

COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE/DESCRIPTION	NO OF CONTACT HRS
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**GES 103**

**GOVERNMENT, SOCIETY AND THE ECONOMY**

**HL 30 U2**

This is a required course designed for students that have no background knowledge in social sciences and humanities based disciplines at higher level of education. Specifically, the course is meant for students from the College of Basic Medical Sciences, Faculties of Agriculture, Education (excluding students that major in science related disciplines), Science (including Geography (science) students), Renewable Natural Resources, Pharmacy and Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. Social Science as field of inquiry uses multidisciplinary approach to study man as a social being. Thus, there are different aspects of Man's behavior that are being studied and taught. In essence, the course is facilitated by an array of experts from five foremost Departments in the Faculty of the Social Sciences namely, Department of Economics, Department of Geography, Department of Political Science, Department of Psychology and Department of Sociology as well as from Faculty of Law. The course is organized systematically to introduce science based undergraduates to various aspects of man's behavior for instance, the aspect of sociology that deals with the totality of man's social behaviour and relations, economics aspect that deals with his economics relations and behaviour under different conditions, and how he adapts his behaviour to his environment which is known as human geography. More importantly, political science and psychology aspects of behavior of man that deal with government and political relations and the study of human mind respectively will be taught in this course. In addition, students will be exposed to the fundamentals of law and legal process as well as democracy and good governance. The course main objective is to facilitate learning that will equip our students with required skills and knowledge to become effective members of the society. This course is also aimed at enhancing the analytical skills of students in their quest to understand the world they live in, to make more intelligent choices among the alternatives they face, and to influence the changes inherent in all social systems.

### **Week 1: The Object and Nature of the Social Sciences**

The course is introduced to students with emphasis on: What is social science?; Evolution of the Social sciences, What is scientific about the social science; The scope of social science, why studying social science; objectives of the social science and history of Ibadan school of social sciences.

### **Week 2: The Study of Politics and the Concept of Government**

- a. Political Science and the Study of Politics; Definition of Political Science and Politics; Historical Development of the Study of Politics; The Significance of Studying Politics; The Scope of Political Science and Levels of Politics; Basic Concepts in the Study of Politics; Various meanings of 'Government; Distinction and Relationship between Government, State and Society; Distinction between Government and the State; Relationship between State, Government and Other Societies/Associations; Philosophical and Historical Accounts of Origin of State; Major Elements of Modern State.

### **Week 3: Organization of Government and Classification of Government and Political Socialization and Political Participation**

Basic Component of government; Indispensability of and modes of establishing government; organization of modern government; classification of systems of government. Political Socialization and its Agencies, Political participation, typologies of political participation, Factors responsible for apathy in Nigeria and Content Adjustment for Corrective Political Socialization.

### **Week 4: Law, Democracy and Good Governance**

What is Law? Classification of Law; law and customary law; constitutional law; classification of constitution; Historical Development of Nigerian Constitutional Law, Criminal law and related concepts; democracy and Good Governance.

### **Week 5: Focus, Relevance and Basic Methods in Data Collection and Analysis in Sociology**

Introduction to sociology, What sociology is not? What is scientific method; Focus of Sociology, relevance of sociology; Data Collection, Data Analysis; Descriptive

### **Week 6: Concept of Economics and Development**

Definition of Economics; Fundamental concepts in Economics; Economic agents, branches of economics; Types of economic

Analysis, Parametric Statistics, Non-parametric statistics, computer program for qualitative analysis

systems; the concept of development and economic growth vs economic development, Human Development Index; common characteristics of developing countries, Millennium Development Goals; Sustainable Development Goals;

### **Week 7: Growth and Development of Nigerian Economy**

Trend and structure of economic growth and development from 1960 to 2015; Sectoral Analysis – Agriculture and Industrial; Planning for Development; National Development Plans, Structural Adjustment Programme, Rolling Plans; lessons of the development plans, Recent Development Initiatives: NEEDS, Seven – point Agenda, Transformation Agenda; Economic Growth and Recovery plans; Poverty and Human development

### **Week 8: Psychology: Man and His World**

Definition of Psychology; the origin of psychology as a discipline; approaches to psychology – environmentalism, experimentalism, inferential causality, psychic determinism, biological materialism, reductionism & teleology; the origin of 20<sup>th</sup> century school of thought; subfields of psychology; Psychology and the society,

### **Week 9: Psychobiological Basis of Behaviour and Methods of Measurement in Psychology**

Psychobiological explanations of human behaviour; causal influence of biological determinants of behaviour; the human brain; measurement in psychology, types of variable; major types of measurement, measurement theory, why psychological measurement, use of data in psychology, descriptive and inferential statistical techniques.

### **Week 10: The Physical and Human Environment & Natural Resources Use and Sustainable Development**

Environmental system – the Atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere & biosphere; Human environment; human impact on the environment – negative and positive human activities; classification of resources, concept of resource and resistance, characteristics of resources; depletion of resources, concept of sustainability; Resource use and sustainable development

### **Week 11: Current Discourse in Peace and Conflict Studies**

The Origin and development of peace and conflict studies; the concept and types of conflict; some theoretical perspectives on causes of conflict; some common terms in

### **Week 12: Information and Communication Technology and Social Sciences in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

Science, Natural and Social Science; Information and communication technology; Information and communications technology (ICT)

peace studies – peace building, peace enforcement, Peace operations, peace keeping operations; some common terms in conflict resolution – conflict resolution, conflict prevention, conflict mitigation/management etc. some other common terms; Case Study in Peace Building and Conflict Resolution: Nigeria's Niger Delta Militancy and Federal Response.

and the Social Sciences; The Role of Information And Communication Technology (ICT) In Teaching And Learning Social Science Disciplines; Advantages and Disadvantages of the Use of ICT in the Social Sciences

**Week 13: Revision**

Conclusion of Continuous Assessment, Tutorials and Revisions