I., Hall, C., Pan Y.-Y., & Ransome, Y. (under review). Racial differences in social capital volunteering activities: How race and place influence opportunities. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*.
- Alkhalaiwi, A. A., **Amissah, C. M.**, Rollins, T., Kumolalo, F. B., Umeobi, G. C., & Haines, R. T. (under review). Introducing ViSA: An initial report on Video Survey Administration. *Social Science Computer Review*.
- Amissah, C. M.**, Amissah, N. B. F., Rollins, C. & Haines, R. T. (under revision). A triangulation approach to assessing cross-cultural measurement equivalence with non-equivalent groups, non-common persons, and non-common items.
- Rollins, T., Jackson, Y., **Amissah, C. M.**, Jackson, J.A., Alkhalaiwi, A., & Haines, R. T. (under revision). The great response style myth? Examining the prevalence and persistence of response styles among a nationally representative sample across time.
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## MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

- Amissah, C. M.**, Crump, A. A, Fu, Y., Khadka, S., Contreras, J., Jones, S. M., Reeve, B. B., & Villalonga-Olives, E. (in preparation). Developing an index to measure structural racism: Methodological process, challenges, and considerations.
- Amissah, C. M.**, Anderson, R. J., Kumolalo, F. B., UMEOBI, G. C., Alkhalaiwi, A., Rollins, T., Buame, G., & Haines, R. T. (in preparation). Evaluating the use of International Test Commission Guidelines among recently translated and adapted instruments.
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## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- Exploring the role of social capital in shaping community mental health outcomes.
  - Refining the Spanish version of the awareness and beliefs about cancer (ABC) instrument.
  - Developing intersectional, multilevel, and multidimensional structural racism measure.
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## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

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| • <b>Journal Reviewer</b> , Frontiers in Education   | 2025-present |
| • <b>Journal Reviewer</b> , Journal of Social Sciences   | 2023-present |
| • <b>Graduate Student Representative</b> , Rasch Measurement SIG,<br>American Educational Research Association | 2023-2024    |
| • <b>Chair</b> , Psychometric Colloquium Series, Morgan State University                                       | 2022-2024    |
| • <b>Member</b> , Psychometrics Admissions Committee, Morgan State University                                  | 2020-2023    |

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## Professional Organization Membership

Organization	Membership since
• International Society for Quality-of-Life Research	2025
• Society for Epidemiologic Research	2025
• American Educational Research Association	2021
• Psychometric Society	2021
• National Council on Measurement in Education	2020
• American Psychological Association	2019

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## FELLOWSHIP, HONORS, AND AWARDS

<b>Graduate Student Leadership Award</b> Morgan State University James H. Gilliam, Jr. College of Liberal Arts Morgan State University	2023
<b>AERA Second Best Student Paper Award</b> American Educational Research Association (AERA) Special Interest Group on Survey Research American Educational Research Association	2023
<b>Chan-Zuckerberg Initiative Fellowship</b> National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME) Doctoral fellow	2020-2021
<b>Assessment and Emerging Leaders in Assessment Award</b> American Psychological Association (APA)	2020

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## RESEARCH GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

**Project Title:** The cultural adaptation of cancer knowledge and health literacy instruments for Latine living in the U.S. A follow-up study.

**Funding Agency:** Patient Engagement, Diversity, and Health Literacy - MISP Merck

**Amount:** \$271,257

**Principal Investigator:** Ester Villalonga-Olives

**My Role:** Psychometrician

\*Study to improve the measure of cancer knowledge and health literacy instruments for Latine communities

**Project Title:** Assessing intersectional, multilevel, and multidimensional structural racism for English- and Spanish-speaking populations in the U.S.

**Funding Agency:** National Institutes of Health (R01)

**Amount:** \$2,911,617

**Principal Investigator:** Ester Villalonga-Olives

**My Role:** Psychometrician

\*Study to develop a new measure of structural racism.

**Project Title:** Testing the validity and reliability of an ecological-level structural racism index and an individual level item bank to develop a multilevel measure of structural racism

**Funding Agency:** National Institutes of Health Diversity Supplement

Amount: \$248,601

**Dates:** 04/01/2025-03/30/2027

**Principal Investigator:** Ester Villalonga-Olives

**My role:** Lead investigator

\*The NIH paused funding decision due to shifts in funding priorities under the new U.S. government administration that began in early 2025.