

This JAMB Syllabus for History aims to prepare the candidates for the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME).

General Objectives | JAMB Syllabus for History

It is designed to test their achievement of the course objectives, which are to:

1. impart knowledge of Nigerian history from earliest times to the present;
2. identify the similarities and relationships among the people of Nigeria as they relate to the issues of national unity and integration;
3. appreciate Nigerian history as the basis to understand West African and African history;
4. apply history to understand Nigerian and Africa's relationship with the wider world;
5. analyse issues of modernization and development;
5. relate the past to the present and plan for the future.

Section 1: The Nigeria Area Up to 1800

Topic 1: Land and Peoples of the Nigeria Area

- a. Geographical zones and the people.
- b. The people's relationship with the environment
- c. Relations and integration among the peoples of different zones.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. identify the geographical zones and the people within them;
- ii. establish the relationship between the people and the environment
- iii. Comprehend the relationships among the various peoples of the Nigeria area.

Topic 2: Early Centres of Civilization

- a. Nok, Daima, Ife, Benin, Igbo Ukwu and Iwo Eleru
- b. Monuments and shelter systems: (Kuyambana, Durbi-ta-Kusheyi, city walls and palaces)

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the significance of various centres;
- ii. establish the historical significance of the various monuments such as caves and rocky formations.

Topic 3: Origin and formation of States in the Nigeria Area

- a. Central Sudan -Kanuri and Hausa, states.
- b. Niger-Benue Valley – Nupe, Jukun, Igala, Idoma, Tiv and Ebira

- c. Eastern Forest Belt – Igbo and Ibibio
- d. Western Forest Belt – Yoruba and Edo
- e. Coastal and Niger-Delta – Efik, Ijo, Itsekiri and Urhobo
- i. Factors influencing their origin and migration
- ii. Social and political organizations
- iii. Inter-State relations, religion war and peace.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. relate the different groups of people occupying the various zones to their traditions of origin;
- ii. determine the inter-state relations;
- iii. account for their, social and political organizations

Topic 4:Economic Activities and Growth of States

- a. Agriculture – hunting, farming, fishing, animal husbandry and horticulture.
- b. Industries – pottery, salt-making, iron-smelting, blacksmithing, leather-working, wood-carving, cloth-making, dyeing and food processing.
- c. Trade and trade routes:- local, regional, long distance, including trans-Saharan trade?
- d. Expansion of states.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. identify the various economic activities of the people;
- ii. differentiate the economic activities and specialties of the people;
- iii. relate trade and other economic activities to the growth of the states.

Topic 5: External Influences

- a. North Africans/Arabs
 - i. introduction, spread and impact of Islam;
 - ii. trans-Saharan trade.
- b. Europeans:
 - i. early European trade with the coastal states.
 - ii. the trans-Atlantic slave trade (origin, organization and impact)

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. assess the impact of the contact with North Africa on the people and states South of the Sahara.
- ii. examine the impact of early European contact with the coastal people;
- iii. trace the origin, organization and impact of the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

Section 2: The Nigeria Area (1800 – 1900)

Topic 1: The Sokoto Caliphate

The Sokoto Jihad – (causes, courses and consequence)

- a. The causes and the process of the jihad
- b. The establishment and administration of the caliphate and relations with neighbours
- c. The achievements and impact of the caliphate.
- d. The collapse of the caliphate.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the causes, and the processes of the Jihad;
- ii. determine the factors that led to the rise of the caliphate;
- iii. examine the administrative set-up of the caliphate and its relations with its neighbours;
- iv. examine the impact of the caliphate;
- v. trace the internal and external factors that led to the collapse of the caliphate.

Topic 2: Kanem-Borno

- a. The collapse of the Saifawa dynasty
- b. Borno under the Shehus
- c. Borno under Rabeh

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. determine the factors that led to the collapse of the Saifawa dynasty;
- ii. examine Borno under the administration of the Shehus;
- iii. assess the role of Rabeh in Borno's history.

Topic 3: Yorubaland

- a. The fall of the Old Oyo Empire
- b. The Yoruba wars and their impact
- c. The peace treaty of 1886 and its aftermath

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the causes of the fall of the Old Oyo;
- ii. examine the causes and effects of the Yoruba wars;
- iii. assess the impact of the 1886 peace treaty.

Topic 4: Benin

- a. Internal political development
- b. Relations with neighbours
- c. Relations with the Europeans

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the internal political development;
- ii. examine her relations with her neighbours;
- iii. assess her relationship with the Europeans.

Topic 5: Nupe

- a. Internal political development
- b. Relations with neighbours.

Objectives

- i. examine Nupe internal political development.
- ii. assess her relations with her neighbours.

Topic 6: Igbo

- a. Internal political development
- b. Relations with neighbours.

Objectives

- i. examine Igbo internal political development.
- ii. assess her relations with her neighbours.

Topic 7: Efik

- a. Internal political development
- b. Relations with neighbours

Objectives

- i. examine Efik internal political development.
- ii. assess her relations with her neighbours.

Topic 8: European Penetration and Impact

- a. European exploration of the interior.
- b. The suppression of the trans-Atlantic slave trade.
- c. The development of commodity trade and rise of consular authority.
- d. Christian missionary activities.
- e. The activities of the trading companies
- f. Impact of European activities on the coast and the hinterland.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the motive for the exploration of the interior.
- ii. give reasons for the suppression of the trans-Atlantic slave trade;
- iii. trace the development of commodity trade;
- iv. examine missionary and European activities in the area;
- v. asses the activities of the European trading companies
- v. account for the rise of consular authority.

Topic 9: British Conquest of the Nigeria Area

- a. Motives for the conquest
- b. Methods of the conquest and its result.
- c. Resistance to and aftermath of the conquest.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. determine the reasons for the conquest and the methods used;
- ii. examine the various resistance to the conquest
- iii. evaluate the results and the aftermath of the conquest

Section 3: Nigeria 1900 – 1960

Topic 1: The Establishment of Colonial Rule up to 1914

- a. Administration of the protectorates

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the administrative set-up of the protectorates.

Topic 2: The Amalgamation of 1914

- a. Reasons
- b. Effects

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the reasons for the 1914 Amalgamation and its effects.

Topic 3: Colonial Administration After the Amalgamation

- a. Central Administration:- Legislative and Executive Councils
- b. Indirect Rule – reasons, working and effects
- c. Local administrative institutions, Native Authorities, Native Courts and Native

Treasuries.

d. Resistance to colonial rule – Ekumeku Movement in Asaba hinterland 1898 – 1911, the Satiru uprising 1906, Egba and the Anti-tax Agitation 1918, and the Aba Women Movement in 1929.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. relate the composition of the central administrative set-up to its consequences;
- ii. identify the reasons for the introduction and workings of the indirect rule system;
- iv. assess the effects of indirect rule;
- v. examine the local administrative units.

iv. account for the anti-colonial movements and their significance.

Topic 4: The Colonial Economy

- a. currency, taxation and forced labour
- b. Infrastructure (transportation, post and telecommunication)
- c. Agriculture
- d. Mining
- e. Industry
- f. Commerce
- g. Banking.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the nature of the economy as it affects taxation. Currency, infrastructures, agriculture, mining, industry, commerce and banking.

Topic 5: Social Development under Colonial Rule

- a. Western education
- b. Urbanization/social integration
- c. Improvement unions
- d. Health institutions

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. identify the areas of social development under colonial rule;
- ii. examine the impact of urbanization on the people;
- iii. examine the level of social integration among the people.

Topic 6: Nationalism, Constitutional Developments and Independence

- a. The rise of nationalist movements;
- b. The 1922 Clifford Constitution and the rise of Nigeria's first political party.
- c. World War II and the agitation for independence
- d. The Richards Constitution of 1946
- e. The Macpherson Constitution of 1951.
- f. Party politics – regionalism, federalism and minorities agitations.
- g. Lyttleton Constitution of 1954.
- h. constitutional conference in Lagos in 1957 and in London in 1958
- i. The general elections of 1959 and independence in 1960

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. trace the emergence of the nationalist movement;
- ii. assess the roles of the different constitutions in constitutional development;
- iii. examine the effect of World War II in the agitation for independence and the constitutional developments;
- iv trace the development of party politics and its impact on regionalism and minority question ;
- v. examine the impact of the constitutional conferences.
- vi. determine the factors that aided the attainment of independence.

Section 4: Nigeria Since Independence

Topic 1: The politics of the First Republic and Military intervention

- a. Struggle for the control of the centre;
- b. Issue of revenue allocation
- c. Minority question
- d. The 1962/63 census controversies
- e. The Action Group crisis and the General Elections of 1964/65.
- f. The coup d'état of January 1966 and the Ironsi Regime.Candidates should be able to:
 - i. give reasons behind the struggle for the control of the centre;
 - ii. account for the controversies in revenue allocation;
 - iii. account for the controversies generated by the minority question and the creation of states;
 - iv. account for the controversies generated by the 1962/63 census;
 - v. examine the problems created by the Action Group crisis and the General Elections of 1964/65
 - vi. assess the significance of military intervention and the Ironsi Regime.

Topic 2: The Civil War

Cause and effects

- a. Causes
- b. Course
- c. Effects

Objectives

Candidates should be able to

- i. examine the remote and immediate causes of the war;
- ii. examine the course.
- iii. assess the effects of the war;

Topic 3: The Gowon Regime

Objectives

Candidates should be able to

- i. assess the challenges and achievements of the Gowon Regime.

Topic 4: Murtala/Obasanjo Regime

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. assess the challenges and achievements of the Murtala/Obasanjo Regime;

Topic 5: The Second Republic

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. evaluate the challenges and achievements of the Second Republic.

Topic 6: The Buhari Regime

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. assess the challenges and achievements of the Buhari Regime

Topic 7: The Babangida Regime

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. assess the challenges and achievements of the Babangida Regime;

Topic 8: The Interim National Government (ING)

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the role and challenges of the Interim National Government.

Topic 9: The Abacha Regime

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. assess the challenges and achievements of the Abacha Regime.

Candidates should be able to:

- i. assess challenges and achievements of the Abdulsalami Regime;

Topic 10: Nigeria in International Organizations

- a. Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS),
- b. African Union (AU)
- c. Commonwealth of Nations
- d. Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)
- e. United Nations Organization
- f. The role of Nigeria in Conflict Resolution

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the role of Nigeria in ECOWAS
- ii. assess the role of Nigeria in the AU
- iii. evaluate the role of Nigeria in the Commonwealth of Nations
- iv. assess the role of Nigeria in the OPEC
- v. Examine the role of Nigeria in the UN
- vi. examine the role of Nigeria in conflict resolutions in the Congo, Chad, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and the Sudan.

Section 5: Africa and the Wider World Since 1800: West and North Africa

Topic 1: Islamic Reform Movements and State Building in West Africa

- a. Relationship between Sokoto and other Jihads.
- b. The Jihads of Seku Ahmadu and Al-Hajj Umar
- c. The activities of Samori Toure

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. establish the relationship between the Sokoto Jihad and other Jihads in West Africa:
- ii. compare the achievements of the Jihads of Seku Ahmadu and Al-Hajj Umar.
- iii. examine the activities of Samori Toure of the Madinka Empire.

Topic 2: Sierra Leone, Liberia and Christian Missionary Activities in West Africa

- a. The foundation of Sierra Leone and Liberia and the spread of Christianity
- b. The activities and impact of Christian missionaries.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. determine the factors that led to the founding of Sierra Leone and Liberia;
- ii. examine the importance of Sierra Leone and Liberia in the spread and impact of Christianity in West Africa.
- iii. assess the impact of Christian missionary activities in West Africa

Topic 3: Egypt under Mohammed Ali and Khedive Ismail

- a. The rise of Mohammad Ali and his reforms
- b. Mohammad Ali's relations with the Europeans
- c. Ismail's fiscal policies
- d. The British occupation of Egypt

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. determine the factors that aided Mohammad Ali's rise to power and his reforms;
- ii. establish the relationship between Mohammad Ali's Empire and the Europeans;
- iii. account for the fiscal policies of Ismail;
- iv. examine the reasons for the British occupation of Egypt

Topic 4: The Mahdi and Mahdiyya Movement in the Sudan

- a. Causes
- b. Course
- c. Consequences

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the causes, the course and consequences of the Mahdiyya Movement in the Sudan

Section 6: Eastern and Southern Africa

Topic 1: The Omani Empire

- a. The rise of the Omani Empire
- b. The empire's commercial and political relations with the coast and the hinterland.
- c. The Empire's relations with the Europeans

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. determine the factors that led to the rise of the Omani Empire;
- ii. assess the establishment of commercial and political relations between the Omani Empire, the coast and the hinterland.
- iii. examine the relationship that existed between the Omani Empire and the Europeans.

Topic 2: Ethiopia in the 19th century

- a. The rise of Theodore II and his attempt at the unification of Ethiopia
- b. Menelik II and Ethiopian independence

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the factors that led to the rise of Theodore II as the Emperor of Ethiopia;
- ii. analyse the strategies that were adopted to achieve Ethiopian unification.
- iii. assess the role of Menelik II in the maintenance of Ethiopian independence

Topic 3: The Mfecane

- a. The rise of the Zulu Nation
- b. Causes, Course and consequences of the Mfecane

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. trace events in Nguniland before the Mfecane;
- ii. determine for the factors that led to the rapid rise of Shaka.
- iii. examine the causes, course and consequences of the Mfecane

Topic 4: The Great Trek

- a. The frontier wars
- b. British intervention in the Boer African relations
- c. The Great Trek and its consequences

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. determine the factors that led to the frontier wars;
- ii. account for British intervention in the Boer-African relations;
- iii. describe the nature of the Great Trek;
- iv. examine its consequences

Section 7: Imperialism, Colonialism and Problems of Nation-Building in Africa

Topic 1: The New Imperialism and European Occupation of Africa

- a. The New Imperialism in Africa
- b. European scramble for Africa
- c. The Berlin Conference
- d. The occupation and resistance by Africans

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. assess the causes of the New Imperialism
- ii. examine the causes of the scramble;
- iii. account for the significance of the Berlin Conference.
- iv. examine African resistance to the occupation.

Topic 2: Patterns of Colonial Rule in Africa

- a. The British
- b. The French
- c. The Portuguese
- d. The Belgians

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine and compare the patterns of colonial rule by the various European powers.

Topic 3: The Politics of Decolonization

- a. Colonial policies and African discontent
- b. The impact of the two world wars
- c. Nationalist activities and the emergence of political parties and associations
- d. Strategies for attaining independence

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the policies employed by the colonial masters and the magnitude of African discontent;
- ii. assess the impact of the First and Second World Wars on African nationalism,
- iii. determine the strategies used in the attainment of independence.

Topic 4: Apartheid in South Africa

- a. The origin of apartheid
- b. Rise of Afrikaner nationalism
- c. Enactment of apartheid laws
- d. Internal reaction and the suppression of African nationalist movements
- e. External reaction to apartheid, the Frontline States, the Commonwealth of Nations,

OAU and the UN.

- f. The dismantling of apartheid
- g. Post-apartheid development

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. trace the origin of apartheid in South Africa;
- ii. give reasons for the rise of Afrikaner nationalism;
- iii. evaluate apartheid laws;
- iv. relate the internal reactions to apartheid to the African struggle for majority rule;
- v. relate the contributions of African states and international organizations to the fight against apartheid;
- vi. identify the steps taken towards the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa
- vii. assess the post-apartheid development in South Africa.

Topic 5: Problems of Nation-building in Africa

- a. Political and economic challenges and constraints
- b. Physical and environmental challenges
- c. Ethnic and religious pluralism
- d. Military intervention and political instability.
- e. Neo-colonialism and under -development.
- f. Boundary disputes and threat to African unity
- g. Civil wars and the refugee problem.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the political and economic problems faced by
assess the effects of natural disasters on Africa
- iii. determine the role of ethnic and religious problems in African;
- iv. examine the role of the military in African politics;
- v. examine the role of neo-colonialism in Africa;
- vi. assess the problems of boundary disputes;
- vii. establish the relationship between civil wars and refugee problems in Africa