

Allowable Inclusions

Because I attended public universities, I experienced several academic strikes during my undergraduate and graduate degrees in Nigeria. As regards my undergraduate degree at Obafemi Awolowo University, I was admitted for Bachelor of Laws in the 2003/2004 academic year but could not start the programme until 2004. A strike crippled the university in the 2003/2004 session, so that session spilled into 2004/2005. The university then cancelled the 2004/2005 session, hence why the first page of my undergraduate transcript states that there was no academic session in that year. Concerning my graduate degree at the University of Ibadan, I was admitted for Master of Laws in 2011 but could not start the programme until 2012. The minimum completion time is three semesters, and this should have been between 2012 and 2013. I completed the degree requirements in 2013 but, due to a six-month strike of the Academic Staff Union of Universities in 2013 (reported on news media online), I could not defend my thesis until May 2014. In all, the academic strikes were frustrating, but I completed my degrees within the minimum Nigerian academic time: five years for Bachelor of Laws and three semesters for Master of Laws.