Course: HIS 403 - Economic History of Nigeria in the 20th century (3 credits- compulsory)

Course Duration: Three hours per week for 15 weeks (45hours)

As taught in 2010/2011 session

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Consultations Hours: 10am-12noon (Mondays and Wednesdays)

Course Content:
The course examines the factors of change and continuity in the patterns of economic activities in Nigeria. The political and economic antecedents, the colonial setting, the new pattern of demand, the infrastructural facilities and the exploitation of agricultural and mineral resources, Man-power needs, training and the issue of labour. The changing patterns of production units including capital accumulation, banking, industries and the role of the entrepreneur of the entrepreneur- individuals companies, multinationals and the governments. The course is divided in to two sections. Section one covers the colonial period (weeks 1-7), while section two (week 8-14) covers the post colonial period of the 20th century.

Course Description:
The course provides comprehensive factors of change and continuity in the patterns of economic activities in Nigeria. It highlights the dynamic nature of the county’s economy especially in the 20th century and look at the antecedents of colonial economic setting in the area of infrastructural activities, demand for agricultural products and mineral resources. This promoted serious changing patterns of agricultural production, capital accumulation, banking methods, industrial development especially after independence and entrepreneurial capabilities of Nigerians. It also highlights government participation in the nation’s economic activities generally.

Course Justification:
The need to know the country’s economic dynamism is very important. This will afford the learners how to appreciate the present economic activities and prepare for the challenges ahead.

Course Objectives:
The main objective of the course is to introduce the students to the various economic activities that took place in Nigeria during the 20th century. By the end of the course, the students will be able:

i. Explain the development of agriculture during and after the colonial period
ii. Enumerate the level and achievement of transportation and communication during and after the colonial period
iii. Illustrate the development of commerce and banking during and after the colonial period.
iv. The changing pattern of income distribution and standard of living in Nigeria
v. Pre and post colonial manufacturing and construction processes in Nigeria

Course Requirements:
Apart from normal attendance of classes, students will be expected to read widely so as to be able to participate in debates during normal lecture hours. Students are expected to attend 75% of the classes before they can sit for the examination.

Methods of Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Type of Grading</th>
<th>Scores (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Test</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Participation in class</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>60</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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Course Delivery Strategies:
Face to face lectures will be the major method of course delivery. Students will be assigned into groups and will be expected to present group work in class on various topics:

SECTION ONE: Colonial Period

LECTURE CONTENT

Week 1: General survey of the pre-colonial economy of Nigeria regions.

Objectives:
The objective of the week is to describe and overview of the economic situation in the area that was christened Nigeria before the imposition of colonial rule.

Description:
First hour
The notion of subsistence economy in Nigeria region.
Second hour
Appraisal of the apprenticeship system
Third hour
Labour available in traditional economy of Nigeria:

Study Questions:
1. What were the nature and structure of the traditional economy of Nigeria?
2. Attempt an appraisal of the apprenticeship system in traditional economy of Nigeria?
3. What forms of labour were available in traditional economy of Nigeria?
4. What were the constraints suffered by the indigenous economy of Nigeria?
5. Discuss the meaning and notion of the subsistence economy?

Reading List:


\textbf{Week 2.}

\textbf{Objectives:}
Objectives of the week are to discuss the revolution brought into agricultural production in the 20\textsuperscript{th} century. There were two sides to it; export production and domestic production: this week will be dedicated to exported products.

\textbf{Description:}

\textbf{First hour}
- Export production: the principal agricultural exports- palm oil and kernels

\textbf{Second Hour}
- Cocoa and Groundnuts

\textbf{Third of Hour}
- Other exports: Rubber, Timber, Benn sp, etc

\textbf{Study Questions:}
1. Why is palm tree widely grown in the forest belt?
2. Discuss the introduction of cocoa?
3. Cotton was said to have been cultivated in Nigeria before the colonial era. Do you agree?
   1. Why did Benn seed described as “an unknown Nigeria export”?
   2. Why did rubber grew well in the forest belt?
   3. Discuss other crops that were exported from Nigeria in the 20\textsuperscript{th} century?

\textbf{Reading List:}

\textbf{Week 3.}

\textbf{Objectives:}
As said, there were two sides to agriculture during the period—export production and domestic production. The week will be dedicated to domestic products. They included yam, cassava, cocoyam, plantain etc.

**Description:**
First hour
Production of yam, cassava and cocoyam.
Second hour
Plantain, Pawpaw,
Third hour
Peers, Kola

**Study Questions:**
1. Explain the factors that helped in the spread of cassava in Nigeria?
2. Why did Kolanuts have a large market in Nigeria?
3. How do you account for extensive cultivation of guinea corn, millet and maize in savanna belt?

**Reading List:**
1. Aboyade 1,2,3 O. (Ed) (1964) "Nigeria oil: Prospects and Perspective " (pp 19-229). The Nigerian Journal of Economic and Social studies. Ibadan, the Ibadan University press ltd Vol 6, No 2
5. Onwuka 1,2,3 N. (2001). Economic history of Nigeria 19th and 20th centuries (pp1-63),

**Week 4**
**Objectives:**
The objectives of this week are to explain the two genres of trade in colonial Nigeria: domestic and external. And the performance of one segment of the trade affected that of the other.

**Description:**
First hour
Domestic trade: its neglect
Second hour
Importance and dynamism of domestic trade.
Third hour
External trade: Expatriate dominance Nigeria traders on the margin.

**Study Questions:**
1. Examine the importance of domestic trade?
2. Why was domestic trade neglected in Nigeria?
3. Account for British domination of the external trade in Nigeria?
4. What is Laissez-faire syndrome?
5. Examine the role of multi-national corporate in the internal and external trade of Nigeria?
Reading List:

Week 5 and 6

Objectives:
The objective of the weeks is to explain the machineries put in place to achieve the primary goals of colonialism. This included an effective administration, a modern transport system, a port able currency and modern banking.

Description:
First hour of week 5
Primary goals of colonialism
Second hour of week 5
Administration
Third hour of week 5
Transportation
First hour of week 6
Currency
Second hour of week 6
Banking
Third hour of week 6
General appraisal

Study Questions:
1. Explain colonial administrative policies and instruments?
2. Discuss how inland water ways problems were solved by the colonialists?
3. Explain systematic construction of railways in Nigeria?
4. What are the advantages of road transportation?
5. Examine the nature of the colonial banking system?

Reading List:
Week 7  
Objectives:  
The main objectives of the week are to explain the export processing and import substitution industrial policy of colonial administration.

Descriptions:  
First hour  
Export-processing  
Second hour  
Import substitution industries  
Third hour  
Discuss the general contents ……the balance sheets.

Study Questions:  
1. Assess the export processing ideology of the colonialist  
2. What is Import Substitution?  
3. How effective was Import Substitution?  
4. What do you understand by the Balance Sheet?  
5. 1946-1960 era was described as “the modern economic revolution” in the country. Discuss?

Reading List:  

Section Two: Post Colonial Period  
Week 8  
Objectives:  
The main objectives of the week are to discuss agricultural development that took place in Nigeria between 1960-1975.

Description:  
First hour  
Agricultural development 1666-1966

Second hour
Agricultural development 1966-1975

Third hour
General appraisal of agricultural development during this period

Study Questions:
1. Explain the establishment of the marketing boards in Nigeria?
2. Who are the local buying agents?
3. Critically explain the activities of the peasant agricultural producers?
4. What do you understand by commercialization of agricultural products?
5. Examine the roles of the multinational corporation (MNC) on agricultural production?

Reading List:

Week 9
Objectives:
The main objectives of the week are to consider agricultural events of Nigeria between 1975-1999.

Description:
First hour
Agricultural development in the period 1975-1980

Second hour
Agricultural development in Nigeria 1980-1999

Third hour
General appraisal of agricultural development during this period

Study Questions:
1. Explain the impact of Operation Feed the Nation on agricultural development of Nigeria?
2. Examine the involvement of Multinational Corporations (MNC) in agricultural transformation of the country in the 80s.
3. Examine World Bank involvement in the agricultural transformation of Nigeria?
4. Explain the role of River Development Authorities on agricultural transformation of the country?
5. Examine the demand trends of agricultural productions in Nigeria?

Assignment:
Examine the view that colonial planning in Nigeria was fundamentally a strategy for containing the worsening crisis of British colonialisms in order to sustain its exploitation
Reading List:

Week 10
Objectives:
The main objectives of the week are to look at the developments that occurred in the area of transportation and communications since independence.

Description:
First hour
The decline of Nigeria railways
Second hour
The dominant of Road Transport
Third hour
Ports, shipping and communications

Study Questions:
1. Examine the decline of the railways?
2. Explain the dominance of road transport in Nigeria?
3. Examine the Nigeria ports system?
4. What was the position of the Nigeria shipping line?
5. Examine the contribution of the telecommunication industry to the economic development of Nigeria in the 20th century?

Reading List:

Weeks 11 and 12
Objectives:
The main objectives of the weeks are to critically examine the petroleum and energy sector of Nigeria economy in the 20th century.

Description:
First hour of Week11
Nigeria petroleum policy
Second hour of Week11
The export of crude oil
Third hour of Week11
The domestic use of crude oil
First hour of Week12
Electricity
Second hour of Week12
Coal
Third hour of Week12
Radioactive minerals

Study Questions:
1. Examine the country’s petroleum policy
2. Examine the exportation of crude oil from Nigeria?
3. Describe the domestic use of crude oil?
4. Examine the utilization of revenue from crude oil?

Reading List:

Week 13 and 14
The main objectives of the weeks are to look at the Nigeria public finance policy after independence to the end of the 20th century.

Description:
First hour of Week13
The first republic 1960-1966
Second hour of Week13
The presidential system of government, 1979-1983
Third hour of Week13
The second military regime
First hour of Week14
Economic management 1960-1966
Second hour of Week14
The first military regime 1966-1979
The presidential system of government, 1979-1983
Overview of economic management

**Study Questions:**
1. Examine the country’s Public finance in the first republic?
2. Discuss the revolution that occurred in the nation’s public finance system during the military regime?
3. What is economic management?
4. Appraise the Nigeria economic management strategy over the years?
5. What are the constraints against the nation’s fiscal policy?

**Reading List:**

**Week 15: Revision:**

**Objectives:**
Students would be expected to seek explanation on any difficult topic treated during the course. They are expected to appreciate the integration of the various topics treated in the course as a complete package.

**Study Questions:**
1. What were the nature and structure of the traditional economy of Nigeria?
2. Why did kolanut have a large market in Nigeria?
3. Why is oil palm widely grown in the forest belt?
4. Examine the importance of domestic trade?
5. Examine the role of multinational corporation (MNS) in the exportation of Nigeria goods?
6. Who are the local buying agents?
7. Examine the downward trends in the agricultural production of Nigeria?
8. Critically examine the decline of railway in Nigeria?
9. Describe the domestic use of petroleum in Nigeria?

**Reading List:**


**General Reading List:**


**Legend**

1. Available in University Library
2. Available in Local Bookshop
3. Personal Collection
4. Available in National Library