

Michael Sample

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EDUCATION

Sept 2019 – July 2020 **LLM (Oil and Gas with Professional Skills)** **University of Aberdeen**

Courses include: Critical Legal Thinking and Scholarship, Contracting in Hydrocarbon Operations, Oil and Minerals for Good, Downstream Energy Law and Professional Skills.

Professional skills: This aspect of the course will develop the practical skills required for real time, real life situations such as negotiating product share agreements and constructing commercial cases for particular petroleum licensing situations. Will emphasise professional collaboration, commercial awareness and extensive team development.

Sept 2012 – July 2016 **LLB** **University of Lagos, Nigeria**

Courses included: Introduction to Jurisprudence, Private and Property law, Public law. Specialised in Commercial and Industrial law.

Aug 2006 – July 2012 **WASC Merit** **Kings College, Lagos**

Maths, Physics, Chemistry, English, Biology, Economics.

SKILLS

Communication: Developed extensively while working for Femi Sunmonu and Associates in Lagos Nigeria representing corporate clients in legal disputes and extended negotiations over contracts and trade agreements. Presentation of information using PowerPoint has been a regular feature of both my undergraduate and postgraduate studies where I have presented on a number of legal issues related to the oil and gas sector.

Business awareness: Providing legal advice to major oil producers gave me a great insight into the essentials of effective business such as the importance of good management, branding, marketing, product development and building and maintaining a customer base with a view to overall profitability.

Team work and Individual contribution: Essential while on secondment to the Cisco Oil Corporation in Nigeria where I worked as part of a six person team to research, investigate and report on corporate liabilities. Further developed during the professional skills element of the LLM working on commercial transactions requiring individual research and group consensus.

Problem solving and Analysis: Developed through work experience with a major oil company as well as for a firm of solicitors in Lagos where clients presented with highly complex legal difficulties which had to be analysed, assessed and legal precedent sourced and explained. Attention to detail and the comprehension of possible negative outcomes underpinned all of the legal advice I provided.

Time management: Throughout my Masters in Law, I have undertaken voluntary work as a class rep while working in a major national retailer and conducting my studies with considerable success.

I.T. competent using Word, Excel, Access, and the internet for communication and research as well as legal research packages such as Westlaw

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Sept 2018 – Aug 2019 **Cisco Oil Company, Lagos, Nigeria (Secondment)** **Legal Adviser**

- Developed an understanding of the legal processes inherent in a major commercial organisation within the oil and gas sector.
- Participated in all aspects of the legal process over a twelve month period in three teams specialising in procurement, environmental impact assessment and drilling bid preparation.
- Assessed the impact of environmental legislation on new production processes, advising the company on their statutory liabilities.
- Analysed and advised on procurement contracts, providing end of year reports to the senior management team.

Sept 2017 – Aug 2019 **Femi Sunmonu and Associates, Lagos Nigeria** **Solicitor**

- Represented corporate clients with regard to commercial disputes arising out of international trade, intellectual property infringements, breach of construction agreements, interpretation of company rules and procedures and recovery of debts and assets.
- Advised entities wishing to supply goods, works and services to the Nigerian government and procurement proceedings.
- Responsible for the negotiation and preparation of service contracts, management contracts, lease contracts and joint venture agreements.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Sept 2019 - Present **John Lewis** **Sales Adviser**

- Developing business awareness of the retail sector in the UK, particularly the impact of employee ownership schemes on company success, while providing excellent customer service.

Aug 2016 – Aug 2017 **National Youth Service, Nigeria, Lagos** **College Tutor/Teacher**

- Planned lessons for students in groups of up to thirty, aged 16-18.
- Worked as part of a team to deliver extra curricular activities such as football, volleyball and Taekwondo.

June 2014 - Aug 2016 **Bernhard Joffe Associates Ltd, Lagos** **Commercial Assistant**

INTERESTS

LLM Class rep: Researched the views of fellow students and communicated those to senior academics in the Law School. Currently undertaking a bronze level STAR award (Students Taking Active Roles) which recognises the skills development inherent in the role of class rep.

Travel: Extensively around Europe prior to studying for a Masters visiting France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Hungary and Poland.

Football: Sixteen years experience competing both for school and university teams.

Running: Enjoy running and have taken part in a number of 10K and half marathon events. Currently training for a full marathon.

Music: Experienced accompanist on piano and director of youth choir for three years – twice winners of the Lagos Musical Festival (Youth section).

REFEREES

Available upon request.