

Syllabus

HIS112 – Introduction to Nigerian Government and Politics (Credit Units: 3)

Department of History and International Studies,
Faculty of Arts,
University of Delta, Agbor, Nigeria.

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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 11:00am – 5:00pm,
Tuesday & Thursday 8:00am – 5:00pm.

Outside of the normal class hours, students are advised to take advantage of office hours to reach out to me for their questions on any difficult areas of their private studies. Such questions can also be channel to me through the above email address.

- **Meeting Time and Place:** Mon. 1pm – 2pm, Tue: 4pm – 5pm, Fri. 10am – 11am – His. Lecture Room, FOA Building.
- **Attendance**
Students are expected to attend every class. If you must miss a class, it is your responsibility to make up for the work that you missed. If you are going to be absent from any class, endeavour to notify the course lecturer in advance.
- **Method of Instruction:**
This syllabus contains an overview of what will be covered in class; for specific information, students are referred to the class web page maintained on University website. Assignment will either be posted on University of Delta LMS, or given in the class and should be submitted through University of Delta LMS. Students are advised to take their attendance to class, and homework/assignment seriously.
- **Overview**
The course, 'Introduction to Nigerian Government and Politics', is designed to afford the students a good knowledge of the historical evolution of the Nigerian State. It provides an opportunity for the students to understand the survey and of approaches to the study of Nigerian Government and Politics, as well as the basic features of pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial systems of government
- **Objectives**
The objectives of this course are: (i) explain the concepts of government and politics (ii) examine the pre-colonial political systems in Nigeria (iii) discuss the pattern of

British conquest and colonization of Nigeria (iv) identify the features, merits and demerits of British Colonial rule in Nigeria (v) highlight the series of constitutional development and Nationalist struggles in Nigeria (vi) examine the post-independence political developments in Nigeria.

- **Learning Outcome**

Upon completion of these course, students should be able to: (i) explain the concept of government from its three major dimensions (ii) discuss the traditional political system of the pre-colonial kingdoms, empires, and societies in Nigeria (iii) elucidate the pattern of British conquest, and colonization of Nigeria (iv) examine the features, merits, and demerits of British indirect rule system in Nigeria (v) analyze in detail, the series of constitutional development, nationalists struggle and eventual granting of independence to Nigeria. (vi) comment on Nigeria's Post-independent experiences.

- **Course Contents:**

Basic concepts of government and politics, pre-colonial political systems in Nigeria, pattern of British conquest and colonization of Nigeria, Indirect rule system in Nigeria, Merits and Demerits of Indirect rule, background to constitutional developments in Nigeria, Clifford constitution of 1922, Richard constitution of 1946, Macpherson constitution of 1951, Lyttleton constitution of 1954, Independent constitution of 1960, post independence Nigeria and the outbreak of Nigerian civil war, Post-civil war Nigeria.

Lecture Schedules

WEEK	CONTENT	LECTURE NOTES/ SLIDES
1	Basic concept of government and politics	
2	Pre-colonial political systems in Nigeria	
3	Pattern of British conquest and colonization of Nigeria	
4	Indirect rule system in Nigeria	
5	Merits and Demerits of Indirect rule	
6	Background of constitutional developments in Nigeria	
7	Cliffords constitution of 1922	
8	Richard constitution of 1946	
9	Macpherson constitution of 1951	
10	Lyttleton Constitution of 1954	
11	Independent constitution of 1960	
12	Post independence Nigeria and the outbreak of Nigeria civil war	
13	Post-civil war Nigeria.	
14	Revision	
15	Final Exam	

Examination Schedule

- Attendance
- Homework
- Class Test
- End of Semester Exam

- **Grading**

- Homework: 15% of grade
- Midterm Exam: 15% of grade
- Final Exam: 70% of grade

- **Text and References**

Obaro Ikime (Ed.) (2001) Groundwork of Nigeria History. Ibadan: Heinemann Educational Books Plc, Nigeria.

Achebe, (1983). The Trouble with Nigeria. Enugu: Fourth Dimension Publishers

Alapiki, H. (2010). Politics and Governance in Nigeria. Port Harcourt: Shapee Publishers

Ukpabi, S.C. (Ed.) (1986). Strands in Nigeria Military History Zaria: Gaskiya Corporation Ltd.

- **Student Conduct**

All students are advised to avail themselves of the code of student conduct as enshrined in the student handbook, and comply with acceptable behaviour required in our learning environment.

For the avoidance of doubt, the University of Delta, Agbor frowns at indecent dressing and behaviour, cheating, plagiarism, indiscipline, and all forms of examination malpractice. As a matter of fact, appropriate disciplinary committees have been constituted to deal decisively with the above mentioned issues.