DAVID AMOATENG

Human Geography | Political Ecology | Resource Extraction | Rural Livelihoods and Governance

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RESEARCH PROFILE

Researcher in human geography, political ecology, and environmental governance, with research experience examining artisanal and small-scale gold mining, agricultural livelihoods, land-use change, and natural-resource governance in Ghana. Holds a Master's degree in Population and Development from HSE University, Moscow, completed with Distinction, and a First Class Honours BA in Geography & Resource Development and Political Science from the University of Ghana. My research experience includes mixed-methods and household research, quantitative analysis, and policy analysis, with an interest in how resource extraction and institutional arrangements shape rural livelihoods and environmental change.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Human Geography; Political Ecology; Resource Extraction; Rural Livelihoods; Land and Resource Governance; Environmental Governance; Land-Use Change; Sustainable Rural Development

EDUCATION

Sep 2024 – Jun 2026 — **Master's Degree in Population and Development**
National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE University), Moscow, Russia
Completed with Distinction | GPA: 8.42/10.

Aug 2017 – Nov 2021 — **Bachelor of Arts in Geography & Resource Development and Political Science**
University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana
First Class Honours | FGPA: 3.62/4.00.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Sep 2025 – Jun 2026 — **The Impact of Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining on Agricultural Livelihoods in Wassa-Amenfi East, Ghana.**
Master's Thesis*:** Examined how mining-related land-use change affects agricultural productivity, household income, food security, and livelihood adaptation through household surveys, quantitative and qualitative analysis, and supporting spatial evidence. ***Supervised by *Professor Arnab Roy Chowdhury, HSE University, Moscow.* Thesis abstract available here

Jan 2026 – Mar 2026 — **Everyday Practices and Discourses around Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Ghana.**
***Research Internship, HSE University, Faculty of Social Sciences – School of Sociology, Moscow*:** Examined everyday practices and public discourses surrounding artisanal and small-scale gold mining through observations, online materials, academic literature, and mining reports, under the supervision of *Professor Arnab Roy Chowdhury, HSE University, Moscow.*

Oct 2025 – Nov 2025 — **Fertility and Female Education in Ghana: A Microdata Analysis Using the Demographic and Health Survey (2022).**
Independent Quantitative Research: Conducted quantitative analysis of Ghana DHS microdata examining relationships between female educational attainment and fertility behaviour; presented findings at the Annual International Conference "Carpe Scientiam" (Demography XXI: Taxation & Technology) at Lomonosov Moscow State University. ***Supervised by*** *Professor Alexander Larionov, HSE University, Moscow.*

Apr 2025 – May 2025 — **Public Administration Measures to Counteract Population Ageing.**
Comparative Public Administration Research: Used Norway as a case study to analyse ageing policies, pension reforms, active ageing, long-term care, and digital governance through academic literature, government reports, and international policy documents. ***Supervised by*** *Professor Alexander Larionov, HSE University, Moscow.*

Oct 2019 – Nov 2019 — **Spatiotemporal Analysis of Land Surface Heat: A Case Study of the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area (GAMA) Between 2002 and 2017.**
University of Ghana: Used Landsat ETM+ imagery, ENVI 5.0, and GIS to analyse land-surface temperature change and its relationship with land-use dynamics. ***Supervised by*** *Professor Alex Barimah Owusu and Professor Gerald Albert Baeribameng Yiran, University of Ghana.*

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Adjei, C. A., & **Amoateng, D.** (2025). The Politics of Climate Finance in Ghana; Access, Equity, and the Socio-Economic Implication of the Green Transition. *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Applied Science, 10*(10), 551–567. https://doi.org/10.51584/IJRIAS.2025.1010000043

Amoateng, D., & Adjei, C. A. (2025). Understanding Soil Pollution: Causes and Its Impacts on the Environment and Population. *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Applied Science, 10(*10), 568–579. https://doi.org/10.51584/IJRIAS.2025.1010000044

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Adjei, C. A., **Amoateng, D.**, & Kwakye, L. D. (2026). *Towards a Just Green Transition, Youth Perspectives and Livelihood Security: Evidence from Ghana's Charcoal Industry*. Manuscript under review at *Nordic Journal of African Studies.*

Adjei, C. A., & **Amoateng, D.** (2026). *Thinking Through AI: Perceptions and Adoption of Generative AI Research Tools Among Ghanaian Tertiary Students in the Dawn of a New Dispensation*. Manuscript under review at *Discover Education*. Preprint available at Springer Nature's *In Review* at Research Square: https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-9876794/v1

SELECTED MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION & READY FOR SUBMISSION

Amoateng, D. *Does the Composition of Natural-Resource Dependence Matter for Material Efficiency? Evidence from a Global Panel, 2000–2021*. Manuscript ready for journal submission.

Amoateng, D., & Adjei, C. A. *Governing the Ungovernable? A Scoping Review of Policy and Institutional Failures Driving Galamsey Expansion and Agricultural Land Loss in Ghana.* Manuscript in Preparation.

Amoateng, D., & Roy Chowdhury, A. *Natural Resource Wealth, Governance, and Development Outcomes in Ghana: Revisiting the Resource Curse Debate*. Manuscript in Preparation.

ACADEMIC & CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

26 Nov 2025	*"Fertility and Female Education in Ghana: A Microdata Analysis Using the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS)."* Annual International Conference Carpe Scientiam: Demography XXI — Taxation & Technology, Lomonosov Moscow State University. Awarded an I-Degree Diploma.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS & HONOURS

Jun 2026	**Master's degree with Honours (Distinction)** — HSE University.
Jul 2024 – Jun 2026	**State Academic Scholarship for Foreign Students** — Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation / HSE University.
Nov 2025	**I-Degree Diploma** — Annual International Conference "Carpe Scientiam."
Jan 2021 – Sep 2021	**Ghana Local Tertiary Scholarship** — Ghana Scholarship Secretariat.
Nov 2021	**Bachelor of Arts — First Class Honours** — University of Ghana.

RESEARCH METHODS & SKILLS

Research	Mixed-methods research; household surveys; quantitative analysis; qualitative research; policy and institutional analysis; literature synthesis; secondary-data analysis.
Data & analysis	Python (pandas, NumPy, statsmodels); Microsoft Excel; statistical analysis.
Spatial methods	Basic GIS and remote sensing familiarity; spatial and land-use evidence as supporting research methods.
Research tools	Zotero; Microsoft Word; PowerPoint; academic and scientific writing.

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jul 2023 – Aug 2024 — **Risk and Compliance Officer** — Pacific Savings and Loans PLC, Kumasi, Ghana.

- Regulatory compliance, operational risk assessment, internal audit, branch monitoring, and policy/compliance reporting.

Oct 2021 – Sep 2022 — **Teaching Assistant (National Service)** — Presbyterian Boys' Secondary School, Legon, Accra, Ghana

- Social Science teaching, assessment, and curriculum support.

LANGUAGES

English: C1 — Listening, Reading, Writing, Spoken Production, Spoken Interaction | **Twi:** Native language

ACADEMIC REFEREES

Professor Arnab Roy Chowdhury — HSE University, Moscow | Master's thesis supervisor | achowdhury@hse.ru
Professor Ilya Ermolin — HSE University, Moscow | Graduate lecturer and academic referee | ivermolin@hse.ru