

The aim of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) syllabus in Government is to **prepare the candidates for the Board's examination. It is designed to test** their achievement of the objectives of the course in Government.

These objectives are to:

- i. appreciate the meaning of government;
- ii. analyse the framework and specify the institutions of government;
- iii. explain the concept of citizenship and define the duties and obligations of a citizen;
- iv. appreciate the process of political development;
- v. evaluate the political development and problems of governance in Nigeria;
- vi. assess the role of Nigeria as a member of the international community and the workings of international organizations.

<p><b>1. Basic concepts in government</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Power, Right, Legitimacy, Authority, Sovereignty;</li> <li>b. Society, State, Nation, Nation-State;</li> <li>c. Political Processes Political Socialization, Political Participation, Political Culture.</li> </ol> <p><b>2. Forms of Government:</b> Monarchy, Aristocracy, Oligarchy, Autocracy, Republic, Democracy-definitions, features, merits and demerits.</p> <p><b>3. Arms of Government:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Legislature – types, structure, functions, powers;</li> <li>b. The Executive – types and functions, powers;</li> <li>c. The Judiciary – functions, powers, components.</li> </ol> <p><b>4. Structures of Governance:</b> Unitary, Federal, Confederal-features, reasons for adoption, merits and demerits.</p>	<p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. identify the fundamental concepts in governance;</li> <li>ii. analyse various political processes;</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. distinguish between different forms of government.</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. identify the duties and obligations of the various arms of government and their agencies;</li> <li>ii. relate each arm to its functions.</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. compare the various political structures of governance.</li> </ol>

<p><b>5. Systems of Governance:</b> Presidential, Parliamentary and Monarchical.</p> <p><b>6. Political Ideologies:</b> Communalism, Feudalism, Capitalism, Socialism, Fascism, Communism</p> <p><b>7. Constitution</b> Written, Unwritten, Rigid and Flexible.</p> <p><b>8. Principles of Democratic Government:</b> Ethics and Accountability in Public Office, Separation of Power/Checks and Balances, Individual and Collective Responsibility, Constitutionalism, Rule of Law.</p> <p><b>9. Processes of Legislation:</b> Legislative Enactment – acts, edicts, delegated legislation, decrees.</p> <p><b>10. Citizenship:</b> i. Meaning, types ii. Citizenship rights; iii. Duties and obligations of citizens.</p> <p><b>11. The Electoral Process:</b> Franchise, Election, Electoral System, Electoral Commission.</p> <p><b>12. Party Systems:</b> i. Definition, function and types ii. Political parties – Definition, Organization, functions.</p> <p><b>13. Pressure Groups:</b> Definition, types, functions and modes of operation.</p> <p><b>14. Public Opinion:</b> Meaning, functions and measurement.</p> <p><b>15. The Civil Service:</b> Definition, characteristics, functions, structure, control and problems.</p>	<p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. distinguish between the different systems of governance.</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. differentiate between the major political ideologies; ii. contrast modes of production,</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. compare the nature of constitutions</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. identify the principles of democratic government; ii. determine the application of these principles;</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. analyse the processes involved in the making of laws.</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. differentiate between the various types of citizenship; ii. specify the rights and responsibilities of a citizen.</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. analyse the various electoral processes.</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. distinguish between types of party system; ii. assess the role of political parties</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. distinguish between pressure groups and political parties</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. assess the function of public opinion; ii. compare methods of assessing public opinion.</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. analyse the significance of civil service in governance.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PART II POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA</b></p> <p><b>1. Pre – colonial Polities:</b> Sarauta, Emirate, Tiv, Igbo, Yoruba – structure/system of governance</p> <p><b>2. Imperialist Penetration:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The British process of acquisition – trade, missionary activities, company rule, crown colony, protectorate;</li> <li>The British colonial administrative policy – direct and indirect rule;</li> <li>Impact of British colonial rule-economic, political, socio-cultural;</li> <li>Comparison of British and French colonial administration.</li> </ol> <p><b>3. Process of Decolonization</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nationalist Movements – meaning, emergence, goals, strategies, nationalist leaders – Herbert Macaulay, Nnamdi Azikiwe, Obafemi Awolowo, Ahmadu Bello and others; emergence of nationalist parties.</li> <li>Influence of External factors;</li> <li>Constitutional development – the Clifford (1922), Richards (1946), Macpherson (1951), Lyttelton (1954) and Independence (1960) Constitutions.</li> </ol> <p><b>4. Post – Independence Constitutions</b> 1963, 1979, 1989 and 1999 – characteristics and shortcomings</p> <p><b>5. Institutions of Government in the Post – Independence period;</b> The Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary – structure, functions and workings</p> <p><b>6. Public Commissions Established by the 1979 and Subsequent Constitutions:</b> The Civil Service Commission, the Public Complaints Commission, Electoral Commissions and others – objectives and functions.</p>	<p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>compare pre-colonial systems of governance</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>trace the processes of imperialist penetration;</li> <li>assess the impact of British policies;</li> <li>distinguish between British and French colonial practices.</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>evaluate the process of decolonization;</li> <li>assess the roles of nationalist leaders and parties;</li> <li>assess the impact of external forces and ideas (Pan-Africanism, Back-to-Africa Movements, etc),</li> <li>compare the various constitutional developments.</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>assess the workings of the various constitutions.</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>evaluate the operations of the arms of government and their agencies, e.g the civil service, armed forces, police, courts and others.</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>evaluate the operations of public commissioners;</li> <li>assess the problems of, and constraints on the public commissions.</li> <li></li> </ol>
---	--

<p><b>7. Political Parties in the Post-Independence Period:</b> Political parties, party politics – First, Second, Third and Fourth Republics.</p> <p><b>8. The Structure and Workings of Nigerian Federalism:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rationale for a Federal System</li> <li>Tiers of government and their relationship</li> <li>Creation of States – 1963, 1967, 1976, 1987, 1991, 1996;</li> <li>Problems of Nigerian Federalism – census, revenue allocation, conflicts etc. solutions e.g. Federal character, etc.</li> </ol> <p><b>9. Public Corporations and Parastatals</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definition, types, purpose and functions</li> <li>Finance, control and problems;</li> <li>Deregulation, privatization– objectives, features, merits and demerits;</li> <li>Comparison between public corporations and parastatals.</li> </ol> <p><b>10. Local Government:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local government administration prior to 1976;</li> <li>Features of local government reforms (1976, 1989) – structure, functions, finance and inter-governmental relations;</li> <li>Traditional rulers and local governments.</li> </ol> <p><b>11. The Military in Nigerian Politics</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>factors that led to military intervention;</li> <li>structure of military regimes;</li> <li>impact of military rule – political, e.g creation etc. economic, e.g SAP, etc.</li> <li>processes of military disengagement.</li> </ol>	<p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>contrast political process in the republics.</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>examine the workings of Nigerian federalism;</li> <li>identify its problems;</li> <li>evaluate the corrective measure adopted.</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>examine the operations of public corporations and parastatals;</li> <li>identify the processes involved in privatization and commercialization;</li> <li>assess the economic importance of privatization and commercialization.</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>trace the evolution and structure of local government;</li> <li>identify the major problems faced by local governments.</li> </ol> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>evaluate the reasons given for military intervention;</li> <li>asses the achievements of military rule;</li> <li>determine the conditions that necessitated withdrawal from governance.</li> </ol>
--	--

<p><b>PART III: NIGERIA AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY</b></p> <p><b>1. Foreign Policy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Definition, purpose, determining factors;</li> <li>b. Nigerian foreign policy;             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Relations with major powers;</li> <li>ii. Relations with developing countries.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>2. Relations with African Countries:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>Africa as “centre piece”</b> – guiding principles, implementation and implications;</li> <li>b. NEPAD – origin, objectives and implications.</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Nigeria in International Organizations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The United Nations;</li> <li>b. The Commonwealth;</li> <li>c. The Organization of African Unity;</li> <li>d. The African Union;</li> <li>e. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);</li> <li>f. The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).</li> </ul> <p><b>PART IV: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:</b></p> <p><b>1. International Organizations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. ECOWAS;</li> <li>b. OAU, AU;</li> <li>c. Commonwealth;</li> <li>d. UNO;</li> <li>e. OPEC;</li> <li>- Origin, objectives, structure, functions, achievements, problems and prospects of these organizations.</li> </ul>	<p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. identify the major objectives of Nigerian foreign policy;</li> <li>ii. <b>analyse Nigeria’s aligned posture;</b></li> </ul> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. evaluate the role of Nigeria in continental affairs;</li> <li>ii. assess the role of NEPAD in developing Africa.</li> </ul> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>analyse the dynamics of Nigeria’s</b> involvement in international organizations;</li> <li>ii. assess their contribution to the development of Nigeria.</li> </ul> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. identify international organizations;</li> <li>ii. assess the role of these organizations in world affairs.</li> </ul>
---	--

- Adigwe, F (1985). *Essentials of Government for West Africa*, Ibadan: University Press Plc.
- Anifowose, R and Enemu, F. C (eds)(1999). *Elements of Politics*, Lagos; Malthouse Press Limited.
- Appadorai, A. (1978). *The Substance of Politics*, London: Oxford University Press.
- Ball, A. R. (1983). *Modern Politics and Government*, London: macmillan.
- Ikein, A. A. (1990). *The Impact of Oil on a Developing Country, The Case of Nigeria*, Ibadan; Evans.
- Ofoegbu, R. (1977). *Government for the Certificate Year*, London: George Allen and Unwin.
- Ojiako, J. O. (1981). *Nigeria Yesterday, Today and \_\_\_\_\_* ? Onitsha: Africana Educational Publishers (Nig.) Ltd.
- Olawale, J. B (1987). *New Topics on Ordinary Level Government*, Ilesha: Jola Publishing.
- Omolewa, M. (1991). *A Certificate History of Nigeria*, Ibadan: Longman.
- Oyediran, O. Nwosu, H., Takaya, B., Anifowoshe, R., Femi, B., Godwill, O. and Adigun, A. (1990). *Government for Senior Secondary Schools, Books 1, 2 and 3*, Ibadan: Longman.
- Oyeneye, I., Onyenwenu, M. and Olusunde, B. E. (2000). *Round-Up Government for Senior Secondary School Certificate Examination: A complete Guide*, Ibadan: Longman.
- Oyovbaire, S., Oguna, A. E. C., Amucheazi, E. C., Coker, H. O. and Oshuntuyi, O. (2001). *Countdown to Senior Secondary Certificate Examination: Government*, Ibadan: Evans.