

Competence: Ability to translate knowledge into practice

1. Which course was the most effective in helping you to develop this competence? Explain why.

Answer: VTE509 (ICT in Vocational and Technical Education). The course has both theoretical and practical components. The theoretical aspects are handled by the course lecturer at the classroom level while the practical aspects are handled by technical instructor in ICT laboratory. This course is designed to equip the learners (student teachers) with the relevant knowledge and skills in ICT for classroom instruction.

In the theoretical class, computer literacy, principles and general application of information communication technology in Vocational Teacher Education Programmes, internet services and use of e-learning concepts, instructional methods and materials for ICT application were discussed.

The practical aspects of this course exposed me on how to make use of ICT facilities such as; computer, projector and starboard for classroom presentations, teaching and learning. I learnt how to prepare power point slides for presentations to make teaching and learning interesting, motivating and interactive for the learner. The course equipped me with the skill of data analysis using SPSS software and this has helped me to make some money by analysing and interpreting research data for students and researcher in and around the university community.

2. List the course-related activities which have helped you to develop this competence **outside the class**, either working on your own or with other students. Which of these activities were the most effective in helping your to develop the competence? Explain why.

Answer: the following are activities that help me

- Keyboarding.
- Setting of projector for public presentation.
- Analysis and interpretation of research data using SPSS software.
- Connecting to internet services using WIFI hot spot on android phone to the laptop.
- Teaching using Starboard.

The most effective in helping me to develop the competence is "Analysis and interpretation of research data using SPSS software". This is one of the skills in ICT that is lacking among student researchers and academia which is essential in our present day research writing in university and employers are interested in any graduate that has this skill. The skill has helped me to make some appreciable amount of money to support my education at this present level. And it has exposed me to other universities and colleges of education within me where I analyse research data for journal article publications, project report and organizing of tutorial classes for students on the use of SPSS software for data analysis.

3. Which aspects of the competence have you developed through being a member of a club/ an association / a social group? Give some details.

Answer: I developed the ability to make public presentations on emerging issues such as "use of social media for project writing in university education" using projector in the faculty student association (faculty of vocational and technical education student association, university of Nigeria, Nsukka). This has helped me to develop an oratory skill, overcome stage fret and panic

attack during public and class presentations. I have also developed competence in presentations in the church associations such as Anglican Student Fellowship.

4. In the course guide or in class presentations was there any reference to this competence – if so give further information. Was the competence assessed in any of your units or modules – if so give further information. Will you be able to present evidence of achievement in this competence to an employer?

Answer: *In the ICT class presentations there were references to effective power point slide preparation and presentation, use of projector and starboard, eloquence in speaking, boldness/comportment and dress code. All these competencies are assigned marks during presentation. One of the presentations I made was titled “Enhancing the quality of sandwich programme through social networking applications in university of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu state”. The evidence I can present include analysis of statistical data, slide preparation and presentation in power point as an evidence skills to an employer.*

5. Outside the university which aspects of the competence have you developed? Give some details. Have you done anything else in your life which has helped you to develop this competence? If so, give an example.

Answer: *outside the university I have developed the following competencies; networking and cloud computing, computer repairs and maintenance, and programming with visual-Basic when I participated in six weeks Practical Skill Acquisition Training Sponsored by African Development Fund from July to August 2015, under the supervision of the Scientific Equipment Development Institute (SEDI) Enugu.*

6. After reflecting on the different contexts in which you have developed this competence (in class, working on course-related activities outside the class, in clubs and associations, in real life, and any other contexts you have added in your response to question 5), write a short statement on how each of these contexts has contributed to your development of the competence and on their relative strengths.

Answer:

- 1. In church organization (Anglican Student Fellowship) I developed the ability for public presentation as it helped me overcome stage fret and panic attack as I use projector to demonstrate for my audience of different age, educational, social and economic background.*
- 2. In classroom and student association presentations, I developed social skills among my peers in the use of ICT for presentation and this has helped me overcome inferiority complex and fear which has been my major setback in public presentations.*
- 3. In Skill Acquisition Training Sponsored by African Development Fund (ADF), I developed competences in cloud computing which has helped me to save my documents such as certificates and international passport into my personal cloud account. This is wonderful as it has helped me store, edit and retrieve information and the most interesting part of it is that I can retrieve whatever I saved anywhere I am for a presentations.*

7. Do you think that you have fully developed this competence? What else can you do to improve your level of competence while you are a student? How do you think you will go on developing this competence when you are working?

Answer: *No, I have not fully developed the competence. To improve on my competence I need to collaborate with other students that are successful in ICT utilization for classroom. If start work I will develop/improve my competence by undergoing professional development training of ICT utilization for classroom instruction, seminars, conferences and workshops to keep abreast of innovation in teaching and learning.*

Additional question:

Interview either two of your classmates or two graduates who are working and ask them questions 1-5 and question 7 (NB for the graduate Question 7 will read: Do you think that you have fully developed this competence? How do you think you will go on developing this competence now that you are working?).

Answer: *I interviewed two of my class mates who responded that VTE510 (work experience programme in agricultural education) and VTE 505 (statistical methods in vocational /technical) are the courses that helped them develop the competencies. The student for VTE510 (work experience programme in agricultural education) stated that the practical skills he developed such as budding crops, castration of male animals, bee keeping, fishpond management and poultry production are as a results of the practical classes he was exposed to while the student for VTE 505 (statistical methods in vocational /technical) noted that he developed the competence on the use of appropriate statistical tools for both survey and experimental research designed.*

For question two and three, both students interviewed declined that they develop any competence outside the class or from club/an association/ social group. They stated that there were no references to this competence at classroom presentation since the only criteria for passing is when the course lecturers are convinced that skills required for an operation are mastered and can be demonstrated to other during hands on presentation at the field. The two responding students equally decline to respond on questions five and six but they concurrently replied that can improve on the competence if they are working by participating on conferences and seminar for lifelong learning.

Finally, summarise any differences or new ideas that you have learned from your own reflections and your interviews

Answer: *Just as individual differences cannot be over looked in teaching and learning processes in the classroom, I discovered that the course (VTE509 (ICT in Vocational and Technical Education)) that helped me developed a given competence was not the one that helped two students I interviewed to develop their own competence. Therefore, that students are in the same class doing the same courses in the same university do not mean that they all develop a given competence equally for a particular course because of individual differences among them. While VTE509 has helped me developed competence in the use of ICT for classroom instruction, the interviewees did not pay any attention to develop such skills rather they concentrated and developed competence on different course that I have never given serious attention such as VTE510 (work experience programme in agricultural education) and VTE 505 (statistical methods in vocational /technical) respectively.*

