

**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES  
ACULTY OF ARTS, UNIVERSITY OF DELTA, AGBOR NIGERIA**

**SYLLABUS: HIS 211- NIGERIAN FOREIGN SERVICE AND DIPLOMACY**

**(3 Credit Units)**

**Lecturer:** Professor A. U. Igwe [Sabbatical staff]

**Office Location:**

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**Office Hours:** Wednesday 11 am -12 noon; Thursday 1.00pm-2.00pm

**Lecture Periods and Venue** – Wednesday 12noon-2pm; Thursday 12-1pm

**Attendance**

Students are expected to attend all periods of lecture. If any student has cogent reason to be absent from lectures, please, notify the Course Lecturer in advance through the Course Rep.

**Methods of Instruction**

The Teaching and Lecture methods will form the vital means of instruction. This will manifest in narratives and analysis by the Lecturer at different lecture periods. Group discussions and dramatization by students on roles of diplomats in Foreign Service will also form method of course instruction.

**Overview**

There exist a nexus between National Interest, Foreign Policy, Diplomacy/diplomats and Foreign Service. In projecting her national interests to the outside world, Nigeria's foreign policy is articulated; this is projected diplomatically and tactically to the international community by Diplomats, who are deployed by Nigerian government on foreign missions/ service. Thus, this course examines Nigerian Foreign Service from its genesis, - 1957, few years to Nigerian independence till 2019. The course begins by highlighting the major concepts of Foreign Service, diplomacy and diplomat; plus the early foundations of Nigeria's Foreign Service. Rationale for the establishment of diplomatic relations, administrative structure of the foreign service; and general overview/analyses of Nigeria's foreign service under successive administrations till 2019; and problems facing Nigeria's foreign service and prospects form the main thrust of this course.

The course is part of the Department's thrust in exposing the students to initial efforts and challenges faced by the emerging Nigerian state in establishing its foreign service, which aimed to project her ideals to the comity of nations within the international system.

## **Objectives**

The objectives of the course are to:

- 1 discuss the genesis/ early foundations of Nigerian Foreign Service
- 2 explain the rationale for establishment of diplomatic relations with other countries by Nigeria
- 3 describe the administrative structure of Nigeria's Foreign Service
- 4 analyze the characteristics of Nigerian Foreign Service under successive administrations from independence till 2019
- 5 highlight the privileges and immunities of diplomats on Foreign Service
- 6 discuss the consequences of abuse of diplomatic privileges and immunities by diplomats
- 7 explain the major tasks of Nigerian diplomats/ambassadors on foreign missions
- 8 explain the major differences between career and non- career diplomats
- 9 discuss the problems and prospects of Nigerian Foreign Service since independence.

## **Learning Outcomes**

On completion of this course, students should be able to:

- 1 explain the factors that led to the early foundation of Nigeria's Foreign Service
- 2 identify and discuss the major actors in Nigeria's Foreign Service
- 3 discuss the major characteristics of Foreign Service of each administration in Nigeria from 1960 to 2019
- 4 highlight the major diplomatic privileges and immunities enjoyed by diplomats on Foreign Service
- 5 explain qualities of a good diplomat; and the processes of reception/recall of a diplomat
- 6 describe the administrative structure of Nigeria's Foreign Service
- 7 discuss the major problems facing Nigeria's Foreign Service
- 8 evaluate the major tasks of Nigerian diplomats and ambassadors on foreign missions
- 9 highlight prospects of Nigeria's Foreign Service in the coming years.

## **Course Contents**

The major concepts: Foreign Service, diplomacy/diplomats defined and explained. Genesis and early foundation of Nigeria's Foreign Service, 1957-September 1960. Development of Nigeria's Foreign Service and rationale for the establishment of diplomatic relations. Who are on Foreign Service? Diplomats: Appointment, Reception and Recall of diplomats on Foreign Service.

Administrative Structure of Nigeria's foreign missions, general overview of Nigeria's Foreign Service under successive administrations, 1960-2019; diplomatic privileges and immunities and their abuses. Tasks of Nigerian diplomats/ambassadors on Foreign missions, career versus non-career diplomats; problems and prospects of Nigeria's Foreign Service, etc.

### Lecture Schedules

	<b>Content</b>	<b>Lecture notes</b>
1	The concepts: Foreign Service, Diplomacy, Diplomats. The nexus between National interests, Foreign Policy, diplomacy/diplomats and Foreign Service.	
2	Genesis/early foundation of Nigeria's Foreign Service, 1957-September 1960	
3	Development of Nigeria's Foreign Service and rationale for the establishment of diplomatic missions.	
4	Who are diplomats? : appointment, reception and recall of diplomats on Foreign missions	
5	Administrative Structure of Nigeria's Foreign missions	
6	Overview of Nigeria's Foreign Service during the First Republic, 1960-1966	
7	Analysis of Nigeria's Foreign Service under Military administrations, 1966-1979	
8	Foreign Service under President Shagari's administration	
9	Foreign Service under military regimes, 1983-1999	
10	Nigeria's Foreign Service under President Obasanjo's administration, 1999-2007	
11	Nigeria's Foreign Service under President Yar'Adua/ Jonathan's administrations, 2007-2015	
12	Foreign Service during President Buhari's era, 2015-2019	
13	Career versus non-career diplomats, Diplomatic privileges/immunities, their abuses; and tasks of Nigerian diplomats/ambassadors	
14	Problems and prospects of Nigeria's Foreign Service since 1960	
15	Revision exercise; and final exam	

## **Examination Schedule**

- Attendance
- Class quiz
- Assignment
- End of Semester Exam

## **Grading**

Class Attendance: 10% of grade

Class quiz: 10% of grade

Assignment: 10% of grade

Final Exam: 70% of grade

## **Text and References**

Morgenthau, Hans J (1968) *Politics among Nations*, New York: Alfred Knopf

Nwizu, Gregory (2009) *Administration of Nigeria,s Diplomatic Service: an Insight into Nigeria  
An Insight into the Practice of Nigeria's Foreign Service and Policy*, Enugu:  
Macro Press

Oladejo, Oyelekan L.O. (2014) *The Nigerian Diplomatic Practice*, Lagos: N.I.I.A.

Saliu, Hassan A. (2013) *Nigerian Foreign Service*, Ilorin: African Center for Peace Research.