



OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR

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SPEECH BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR TO STUDENTS ON 12 APRIL 2024

Dear Students,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to the end of your first semester at the Open University of Kenya. As your Vice Chancellor, I am truly honored to address you today and reflect upon this significant milestone in your academic journey.

First and foremost,

I congratulate you on being pioneer students of this great institution. As the first cohort of students at the Open University of Kenya, you have faced and braved unique challenges. Your dedication, resilience, determination and adaptability have set the standard for future students, and your journey will serve as an inspiring example for years to come. By embracing the unknown and forging ahead with determination, you have demonstrated exceptional courage and commitment. Your efforts have laid the groundwork for OUK's bright future, and for that, we commend you.

Additionally,

Starting your university journey is a major transition, and your ability to adapt to the new learning environment and embrace the challenges that come with it is a demonstration of your commitment to personal and academic growth.

During your first semester, you have been introduced to a variety of concepts, expanding your perspectives and setting the foundation for your academic pursuits. The knowledge and skills you have gained so far will undoubtedly shape your future success. Always remember that your journey does not end here; it has just begun. Continue your studies with curiosity, discipline, and an open mind.

Ladies and gentlemen,

At the Open University of Kenya, we are proud to foster an inclusive and supportive learning environment. Our dedicated faculty and staff are committed to your success and are here to guide you every step of the way. Please do not hesitate to seek their support and guidance whenever needed. Your journey is a shared one, and we are all glad to be part of your growth and development.

As you reflect on your first semester,

I encourage you to consider the lessons learned and the challenges you have overcome. Celebrate your achievements, and use any setbacks as the impetus to take every step in your academic journey with the required commitment. Harness opportunities for personal growth by embracing continued development of your critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills, since these are key to integration in the 21st century work spaces.

Beyond academics,

I hope you have also had the opportunity to engage with your peers, building meaningful relationships despite the distant interactions necessitated by the virtual space we all operate in. These aspects of the university experience will form part of your rich history at OUK. As you prepare for the next semester and having experienced online learning, take this time to recharge and reflect on your goals and aspirations. Set clear objectives for your future studies, and approach them with focus, confidence and enthusiasm.

Finally,

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to you, our students, for choosing the Open University of Kenya as your University. Your presence and contributions enrich our institution, and we are excited to witness your journey unfold and be part of it. On behalf of the university Council, University Management Board, Staff and my own behalf, I wish you all the best as you move forward in your studies. May the time you spend at OUK be filled with growth and accomplishment of your desires.

Thank you, and success in the forthcoming examinations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elijah Omwenga', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the left and right.

PROF. ELIJAH OMWENGA

AG. VICE CHANCELLOR