



**UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
ACADEMIC PROGRAMME**

SCHOOL OF GENERAL STUDIES

The Use of English Unit

First Semester

G. S. 101: Use of English (2 Units)

Study Skills, the Use of Library and Basic Research Methods

(I) Introductory Lectures:

- a) Definition, Meaning and Functions of Language
- b) English as a Second Language in Nigeria
- c) Levels and varieties of English Usage
 - (i) Levels – informal, general or standard, and formal
 - (ii) Varieties – sub-standard, standard, technical and geographical (British, American, etc).

(II) Methods of Vocabulary Development

- a) Using the Dictionary: Types and functions;
- b) Synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, affixes, acronyms, etc. and vocabulary development.
- c) English Language Registers.

(III) Listening Comprehension

- a) Definition and Meaning of Listening Comprehension;
- b) Types and levels of listening comprehension;
- c) Contexts and purpose of listening;
- d) Factors affecting listening comprehension;
- e) Aids to listening comprehension.

(IV) Study Techniques

- a) Choosing study venues and discussion groups;
- b) Note taking during lectures and from audio-visual equipment.
- c) Note making during private reading and data collection;
- d) Summarizing notes for future use.

(V) The Use of the Library and Basic Research Methods

- a) The Definition, Origin and Development of Library;
- b) Types of Libraries;
- c) Forms of Library Services/functions of Library;
- d) Cataloguing and Book Classification Schemes;
- e) Process of Data Collection and Data Analysis;
- f) Research Writing: Process and Technique;
- g) Documentation: Quotations, notes, references and bibliography
- h) Abbreviations in research report writing;
- i) The finished Research Report.

(VI) Speaking Skills: Nature, Process and Development

- a) The Nature of Oral Communication;
- b) Phonetics: Definition and Importance;
- c) Organs of Speech and the speech production process;
- d) Classification of English Speech sounds;
- e) Pronunciation/Articulation;
- f) Phonetic Transcription;
- g) Phonological Interference;
- h) Principles of Oral Delivery/Speech Making and Social interaction.

(VII) Reading Comprehension

- a) Definition and Meaning of Reading Comprehension;
- b) Levels of Reading Comprehension;
- c) Factors that affect reading comprehension;
- d) Faster Reading Techniques;
 - (i) Scanning and Skimming;
 - (ii) Phrase-Reading
- e) Reading Comprehension Techniques;
 - (i) Intensive/Extensive Reading;

- (ii) Word/Text Attack Skills, SQ3R and PR3
- (VIII) **Revision and Examination Techniques**
- a) Pre-Examination Preparations
 - (i) Revision of Notes, Summary and Marginal notes;
 - (ii) Verification of Date and Venue of Examination Schedules;
- b) Conduct During Examination;
 - (i) Understanding instructions on Examination papers
 - (ii) Supply of Relevant personal data on Answer scripts;
 - (iii) Effective distribution of time to examination questions;
 - (iv) Compulsory questions; their significance;
 - (v) The advantages of attempting as many questions as possible;
 - (vi) Reading through answers for correction of avoidable errors;
 - (vii) Discipline in the Examination Venue. Post-Examination Activities;
 - (viii) Prompt submission of Answer Scripts;
 - (ix) Performance Self-Evaluation/Expectation.

Second Semester

GS 102 Grammar, Writing and Modern Information System

- (I) **Introductory Lectures: The Concept and Elements of Grammar**
- a) The Meaning and types of Grammar
- b) Parts of Speech
- c) Types or Elements of the sentence
- d) The Phrase and the Clause
- e) Sentence Types, Patterns and Varieties
- f) Agreement /Concord in Sentence Construction
- g) Error Identification and Correction
- (II) **Direct and Reported Speech**
- a) The meaning of Direct and Reported Speech
- b) Rationale for Direct and Reported Speech
- c) Standard features of Direct and Reported Speech
- d) Punctuation in Direct and Reported Speech
- (III) **The Mechanics of Writing**
- a) Punctuation
- b) Spelling
- c) Capitalization
- (IV) **Elements of Writing**
- a) The meaning, Nature/Purpose of Writing
- b) The Paragraph – Definition, Characteristics and Methods/Patterns of Development
- c) Qualities of Good Writing
- d) Form, Diction, Language and Style in Writing.
- (V) **Varieties of Writing**
- a) Essay Writing: Narrative, Description, Exposition and Argumentation
- b) Technical Writing: Process and Characteristics
 - (i) Letter writing: Informal, Semi-formal and formal
 - (ii) Memorandum and Curriculum Vitae
 - (iii) Report Writing: Forms/Types, Content
 - (iv) Speech Writing
 - (v) Agenda/Minutes
 - (vi) Book Reviews
- c) Special Register in Communication and Information Technology Development:
 - (i) The Meaning of information and communication technology
 - (ii) The Language of Electronics;
 - (iii) The Computer/Internet Language;
 - (iv) Information Search and Utilization;
 - (v) COMSKIP in Science and Technology

Social Sciences (GS 103/104)

First Semester

GS 103: Social Sciences (2 Units)

1. The Concept of General Studies in Tertiary Institutions
2. The Universe of social sciences

3. Sociology/Anthropology in Human Society
4. Various Research Methods: Application of different research methodologies.
5. Documentation and various forms of footnoting
6. Religion and its place in human society
7. Culture and cultural manifestation
8. Socialization and the value system
9. National development, its nature and character
10. The nature of social justice in Nigeria
11. Sickle cell anaemia: Prevention and control

Second Semester

GS 104: Social Sciences (2 Units)

- 0 Government and politics in Nigeria: Characteristics, problems and prospects.
- 1 Comparative political and economic system
- 2 Psychology: definition and application.
- 3 Economics as a social science: basic concepts
- 4 Philosophy: A brief survey
- 5 The Nigerian economy: Characteristics, problems and prospects.
- 6 The foreign policy of a developing nation: An analysis.
- 7 Basic concepts and purpose of government and political sciences
- 8 Elements of personality and personality formation.
- 9 Geography: A survey
- 10 HIV/AIDS: Its social implications.

GS 105/106: (Natural Science Unit)

Objectives and Scope:

The objective of the Natural Sciences is to stimulate student's interest in Science, establish the inter-relationship between scientific disciplines and create an awareness of the services of Science to man and the effects of science on human society. The course is offered to students who are majoring in the humanities and social sciences.

A. Natural Science I - GS 105 (First Semester) 2 units

The origin and evolution of scientific thought; the basic structure of matter; concept of process and energy; energy transformations in physical systems; solar and stellar systems; waves and radiations; organisms in the environment; cell theory and heredity; energy transformation in biological systems; climate, vegetation and animals.

B. Natural Science II - GS 106 (Second Semester) 2 units

Reactions and Uses: conventional and alternative sources of energy; space, science and exploration; transport and communications; the origin and nature of man; human ecology and population dynamics; public health and environmental sanitation; biological and agricultural research; social implications of technological development.

GS 207/208: Humanities

Objective and Scope

The current content of the Humanities Programme focuses on the crisis of development in the developing world, with Nigeria as a case study. With all the available human and material resources, the question is asked: What has gone wrong with Nigeria? The topics on this issue have been discussed strictly from the humanistic perspective. They cover the patterns of development, dating from the ancient civilizations, and the roles of logic, the arts, religion, history, archaeology, language, mass communication, and music in aiding and sustaining national growth.

Such a curriculum provides the student the opportunity of identifying the importance and relevance of the humanities in any aspect of human development. The course in Humanities is offered to all students who are registered for all degree programmes in the University with the exception of students in the Faculty of Arts.

GS 207: Humanities I (2 Units)

First Semester

Humanities, religion and development

Man know thyself

Logic and civilization

The relevance of the humanities in development

Literature and the spirit of man

Human rights and social justice - the African perspective

The contributions of Christianity to the development of post-primary education in Nigeria: 1882 -1940

GS 208: Humanities II (2 Units)

Second Semester

Africa and development

World-view and human development: African
Predicament revisited
Myths in Nigerian history
Ethnicity and religion in Nigerian politics: options for stability and economic growth.
The crisis of values: a bane to National development
Multilingualism in Nigeria: dynamics in national development
The dilemmas of mass communication in national development
The place of archaeology in national development: The case of Nigeria.
Visual Arts: the spirit of an age
Music and development: the Igbo experience.