

The New Senior Secondary Curriculum for Sierra Leone

Subject syllabus for Politics and Governance

Subject stream: Social and Cultural Studies



This subject syllabus is based on the National Curriculum Framework for Senior Secondary Education. It was prepared by national curriculum specialists and subject experts.





Curriculum elements for Politics and Governance – a core subject

Subject description

The objective is for students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the field of politics and governance, evaluate the critical role politics plays in our lives, and use critical thinking and evidence to assess the various theories and interpretations of politics and governance.

Rationale for the inclusion of Politics and Governance in the Senior Secondary School Curriculum

Politics is all around us and everyday people are affected by politics in diverse ways.

- a) Politics plays a large part in how societies are formed. Without an understanding of it young people are more likely to make political choices based solely on personality or media/ public opinion.
- b) Teaching students about the working of the political system and the variety of political beliefs and theories helps them to lead a self-determined and responsible way of life.
- c) Politics enables students to experience the value of human rights
- d) It teaches basic life skills like tolerance, peaceful co-existence, and fair play.
- e) Politics helps to foster active participation in a democratic society.

General Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able:

- Analyse political issues, demonstrate critical thinking skills, and develop a critical approach to the study of politics and governance.
- Evaluate the connection between politics and government.
- Distinguish between governance and good governance and show why good governance matters in any country.
- Show why politics is relevant in our everyday lives.
- Demonstrate knowledge of different political ideologies and systems around the world and assess their effects on people's lives.
- Examine the factors that led to the evolution of political parties in Sierra Leone.
- Scrutinise the constraints to the practice of democracy and the development of a democratic culture in Sierra Leone.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the importance of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government.
- Explain the merits and demerits of dual citizenship.
- Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, political parties, and elections in the political system.
- Define social contract and show the importance of the obligations of the state towards its citizens, and the rights and responsibilities of the citizens in a state.
- Show how the Sierra Leone National Constitution attempts to foster patriotism, unity, and national cohesion in the country.



- Examine the pattern, characteristics, and effects of European colonial rule in West Africa.
- Assess the role, importance and challenges of the public service and public corporations in a country.
- Determine why decentralisation is a critical element in good governance.
- Show, with case studies, how international relations and international organisations are helping to make the world a better and safer place to live.

Content (Topics/Themes)

1. The Concepts of Politics and Governance

- Definitions of politics
- Politics and government
- Politics and the citizen
- Governance and good governance
- Issues and challenges of good governance

2. Political Ideologies

- Meaning and characteristics of an ideology
- Political ideologies
- Significance of political ideologies
- Socialism, liberalism, and conservatism

3. Democracies in Contemporary Societies

- Understanding democracies
- Political parties in a democracy – roles and functions
- Evolution and growth of political parties in Sierra Leone
- Challenges to Sierra Leone democracy
- Citizen participation

4. Organs of Government

- Doctrine of Separation of Powers
- Roles and functions of the Executive
- Types and functions of the Legislature
- The Judiciary in a democracy
- Separation of Powers and rule of law

5. Citizenship

- What is citizenship?
- Legal requirements for citizenship
- Statelessness: causes and consequences
- Dual citizenship
- Rights and privileges of citizenship
- Duties and obligations of citizens
- The global citizen

6. Electoral Systems and Electoral Management Bodies

- Purpose of electoral systems
- Types and importance of electoral systems
- The franchise
- Managing elections in Sierra Leone

7. Power, Authority and Decision Making

- Defining power and authority
- Political power
- Types of authority
- Influence of power and authority in decision making

8. Nations, States, and Globalisation

- Definition of terms: nation, state, and nation-state
- Origins of the nation-state



- Types and characteristics of states
- Unitary and federal states
- Globalisation and forms of globalisation
- Benefits and challenges of globalisation

9. Evolution of the nation-state of Sierra Leone

- Creation of homelands in Sierra Leone
- British rule and ethnic relations
- Nationalism in Sierra Leone
- Politics of the nation-state
- The Constitution and national unity

10. European Colonial Rule in West Africa

- European infiltration and West African resistance to penetration
- The British in West Africa
- The French in West Africa
- The Germans and Portuguese in West Africa
- Nationalism in West Africa
- Impact of European colonialism on West Africa

11. Comparative Politics

- Presidential and parliamentary systems of government
- Democracies and dictatorships
- Political parties
- Political instability and political conflict
- The military factor in African politics

12. Pressure Groups, Civil Societies, and the Mass Media

- Definitions: pressure groups, civil society, and the mass media
- Types and characteristics of pressure groups

- Techniques of pressure groups
- The mass media in a democracy
- Social media and democratic culture

13. The Public (Civil) Service

- What is the Public Service?
- Structure of the Public Service in Sierra Leone
- Characteristics and functions of the Public Service
- Public Service Commission
- Office of the Ombudsman

14. Public (Statutory) Corporations

- Background to the creation of public corporations
- Meaning and features/characteristics
- Classification of public corporations
- Public corporations in Sierra Leone
- Advantages and limitations of public corporations

15. Decentralisation and Local Governance

- Defining concepts: decentralisation, local governance
- Objectives of, and arguments for decentralisation
- Types of decentralisation
- Forms of administrative decentralisation
- The challenges of decentralisation

16. International Relations and Organisations

- What are International Relations?
- The value of international relations in a globalised world
- Bilateral and multilateral organisations
- Sierra Leone's Foreign Policy



Distribution of content over three years

	SSS 1	SSS 2	SSS 3
Term 1	<p>The Concepts of Politics and Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Definitions of politics ▪ Politics and government ▪ Politics and the citizen ▪ Governance and good governance ▪ Issues and challenges of good governance <p>Political Ideologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meaning and characteristics of an ideology ▪ Political ideologies ▪ Significance of political ideologies ▪ Socialism, liberalism, and conservatism 	<p>Power, Authority and Decision Making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Defining power and authority ▪ Political power ▪ Types of authority ▪ Influence of power and authority in decision making <p>Nations, States, and Globalisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Definition of terms: nation, state, and nation-state ▪ Origins of the nation-state ▪ Types and characteristics of states ▪ Unitary and federal states ▪ Globalisation and forms of globalisation ▪ Benefits and challenges of globalisation 	<p>The Public (Civil) Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is the Public Service? ▪ Structure of the Public Service in Sierra Leone ▪ Characteristics and functions of the Public Service ▪ Public Service Commission ▪ Office of the Ombudsman <p>Public (Statutory) Corporations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Background to the creation of public corporations ▪ Meaning and features/characteristics ▪ Classification of public corporations ▪ Public corporations in Sierra Leone ▪ Advantages and limitations of public corporations
Term 2	<p>Democracies in Contemporary Societies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understanding democracies ▪ Political parties in a democracy – roles and functions ▪ Evolution and growth of political parties in Sierra Leone ▪ Challenges to Sierra Leone democracy ▪ Citizen participation <p>Organs of Government</p>	<p>Evolution of the nation-state of Sierra Leone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creation of homelands in Sierra Leone ▪ British rule and ethnic relations ▪ Nationalism in Sierra Leone ▪ Politics of the nation-state ▪ The Constitution and national unity <p>European Colonial Rule in West Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ European infiltration and West African resistance to penetration ▪ The British in West Africa 	<p>Decentralisation and Local Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Defining concepts: decentralisation, local governance ▪ Objectives of, and arguments for decentralisation ▪ Types of decentralisation ▪ Forms of administrative decentralisation ▪ The challenges of decentralisation



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Doctrine of Separation of Powers ▪ Roles and functions of the Executive ▪ Types and functions of the Legislature ▪ The Judiciary in a democracy ▪ Separation of Powers and rule of law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The French in West Africa ▪ The Germans and Portuguese in West Africa ▪ Nationalism in West Africa ▪ Impact of European colonialism on West Africa 	
Term 3	<p>Citizenship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is citizenship? ▪ Legal requirements for citizenship ▪ Statelessness: causes and consequences ▪ Dual citizenship ▪ Social Contract, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rights and privileges of citizenship ○ Duties and obligations of citizens ▪ The global citizen <p>Electoral Systems and Electoral Management Bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Purpose of electoral systems ▪ Types and importance of electoral systems ▪ The franchise ▪ Managing elections in Sierra Leone 	<p>Comparative Politics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presidential and parliamentary systems of government ▪ Democracies and dictatorships ▪ Political parties ▪ Political instability and political conflict ▪ The military factor in African politics <p>Pressure Groups, Civil Societies, and the Mass Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Definitions: pressure groups, civil society, and the mass media ▪ Types and characteristics of pressure groups ▪ Techniques of pressure groups ▪ The mass media in a democracy ▪ Social media and democratic culture 	<p>International Relations and Organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are International Relations? ▪ The value of international relations in a globalised world ▪ Bilateral and multilateral organisations ▪ Sierra Leone's Foreign Policy



Teaching Syllabus

Topic/ Theme/ Unit	Expected learning outcomes	Recommended teaching methods	Suggested resources	Assessment of learning outcomes
1. The Concepts of Politics and Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Definitions of politics ▪ Politics and government ▪ Politics and the citizen ▪ Governance and good governance ▪ Issues and challenges of good governance 	At the end of the unit, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Give at least four meanings of politics and explain their implications for governance. b) Examine the relationship between politics and government c) Determine how the citizen relates with or is affected by politics. d) Distinguish between governance and good governance. e) State the importance of good governance in a democracy. f) Examine some of the challenges of governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduce the lesson with the question – “What is politics”? ▪ Write some of the students’ responses on the board for further discussion. ▪ Share a handout containing the many definitions of politics and ask students what they think of each of these definitions. ▪ Connect the definitions to the principle of good governance. ▪ Discuss with students the relationship between politics and government. ▪ Ask students how politics affects their lives and let them suggest reasons why citizens must be interested in politics. ▪ Define the terms governance and good governance and distinguish between the two. ▪ State some of the elements/ features of good governance. ▪ Using Sierra Leone as an example, highlight some of the challenges of good governance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on “Politics and governance from YouTube ▪ Other relevant literature ▪ Resource person to talk on politics and good governance in Sierra Leone 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Multiple choice and true/false questions on the concepts of politics and governance. b) Short answer questions on politics, government, and the citizen, governance, good governance, and the challenges of good governance. c) Essay questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discuss four reasons why citizens should be interested in politics. ▪ Examine four features of good governance and indicate why good governance is necessary in a democracy.



<p>2. Political Ideologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meaning and characteristics of an ideology ▪ Political ideologies ▪ Significance of political ideologies ▪ Socialism, liberalism, and conservatism 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) State the meaning and characteristics of an ideology. b) Name and show the significance of some major political ideologies and how they affect people's way of life. c) Clearly distinguish between socialism, liberalism, and conservatism as political ideologies d) Outline the similarities between these three different ideologies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Start the lesson with a brainstormer – “What is an ideology”, and “what is a political ideology”? ▪ Tell the students about the importance of a political ideology. ▪ Discuss with them the ideologies of some modern political parties. ▪ Outline for discussion, the main characteristics of an ideology. ▪ Use case studies to distinguish between the differences and similarities between liberalism, socialism, and conservatism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on “Politics and governance” from YouTube ▪ Other relevant literature ▪ Media articles, press releases, manifesto and policy statements from political parties that indicate their ideologies. ▪ Resource person to talk on politics and good governance in Sierra Leone 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) True/ false and multiple-choice questions on the concepts of political ideologies. b) Matching questions on liberalism, socialism, and conservatism c) Short answer questions on political ideologies d) Research work: The two major political parties in the United States (US), the Democratic and Republican Parties, correspond closely with liberal and conservative ideologies, respectively. Indicate how these ideologies influence US policy debates with respect to the amount of government intervention in the economy or in social behaviour.
<p>3. Democracies in Contemporary Societies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understanding democracies ▪ Political parties in a democracy 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Give a working definition of and a brief history of democracy. b) Show the advantage of democracy over other forms of governance. c) Discuss the types and basic principles of democracy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Write the word DEMOCRACY boldly on the board and ask students to name words associated with democracy. ▪ Together with the students, write a working definition of democracy. ▪ Give a brief history of the concept of democracy and why 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on “Democracy” and political parties from YouTube ▪ Other relevant literature 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Multiple choice and true/false questions on democracies in contemporary societies and citizen participation in governance. b) Matching questions on the evolution and



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – roles and functions ▪ Evolution and growth of political parties in Sierra Leone ▪ Challenges to Sierra Leone democracy ▪ Citizen participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Demonstrate knowledge of the evolution of political parties in Sierra Leone. e) Highlight some of the major challenges to building a democratic culture in Sierra Leone. f) Suggest practical ways citizens can effectively participate in a democracy. 	<p>many countries now aspire to have a democratic form of government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ List for discussion, the basic principles of democracy. ▪ Debate the question: “Is Sierra Leone a democratic country?” ▪ Highlight some of the challenges to democracy in Sierra Leone and encourage students to add to the list. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Resource persons to talk on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) political parties in Sierra Leone, and b) citizen participation in governance 	<p>growth of political parties in Sierra Leone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Short answer questions on the challenges to Sierra Leone democracy and the forms of citizen participation in governance. d) Grade student participation in the debate “Is Sierra Leone a democratic country?” e) Essay question: Choose four forms of citizen participation in governance and analyse the advantages and problems of these types of citizen participation.
<p>4. Organs of Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Doctrine of Separation of Powers ▪ Roles and functions of the Executive ▪ Types and functions of the Legislature 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Name the main organs of government. b) Demonstrate knowledge of the doctrine of ‘Separation of Powers’ and why it is necessary in a democracy. c) Cite, with examples, instances when one of the organs may interfere with the operations of the other organs, and the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduce the lesson with a quick recap of the purpose of government. ▪ Talk about the meaning and importance of Separation of Powers. ▪ Ask the questions – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) “Is complete Separation of Powers possible in a democracy?” b) “What might happen if one of the organs of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on “Democracy and political parties” from YouTube ▪ Other relevant literature ▪ Resource persons to talk on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) political parties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Multiple choice and true/false questions on the organs of government, and the rule of law. ▪ Matching questions on the above. ▪ Essay questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discuss four reasons why the Separation of Powers is necessary in a democracy.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Judiciary in a democracy ▪ Separation of Powers and rule of law 	<p>implications of such interference for the sustenance of democracy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Examine the roles and functions of the Executive Branch of Government, using Sierra Leone as a case study. e) Name the types and functions of the Legislature. f) Explain the functions of the Judiciary in a democracy. g) Determine the connection between the Rule of Law and Separation of Powers. 	<p>government interferes in the operations of the other organs?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discuss with students, the functions of three arms of government in Sierra Leone and their importance. ▪ General discussion: “How does the doctrine of the Separation of Powers help to uphold the rule of law in Sierra Leone?” 	<p>in Sierra Leone, b) the Judiciary and c) citizen participation in governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name two types of legislature and examine the main functions of both legislatures
<p>5. Citizenship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is citizenship? ▪ Legal requirements for citizenship ▪ Statelessness: causes and consequences ▪ Dual citizenship ▪ Social Contract; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rights and privileges of citizenship ○ Duties and obligations of citizens ▪ The global citizen 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Define the term social contract. b) Explain the meaning of citizenship from a national and global perspective. c) List how citizenship can be acquired in Sierra Leone. d) Show the circumstances in which a person can become a stateless citizen. e) Examine the consequences of statelessness. f) Determine the advantages and problems of dual citizenship. g) Show the duties and obligations of citizens in a country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Begin the lessons with a brainstormer – e.g. What is the meaning of social contract?; Who is a citizen? ▪ List the legal requirements of citizenship in the Sierra Leone Constitution. ▪ Introduce the concept of citizenship deprivation and its implications. ▪ Talk about dual citizenship in Sierra Leone and elsewhere, its advantages and disadvantages. ▪ Make a table on the board to demonstrate a) rights and privileges, and b) duties and obligations of citizens in Sierra Leone. Discuss the relationship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on citizenship, and statelessness from YouTube ▪ Other relevant literature ▪ Resource persons to talk on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) political parties in Sierra Leone, b) the judiciary and c) citizen participation in governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Multiple choice and short answer questions on several aspects of citizenship. b) Essay questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Who is a stateless person? Examine the causes and consequences of statelessness. ▪ Define the term social contract. Analyse three rights and privileges and three duties and obligations of citizens under the Sierra Leone Constitution.



	h) Explain the concept and importance of the “Global Citizen”	between rights and privileges on the one hand, and duties and obligations on the other in the context a ‘social contract’.		
<p>6. Electoral Systems and Electoral Management Bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Purpose of electoral systems ▪ Types and importance of electoral systems ▪ The franchise ▪ Managing elections in Sierra Leone 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <p>a) Define the terms a) electoral systems and b) electoral management bodies.</p> <p>b) Examine the purpose and types of electoral systems around the world.</p> <p>c) Explain the meaning of franchise and the qualifications for voting in a public election in Sierra Leone.</p> <p>d) Assess the importance of the National Electoral Commission in the organisation and management of elections in Sierra Leone.</p> <p>e) Explain the requirements of free, fair, transparent, and credible elections.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Briefly talk about the types of public elections in Sierra Leone. ▪ Explain the connection between electoral systems and governance systems. ▪ Discussion: “Why do countries conduct elections?” ▪ Talk about the basic requirements for free, transparent, and credible elections and what might happen if elections do not meet these basic requirements. ▪ General discussion on the advantages and problems of the ‘one person, one vote’ principle in Sierra Leone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on electoral systems, and election management bodies across the world. ▪ Posters and leaflets on elections from National Electoral Commission (NEC) ▪ Resource persons from NEC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Multiple choice questions Fill in the blanks, matching questions and completion items on electoral systems and election management bodies. ▪ Short answer question on the purpose/ significance of elections. ▪ Essay questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ When do you consider an election free, fair, transparent, and credible? ▪ Why is it necessary for an election management body to be independent? ▪ Why might the ‘one-person, one vote’ principle be problematic in a developing country like Sierra Leone?
<p>7. Power, Authority and</p>	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Write the words Power and Authority on the board and ask 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook 	<p>a) Multiple choice questions. Fill in the</p>



<p>Decision Making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Defining power and authority ▪ Political power ▪ Types of authority ▪ Influence of power and authority in decision making 	<p>a) Define the terms power, authority, and decision making, and explain the connection between them.</p> <p>b) Examine the concept of political power</p> <p>c) State the different sources of political power.</p> <p>d) Show how power can have both positive and negative consequences.</p> <p>e) Describe the three types of authority according to Max Weber – a) Traditional, b) Charismatic, and c) Legal-Rational; their sources of power, leadership style, and examples.</p> <p>f) Explain how power and authority influence decision making.</p>	<p>students to name words associated with these two words.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Let them define what political power is and why political power is important. ▪ Provide a handout to explain the three types of authority according to Weber, their sources of power, leadership styles and examples, for class discussion. ▪ Encourage students to find more examples of the three types of authority. ▪ Explain how power and authority can influence decision making in government. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short videos and documentaries on power, authority, decision making, and types of authority from YouTube and other media ▪ Other relevant literature 	<p>blanks, matching questions and completion items on power, authority and decision making.</p> <p>b) Short answer questions on the types of power.</p> <p>c) Essay questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Choose three types of authority and examine their sources of power and leadership styles. ▪ Show three ways power can have both positive and negative effects.
<p>8. Nations, States, and Globalisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Definition of terms: nation, state, and nation-state ▪ Origins of the nation-state ▪ Types and characteristics of states 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <p>a) Define the terms nations, states, and nation-state.</p> <p>b) Show the characteristics of a nation and a state.</p> <p>c) Determine whether Sierra Leone is a nation, state, or a nation-state.</p> <p>d) Give a historical overview of the origin of the nation-state.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Begin the lesson with a pertinent question – “Is Sierra Leone a nation, a state or a nation-state?” ▪ Give a brief history on the evolution of the nation-state in Europe. ▪ Identify the types and characteristics of states. ▪ Distinguish between unitary and federal states; their advantages and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on “Globalisation” from YouTube and other media ▪ Other relevant literature 	<p>a) Multiple choice questions. Fill in the blanks, matching questions and completion items on nations, states, and globalisation.</p> <p>b) Short answer questions on types and characteristics of states.</p> <p>c) Essay questions</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unitary and federal states ▪ Globalisation and forms of globalisation ▪ Benefits and challenges of globalisation 	<p>e) Name the types and characteristics of states.</p> <p>f) Define the term globalisation and name some forms of globalisation.</p> <p>g) Examine the benefits and challenges of globalisation.</p>	<p>disadvantages, using Sierra Leone and Nigeria as examples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discuss the concept of globalisation from economic, cultural, technological, and climate perspectives. ▪ Debate the topic: "Globalisation is good for Sierra Leone". 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trace the evolution and consequences of the nation state in Europe. ▪ Discuss the features of unitary and deferral states and examine (three?) disadvantages and advantages connected with federal states. ▪ What are the benefits and challenges of globalisation for developing countries like Sierra Leone?
<p>9. Evolution of the nation-state of Sierra Leone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creation of homelands in Sierra Leone ▪ British rule and ethnic relations ▪ Nationalism in Sierra Leone ▪ Politics of the nation-state ▪ The Constitution and national unity 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <p>a) Trace the evolution of the nation-state of Sierra Leone</p> <p>b) Explain how British colonial rule in Sierra Leone fostered or hindered ethnic cohesion in the country.</p> <p>c) Demonstrate an understanding of the growth of nationalism in Sierra Leone.</p> <p>d) Examine the characteristics of politics in post-colonial Sierra Leone.</p> <p>e) Show how certain provisions in the National Constitution attempt to promote national cohesion and unity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A quick recap of the concept of the nation-state. ▪ Give a brief account of the migration stories of Sierra Leone's ethnic groups with their 'homelands'. ▪ Indicate some of the characteristics of British rule with special reference to their policy of divide and rule. ▪ Trace the growth of nationalism in Sierra Leone, from the Nova Scotian era, the 1898 uprising, and the post-World War 2 developments. ▪ Discuss the role of ethnicity in the post-colonial politics of Sierra Leone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Other relevant literature ▪ Resource persons 	<p>a) Multiple choice questions. Fill in the blanks, matching questions, and completion items on the evolution of the nation state of Sierra Leone under British colonial rule.</p> <p>b) Short answer questions on the British policy of divide and rule, and its effect on ethnic relations during the colonial period.</p> <p>c) Essay questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How relevant are the traditional homelands of



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Debate: “How does the politics of ethnicity affect national cohesion in post-colonial Sierra Leone?” ▪ Read those provisions in the National Constitution that attempt to promote national unity and cohesion, for class discussion. 		<p>Sierra Leone’s ethnic groups in the post-colonial period?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In what ways did British rule promote or hinder ethnic relations in Sierra Leone? <p>d) Grade the debate on the politics of ethnicity in postcolonial Sierra Leone.</p>
<p>10. European Colonial Rule in West Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ European infiltration and West African resistance to penetration ▪ The British in West Africa ▪ The French in West Africa ▪ The Germans and Portuguese in West Africa ▪ Nationalism in West Africa ▪ Impact of European colonialism on West Africa 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Examine the reasons for the coming of Europeans to West Africa b) Assess the relationship between West African leaders and the Europeans prior to European colonial rule. c) Delineate the common features of European colonial rule in West Africa. d) Highlight the distinguishing features of British, French, German, and Portuguese systems of governance in West Africa. e) Trace the growth and examine the impact of nationalism in colonial West Africa. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brainstorming session: ask pertinent questions to arouse the students’ interest in the subject. ▪ Discuss and summarise the reasons for European penetration in Africa. ▪ Read extracts from books related to the subject matter, e.g., <i>Things Fall Apart</i> (Chinua Achebe), <i>The Poor Christ of Bomba</i> (Mongo Beti) for discussion and analysis. ▪ Summarise the common features of European colonial rule and relate these to the Sierra Leone example. ▪ Trace the growth of nationalism in West Africa, using Ghana and Guinea as examples. ▪ Let students discuss the significance of European rule in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos on West African soldiers in World War 2, and Nationalism in West Africa ▪ Pictures on West African resistance to European rule. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Multiple choice questions. Fill in the blanks, matching questions and completion items on aspects of European colonial rule in West Africa. b) Short answer questions on the above. c) Essay questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Examine the common features of European colonial rule in West Africa. ▪ Did “things fall apart” in West Africa with the coming of Europeans in the sub-region from the mid 19th century?



	f) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of European rule in West Africa.	West Africa under the following headings: a) Political, b) Economic, c) Cultural		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contrast the colonial policies of the British and the French in West Africa. ▪ Examine the impact of European rule in West Africa under the following headings: a) Political, b) Economic, and c) Cultural.
<p>11. Comparative Politics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presidential and parliamentary systems of government ▪ Democracies and dictatorships ▪ Political parties ▪ Political instability and political conflict ▪ The military factor in African politics 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Define the term 'comparative politics'. b) Determine why comparative politics is an important field of study. c) Highlight the features of democracies and dictatorships. d) Examine the causes and consequences of political instability and political conflict in selected countries. e) Analyse the role of the military in contemporary African politics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Begin the lesson with the question – “What is comparative politics?” ▪ Discuss the importance of studying comparative politics and encourage students to give additional reasons. ▪ Highlight the characteristics of Presidential and Parliamentary systems of government. ▪ Ask the question – “Does Sierra Leone practice a Presidential or Parliamentary system of government?” (Explain to the students why it is a hybrid system). ▪ State the differences between democracies and dictatorships and encourage students to give examples of each type. ▪ Discuss with students some of the major causes and consequences of political 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on Presidential and Parliamentary systems of governance ▪ Pictures and photos on political instability in selected West African countries ▪ Resource persons 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Define the following terms: a) Presidential system of government, b) Parliamentary system of government. b) Multiple choice questions, fill in the blanks, matching questions, and completion items on comparative politics. c) Essay questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Analyse the main features of Presidential and Parliamentary systems of government. ▪ Examine the key characteristics of dictatorships and democracies. ▪ Is Sierra Leone's governmental system



		<p>instability and political conflict in African countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Debate: “The military in African politics – success or failure?” 		<p>Presidential or Parliamentary?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Examine the role of the military in contemporary African politics. ▪ State four causes of political instability in Africa and analyse their effects on nation building.
<p>12. Pressure Groups, Civil Societies, and the Mass Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Definitions: pressure groups, civil society, and the mass media ▪ Types and characteristics of pressure groups ▪ Techniques of pressure groups ▪ The mass media in a democracy ▪ Social media and democratic culture 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Define the terms pressure groups, civil society, and mass media Analyse the types and characteristics of pressure groups. Examine the strategies of pressure groups to influence change. Name the different types of mass media and examine the responsibility of the media in a democracy. Define social media and give examples of social media. Demonstrate an understanding of the use and abuse of social media. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Write the words pressure groups, civil societies, and mass media on the board to elicit the students’ understanding/ knowledge of these concepts. ▪ Students to name some civil society organisations in Sierra Leone and their main functions. ▪ Talk about the role of civil society organisations in a democracy and the strategies they use to achieve their aims. ▪ Discuss some of their challenges. ▪ Talk about the benefits and detriments of the mass media in developing countries. ▪ Talk about the role of the mass media in promoting national cohesion. ▪ Debate – “Is social media a force for good or bad?” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on “Civil society activists, pressure groups” from YouTube and other media ▪ Other relevant literature ▪ Resource persons 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple choice questions. Fill in the blanks, matching questions, and completion items on pressure groups, civil societies, and the mass media. Short answer questions on the above. Essay questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In what ways do pressure groups promote or hinder good governance in developing countries? ▪ Examine the key functions of the mass media in developing countries. ▪ Is social media a force for good or evil?



<p>13. The Public (Civil) Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is the Public Service? ▪ Structure of the Public Service in Sierra Leone ▪ Characteristics and functions of the Public Service ▪ Public Service Commission ▪ Office of the Ombudsman 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Define the term Public Service and show its importance in governance. b) Determine the structure of the Sierra Leone Public Service. c) Examine its characteristics and main functions. d) Show the composition and functions of the Public Service Commission. e) Discuss the role of the Office of the Ombudsman in improving governance and promoting the delivery of public services in Sierra Leone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Begin with a brainstorming question – “What is the Public Service?” to elicit the students’ understanding of the subject. ▪ Outline the composition, structure, and functions of the Sierra Leone Public Service. ▪ Read parts of the Public Service Commission Act and the Office of Ombudsman Act and discuss some of their relevant provisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Organogram of the Public Service structure ▪ Resource persons 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Multiple choice questions. Fill in the blanks, matching questions, and completion items on various aspects of the Public Service in Sierra Leone. b) Short answer questions on the above. c) Essay questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is the purpose of the Public Service in Sierra Leone? ▪ Examine three ways the Office of the Ombudsman is working to improve governance in Sierra Leone.
<p>14. Public (Statutory) Corporations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Background to the creation of public corporations ▪ Meaning and features/characteristics ▪ Classification of public corporations 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Name some public corporations in Sierra Leone. b) Analyse the functions of some of these corporations c) Determine their contribution to national development. d) Examine the strengths and weaknesses of public corporations through case studies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Start by asking the question – “What is a public corporation?” ▪ Encourage students to name some public corporations in Sierra Leone. ▪ Discuss with students the main functions of some of these corporations. ▪ Talk about the importance and advantages of establishing these corporations. Are there any disadvantages? ▪ Where possible, arrange a visit to a public corporation and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Other relevant literature ▪ Resource persons 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Multiple choice questions. Fill in the blanks, true/ false and matching questions, and completion items on the purpose, advantages, and challenges of public corporations in Sierra Leone. b) Short answer questions on the above. c) Essay questions



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public corporations in Sierra Leone ▪ Advantages and limitations of public corporations 		<p>encourage students to write a report of their visit.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is the role of public corporations in governance? ▪ Using Sierra Leone as an example, examine the advantages and problems of public corporations.
<p>15. Decentralisation and Local Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Defining concepts: decentralisation, local governance ▪ Objectives of, and arguments for decentralisation ▪ Types of decentralisation ▪ Forms of administrative decentralisation ▪ The challenges of decentralisation 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Define decentralisation and local governance b) Point out the relationship between them. c) Examine the arguments for and against decentralisation d) Analyse the forms of decentralisation. e) Explain the challenges of decentralisation in Sierra Leone. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ask leading questions to elicit the students' prior knowledge of the subject. ▪ Let them name some local government bodies in their region and discuss their main functions. ▪ Talk about the arguments for or against decentralisation. ▪ List the forms of decentralisation on the board for discussion. ▪ Discuss how decentralisation can help to promote good governance. ▪ With examples from their region, let students talk about the major challenges facing their local government. ▪ Arrange a visit to a local government body. ▪ Students to write a report after the visit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on decentralisation and local governance from YouTube and other media ▪ Other relevant literature ▪ Resource persons on local governance 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Multiple choice questions. Fill in the blanks, matching questions and completion items on the functions, advantages and challenges of decentralisation and local governance. b) Short answer questions on the above. c) Essay questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do further research on decentralisation and analyse the arguments for and against decentralisation. ▪ Examine the challenges of decentralisation in Sierra Leone. d) Grade the students' report on the field visit.



<p>16. International Relations and Organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are International Relations? ▪ The value of international relations in a globalised world ▪ Bilateral and multilateral organisations ▪ Sierra Leone's Foreign Policy 	<p>At the end of the unit, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) State the meaning of 'international relations' b) Determine the significance of international relations in global politics. c) Show, with examples, the difference between bilateral and multilateral organisations. d) Examine the main features of Sierra Leone's foreign policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ask students for their understanding of 'international relations' and why international relations are necessary. ▪ State the difference between bilateralism and multilateralism ▪ Encourage students to give examples of bilateral and multilateral relations and organisations and their relevance in a globalised world. ▪ Outline the main features of Sierra Leone foreign policy for general discussion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Guidebook ▪ Short videos and documentaries on "International Relations" ▪ Other relevant literature ▪ Resource persons 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Multiple choice questions. Fill in the blanks, matching questions and completion items on the meaning, purpose and benefits of international relations. b) Short answer questions on the above. c) Essay questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why are international relations relevant in the contemporary world? ▪ Give one example each of bilateral and multilateral relations and analyse their benefits. ▪ Examine four ways Sierra Leone is contributing to and benefiting from multilateral organisations.
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