

ODUNAYO OLOWOOKERE

| odol245@yorku.ca

Professional Summary

Accomplished Researcher specializing in Law, Fintech, and Economics, with an expertise in monetary law, Blockchain/crypto regulations, and Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDC). My focus lies in elucidating the advantages of CBDC for monetary policy transmission mechanisms, exploring the expanding roles of Central Banks, and analyzing the legal implications of Blockchain applications within payment and settlement systems. This encompasses considerations of privacy, data protection, as well as KYC & AML requirements for banking institutions and payment service providers. Additionally, my research extends to topics such as monetary sovereignty, tokenized finance, and central bank institutional design.

As a Seasoned Legal Practitioner, I bring over 7 years of extensive experience in advising tech startups, structuring corporate finance-related transactions, encompassing Credit Risk Transfer Instruments and Debt Financing Transactions. My notable achievements include a proven track record in developing and implementing robust compliance and regulatory frameworks tailored for the unique needs of banks and other financial institutions. My multifaceted background positions me as a versatile professional adept at bridging the realms of law, finance, and emerging technologies.

Skills

- **Teaching Skills:**
 - Curriculum Development
 - Classroom Management
 - Instructional Design
 - Student Assessment and Evaluation
 - Online Teaching
- **Research Skills:**
 - Research Design and Methodology
 - Data Analysis

- Literature Review
- Grant Writing
- Academic Publishing
- **Subject Matter Expertise:**
 - Expertise in blockchain and smart contract functionality and economic analysis
 - In-depth Knowledge of Financial analysis,
- **Communication Skills:**
 - Clear and Effective Verbal Communication
 - Strong Writing and Editing Skills
 - Public Speaking
 - Conference Presentation
- **Mentoring and Advising:**
 - Student Advising
 - Mentorship of Graduate Students
- **Collaboration and Teamwork:**
 - Collaborative Research
 - Interdisciplinary Collaboration
 - Committee Participation
- **Leadership and Administration:**
 - Academic Leadership
 - Program Development
 - Administrative Experience (if applicable)
- **Adaptability and Innovation:**
 - Flexibility in Teaching Methods
 - Integration of Technology in Teaching
 - Innovation in Curriculum Development
- **Professional Development:**
 - Continuous Learning
 - Attendance at Conferences and Workshops
 - Membership in Professional Organizations
- **Grant Writing and Fundraising:**
 - Experience in Securing Research Grants
 - Fundraising for Academic Projects
- **Analytical and Critical Thinking:**
 - Problem Solving

- Critical Analysis of Research

Experience

Teaching Assistant, Academic Writing, Graduate Forum 09/2022 to 03/2024

Osgoode Hall Law School, York University

- Assisted the credit/debt management department with developing a collections matrix for the computation of allowable bad debts to be written off.

Assistant Manager, Corporate Finance dept 07/2020 to 09/2021

CIT MICROFINANCE BANK – Lagos

- Lead the implementation of various compliance models in order to meet the statutory and regulatory requirements of the Central Bank of Nigeria.
- Assisted the credit/debt management department with developing a collections matrix for the computation of allowable bad debts to be written off.
- Supported assessments and audits of internal controls related to legal aspects of the business systems.
- Incorporated analytical thought process and communication skills to document work pertaining to statutory filings and reports and was able to cut short the filing delays by 2 weeks from the usual 1-month delay.
- Contributed to cross-functional projects designed to improve the KYC process through the use of fintech. As a result, I was able to reduce the customer onboarding process from 1 week to 2 days.

Supervisor, Legal and Strategy department 10/2019 to 07/2020

Sahara Group Limited – Lagos

- Worked with Corporate Finance in developing a regulatory compliance framework for the avoidance of regulatory penalties in the oil and gas industry. This was done in order to facilitate decision-making on the acquisition of offshore oil assets/oil fields.
- Advised a U.K.-based oil and gas company listed on the AIM Market of the London Stock Exchange (the "Acquirer") in connection with the \$600,000,000 (Six Hundred Million USD) acquisition of the oil and gas assets (and shares in subsidiaries) of an international oil and gas conglomerate in Nigeria (the "Seller").
- Also advised the above Acquirer in connection with the acquisition of a majority stake in a Nigerian oil and gas company engaged in upstream oil and gas

exploration, appraisal, development, and production operations in Nigeria - and an indirect subsidiary of the Seller.

- Provided advisory services to the same above Acquirer in connection with several arrangements relating to the restructuring of the debt obligations of the Seller and its subsidiaries.
- I Was actively involved in the preparation and review of all transaction documentation, including implementation agreements, loans, and security documentation.
- Advised from a Nigerian law standpoint, on issues relating to insolvency as well as the creation and perfection of debt securities in Nigeria.

Associate Counsel

07/2019 to 09/2019

Tokunbo Orimobi & Co. – Lagos

- Single-handedly undertook and completed the first-ever comprehensive compliance audit of a leading financial advisory firm licensed by the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry on the business of investment banking, investment and broker-dealer services in Nigeria (also a dealing member of the Nigerian Stock Exchange).
- My audit report included the following:(a) a compliance matrix indicating compliance levels achieved by the client as at the date of the audit report (b) an executive statement on factors that have hindered the client's compliance as well as exposures and other liabilities which could arise on account of its failure to comply with the obligations; and (c) a compliance work plan which served to ensure that the client returned to and remained in good standing with its regulators.
- Provided legal advisory support in connection with the eventual sale of a significant minority in the issued share capital of CHI Limited held by Tropical General Investments Limited to The Coca-Cola Company.

Associate Counsel

06/2017 to 07/2019

Wemimo Ogunde & Co. – Lagos

- Represented clients in mediation, arbitration, and settlement negotiations. Developed and implemented litigation, settlement, and trial strategies. Built cohesive, goal-oriented teams and strong coalitions that achieved positive results for clients in complex, multi-party litigation.
- Prepared and drafted Joint Venture, Articles of Association, Shareholders' Agreements, and other related Contracts.
- Advised clients about the Liquidation and Dissolution of Companies and related matters.

Part-Time Teacher and Examiner

06/2017 to 05/2018

Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria – Lagos

- Lectured and examined the Corporates Finance modules including the financial modeling and valuations modules.

Associate

10/2015 to 08/2016

Q-Nomics – London, United Kingdom

- Advised venture capital firms on marketing strategy on the best way to bring fast-moving consumer goods products into the market, whilst also providing insights into relevant sectors.
- Advised on incorporation and Structures for different kinds of Corporations. Ensured Regulatory compliance and ethical standards were met in all business dealings and investor relationships.

Intern

12/2014 to 10/2015

Central Bank of Nigeria – Niger, Nigeria

- Worked on timely and efficient legal opinions on proper regulatory responses to peculiar economic circumstances.
- Presented the above legal opinions to a joint working group of stakeholders in the bank and finance ministry
- Worked on legal opinions and recommendations on redefining the boundaries of the administrative roles of the Central Bank and obligations of financial Intermediaries in a global economy.
- Researched and presented a working paper on the comprehensive overhaul of the Central Bank of Nigeria Act 2007. this paper led to current law reforms to the Central Bank of Nigeria Act.

Education

Ph.D.: Law and Economics

Jun 2025

York University (Osgoode Hall Law School) - North York , Ontario, Canada

Research Area: Law and Economics, Exploring the Legal Aspects of the Institutional Design of Monetary Policy in a Digital Age.

My research delves into the legal implications that may arise with the widespread adoption of digital currencies. Specifically, I aim to uncover potential legal challenges and issues that may arise in the context of digital currencies, and how these emerging

technologies may impact established legal concepts such as monetary sovereignty, which have evolved in tandem with traditional forms of currency throughout history.

LLM: Law and Economics

Sep 2022

York University (Osgoode Hall Law School) - North York , ON

Research area: Tokenized Finance and Monetary Law; the Evolving Role of the Central Bank in the Age of Digital Currency and the effect on Monetary Law

Master of Science: Law and Finance

Dec 2016

University of London, Queen Mary - London, United Kingdom

Research area: Identifying the Information Polarities in Credit Risk Transfer Instruments; A Case for Regulatory Product Intervention and Product Liability Framework. Modules taken include:

- Quantitative Techniques for Finance
- Business Finance
- Principles of Accounting
- Financial derivatives
- Applied Portfolio Management (Audited)
- Financial Modelling, Valuation, and Private Equity (Audited)
- Corporate Finance Law •
- Commercial and Investment
- Banking Law and Finance in Practice.

Bachelor of Laws: Law

Nov 2014

The Nigerian Law School - Abuja, Nigeria

LLB, Hons: Law

Jun 2013

Babcock University - Ogun, Nigeria

- Graduated in top 5% of class.
- Research area: The Strict Application of Constructive Trust to the Breach of Fiduciary Duties Held by Company Directors.

Select Journal Publication/Conference Papers

Compliance Design Options for Offline CBDCs: Balancing Privacy and AML/CFT (IEEE, ICBC Conference Paper submission)

Languages

English, Native