

Student Voice on African Harmonization Process in Higher Education

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Responses to the Questions Being Explored at the Institutional Level

- ***Question One***

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

The course which was the most effective in helping me develop this generic competence is ***Structural Geology***.

Structural Geology is defined as the study of the architecture of the Earth's crust in as much as they have been formed by deformation.

It can also be defined as the study of the three-dimensional distribution of rock units with respect to their deformational histories.

It simply denotes the study of geologic structures such as fractures, folds, foliation, lineation and a host of other deformed structures.

The sources of data used for structural geology include:

- Fieldwork
- Remote Sensing
- Geophysics
- From Gravity Method
- By Experiments
- By Physical Methods
- By Numerical Methods

- **Question Two**

List the *course-related* activities which have helped you 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 you to develop the competence? Explain why.

The *course-related* activities which have helped me to develop this generic competence include the following:

- *Fieldwork*
- *Seminar Presentations*
- *Private Study*

The activity that was most effective in helping me develop this competence is ***fieldwork***.

Fieldwork otherwise known as ***field research*** is a branch of geology which deals with the collection of information outside the classroom, laboratory or library. There are major benefits of doing geological fieldwork and they are as follows:

- Cost effectiveness
- Competitive advantage
- First-order data
- Integration of data
- Confidence boosting
- New ideas

- **Question Three**

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

Being a member of ***Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)*** and ***Nigerian Mining and Geosciences Society (NMGS)***, the aspects of the competence I have been able to develop include:

- ✓ Identification of geologic structures.
- ✓ Collection of first-hand data.
- ✓ Integration of data from fieldwork.

Consequent upon the fieldworks conducted by these aforementioned societies, I have been able to clearly identify geologic structures such as fractures, faults, folds, foliation and other deformed structures.

Also, first-order data are being acquired from the field. The data include: attitude of foliations and beds, trend and plunge of geologic structures, elevation and GPS readings of geologic structures.

Moreover, the integration of data from the fieldwork enables us to arrive at a conclusion about the area being mapped. For instance, a fieldwork done on a shaly outcrop can help us understand the provenance of the sediments, the structural history and the basin geometry.

- **Question Four**

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?

References were made to this generic competence in the class presentations. It was clearly stated that folded and faulted rock strata serve as traps that hosts, accumulate and concentrate fluids such as petroleum and natural gas.

Anticlines and structural domes are good traps for hydrocarbons. Listric faults which have roll over anticline are common in the Niger Delta and the roll over anticlines are traps.

Growth fault which are faults formed when there is sedimentation are also common in the Niger Delta. The growth faults in the Niger Delta forms where there is faulting with active sedimentation.

The competence was assessed in one of our units called Field Mapping and Surveying which is three (3) unit load and it was graded in order to help us know our level of knowledge and expertise in the unit or module.

I will not be able to present evidence of achievement in this competence to an employer because I have not yet attained the required level of proficiency in the competence.

- **Question Five**

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.

The aspect of the competence I have been able to develop outside the university is the aspect of map construction using the attitudes of the beds (or foliations) with the help of ArGIS.

Private study and research has really helped me in the development of this competence.

- **Question Six**

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 our 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.

Reflecting on the different contexts in which I 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), I will say that working on course-related activities outside the class, real life experiences and activities organised by the associations contributed more than 70% to the development of this generic competence.

The class presentations and lectures and other contexts contributed the remaining 30% in the development of this competence.

- **Question Seven**

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?

I do not think I have fully developed this competence.

In order to improve the level of my competence, I will engage in more private study and reading, attend many more seminar presentations and go for more fieldworks and field research.

When I will be working, the strategy I think I will use to develop the competence is by carrying out intensive researches and engaging in private and company-organised fieldworks and field research.

Interview With Two Graduates

From the interview with two graduates, a number of differing ideas exist between their responses.

The first graduate said that the course that was most effective in the competence development is **petrology**. He stated that the practicals in the laboratory and the fieldwork were helpful in developing the competence.

The aspect of the competence that have been developed through being a member of SPE, NAPE, and NMGS was the integration of the laboratory data and field data.

He stressed that references were made in regards to the competence, emphasizing the fact that a knowledge of the petrology of the rocks and its mineral constituent helps in oil exploration.

He also said that the competence was assessed in one of the units known as **Petrology of Igneous and Metamorphic Rocks** which is a two (2) unit load course.

He stated that outside the university, he has developed the aspect of using softwares in the evaluation of both the field and laboratory data. He also stated that he has not developed the competence, pointing out that how he will go on developing the competence now that he is working is through engaging in more private study and going for company-organised fieldworks.

The second graduate stated that the course which was most effective in helping her develop the competence is ***Stratigraphy***.

She stated that the fieldwork and private study were helpful in the development of the competence, the fieldwork being most effective in the development of the competence.

Through being a member of NMGS, SPE, NAPE and SEG, the aspect of the competence that have been developed is knowledge of the stratigraphy of Nigeria.

She stated that reference to this competence were made in class presentations, pointing out that a knowledge of the stratigraphy of Nigeria is useful in the exploration and determination of potential oil hosting areas.

She stated that the aspect of the competence that have been developed is the stratigraphy of Africa. She stated that she has engaged in some intensive private study in order to develop this competence.

Moreover, she stated that she has not fully developed this competence, pointing out that the way she will go on developing this competence now that she is working is engaging in more intensive private study and going for private and company-organised fieldworks.

In summary, the way both of the graduates think they will go on developing this competence is by engaging in private studies and engaging in company-organised fieldworks which is in consonance with mine.

I have learned that a high degree of competence in other branches of geology is also needed as well.

From the interviews, it is obvious that fieldwork is necessary in almost all branches in order to boost the competence.

THANK YOU