



Emmanuel Ajisafe, a Nigerian native, earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from Federal University, Lokoja, Kogi State, Nigeria, in 2019. Graduating with Second Class Honors (Upper Division), he distinguished himself as the second-best graduating student in his class. His thesis, which analyzed the impact of vote buying on voting behavior in Kogi State during the 2019 general election in Nigeria, reflects his deep engagement with critical issues in the political landscape.

Emmanuel's academic interests span elections, international development, public governance, and public policy. He has developed a robust theoretical foundation in these areas, complemented by practical experience gained through his extensive extracurricular activities. These include serving as the Electoral Chairman of the National Association of Political Science Students (NAPSS), and as the Library and Academic Secretary for the Redeemed Christian Fellowship (RCF), Federal University Lokoja Chapter. Additionally, he has volunteered as a Data Entry for the Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD), as an E-Champion for Verve Mega Minds Network, and as a Research Officer for the Digital Career Skill Initiative for Africa (DCSI).

In 2023, Emmanuel further honed his skills by participating in an election observation project with YIAGA Africa. In this role, he utilized the Election Result Analysis Dashboard (ERAD), a cutting-edge technology designed to promote transparency in election results and combat electoral fraud. His contributions to this project helped bolster public confidence in the electoral process. As an analyst with Hawksworth Advisors, Emmanuel actively assisted senior executives to analyze strategic initiatives, including concession strategies aimed at driving innovation, growth, and development across various sectors. These diverse experiences have fueled his passion for pursuing advanced studies, equipping him with the knowledge and skills necessary to drive development both within Nigeria and on an international scale.

At SAIS, Emmanuel plans to concentrate on African Studies to prepare for a career in International Development. He aims to contribute to the formulation of effective policies that address pressing issues across the continent, particularly in democratic themes such as elections. He seeks to interrogate why the processes of selecting leaders are as important as the outcomes. Emmanuel is fluent in English and is a native speaker of Yoruba.