

COVENANT UNIVERSITY
COURSE COMPACT
2014/2015 ACADEMIC SESSION

College: Development Studies

School: Social Sciences

Department: Political Science and International Relations

Programmes: Political Science, International Relations, Policy & Strategic Studies.

Course Code: POS 112

Course Title: Constitutional Development in Nigeria.

Units: 2

Course Lecturer: Dr. Duruji, Moses and Mr. Kunle Shodipo

Semester: Alpha

Time: Tuesday 3-5 PM

Location: C 301

Brief Overview of Course

This course shall examine process of Nigerian Constitutional Development in a chronological and sequential order. It starts with definition of the concepts of constitution and constitutionalism, after which it delves into the discussion of constitutional development during the colonial era, the changes that have occurred in the immediate post-Independence period. The impact of military rule on constitutional development as well as the processes of constitutional engineering during the military era would also be examined. Particular attention would also be given to constitutional development in the fourth republic dispensation in the areas of judicial reviews, legislative amendments and extra-legislative processes such as the National Political Reform Conference and the National Conference.

Course Objectives/Goals

At the end of this course students are expected to:

- Be acquainted with the different stages of Nigeria's constitutional development
- Understand the details of the respective constitutions of Nigeria from 1914 to contemporary times.
- Understand the drivers and vectors responsible for agitations for change and consequent changes in the process of Nigeria's constitutional evolution.
- Understand the linkage between the unresolved contentious issues and the concept of National Question.

Methods of Lecture delivery/Teaching Aids

Lecture Delivery Method

The method of teaching is participatory. The teacher outlines the major points of discourse on the topic, whereas students are encouraged to raise probing questions that are to be trashed in class. Discussion shall form the core of class activity.

Teaching Aids

The teaching aid employed is the overhead projector where PowerPoint's slides of the weekly topics are displayed on the screen during contact hours

Class Meetings

There will be two hours of lectures every week. **ATTENDANCE TO LECTURES ARE COMPULSORY FOR ALL REGISTERED STUDENTS.**

Lecture Outline

Module One Introduction/Colonial Constitutions

Week 1: The concept of constitution and The Lugard's and Clifford's Constitution. - Dr Duruji

Week 2: The Processes and striking issues in the Richard and McPherson Constitutions. – Mr K. Olanrewaju

Week 3: The Processes and striking issues in the Littleton Constitutions. – Dr Duruji

Module Two: Post-Independent Constitutional Development

Week 4: The Processes, issues in the Independent Constitution of 1963. Mr K. Olanrewaju

Week 5: The Processes and striking issues in the Republican Constitution of 1963. – Dr Duruji

Week 6: Military rule and constitutional developments in Nigeria. – Mr K. Olanrewaju

Module Three: Military Rule and Constitutional Engineering

Week 7: The Processes and issues in the 1979 Constitution. - Dr Duruji

Week 8: The processes and issues in the aborted 1989 and 1995 Constitutions. -Mr K. Olanrewaju

Week 9: The processes and issues in the 1999 Constitution. - Dr Duruji

Module Four: Fourth Republic Constitutional Development

Week 10: The 1999 Constitution and the impact of Judicial Reviews. – Mr K. Olanrewaju

Week 11: Legislative Constitutional Amendment in the Fourth Republic. Mr Olanrewajui

Week 12: Constitutional Engineering through Extra-Legislative Processes. Dr Duruji

Structure of the Programme/Method of Grading

1. Continuous Assessment i.e. Class Assignments.....	10%
Periodic tests.....	10%
Attendance.....	10%
2. End of Semester Examination	70%

Ground Rules & Regulation

- Attendance is compulsory for all registered students.
- Admission into classes 15 minutes after commencement will not be permitted.
- Side talking or chatting during classes will not be tolerated.
- Maintenance of rapt attention during class sessions is mandatory for all attendees.
- Loitering in class during lectures is not permitted and permission must be obtained from the lecturer before any student leaves the class during lecture sessions.

Students Activity

Each student is expected to do a term paper of about 5-10 pages maximum on font 12 Times New Roman. The topic is 'Process of Constitutional amendment in the Fourth Republic'. The lifeline for submission is 1st of September 2014. Late Submission with cogent reasons would be entertained until is 11th September 2014. After this dates no further submission would not be accepted and defaulting students shall loose the allotted marks under this head.

Term Paper Questions

1. In what ways has judicial review reshaped the 1999 constitution?
2. The use of extra-legislative process seems to be a popular way of show dissatisfaction with the provisions of the 1999 Constitution and institutions created by that Constitution. Elucidate.
3. Compare and contrast the processes and issues in the 1979 and 1999 Constitutions.
4. Highlight in details the processes thus far in the amendment of the 1999 Constitution
5. In what ways does the making and key issues in the aborted constitutions of 1989 and 1995 differ?

Alignment with Covenant University Vision/Goals

This course aligns with the university's core values of Capacity building in the sense that students who are exposed to the course shall be equipped with the skill and capacity to make informed contributions to the ongoing constitutional engineering in the country.

Contemporary Issues/Industry Relevance

The review of the 1999 constitution has remained a burning issue since the inception of fourth republic. A clear understanding of issues of issues involved and the under-currents of political interests will make an interesting study for the students.

List of Readings

Ayam J ed. (2004) *Introduction to Politics*. Ota: Covenant University Press

Akinbade J.A (2008) *Government Explained*. Lagos: Macak Books Venture

Dudley B.J. *An Introduction to Nigerian Government and Politics*

Ezra, K. *Nigeria Constitutional Road to Independence*

Oyediran O (1998) *Introduction to Political Science*. Ibadan: Oyediran Consults

Oyediran O (2007) *Nigeria Constitutional Development*. Ibadan: Oyediran Consults

The 1999 Constitution