



EDO UNIVERSITY IYAMHO



Department of Political Science and Public Administration POL 111: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE

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Course General overview: This course introduces students to the nature of politics. It emphasises the issues of political discourse and practice. It also introduces students to the language, methods and basic concepts of Politics.

Course Objectives

- (i) To introduce students to study of politics and political science.
- (ii) To highlight the major sub-fields within Political Science.
- (iii) To demonstrate how political science relates to other discipline in the Social Sciences.
- (iv) To unfold how political activities affects human society.
- (v) To introduce students to the various approaches to the study of politics.
- (vi) To explain basic concepts of political science.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME: at the end of the course, students should be able;

- a) To demonstrate a good knowledge of the concept of politics and political science as a field of knowledge.
- b) To explain the relationship between political science and other discipline.
- c) To list and explain the sub-fields of political science.
- d) To explain the various approaches to the study of politics.
- e) To critically evaluate different concepts of political science.
- f) To demonstrate an understanding of the forms of government, institution and functions of government.

Learner profile

This is an introductory course that is designed to help learner have a firm grasp of the rudiments of the discipline. It is prepared for students in the first year study in

Political science and Public Administration who gained admission into the Edo University through the Unified Territary Matriculation Examination.

Learning Context

The learning content for this course will be in two parts. The first part will entail classroom lecture interaction with all students. Topics in the course outline will be discussed in lecture room with all class participants. This will run from week one through to week eleven. Thereafter the remaining one week will be for revision. The revision week will entail discussion on course content as well as treatment of political issues that explores the nature of the political event and responses to them, and shows how these relate to the chosen situation.

Course Assessment Scheme

Continuous Assessment	Marks
In class test	5 marks
Assignment	5 marks
Quizzes/presentation	5 marks
Mid semester test	15 marks
Examination	
End of semester examination	70 marks
Total	100%

Attendance: Attendance is compulsory, 70% class attendance to enable candidate seat for exams

Test/ Assignment Submission date: The mid-semester test will be conducted in the seventh week of the semester. Date for in-class test, submission of assignment and group presentation will be discussed in class with students.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: Political Science: Definitions and Conceptualization.

- The concept of politics.
- What is science?
- What is political science?

Week 2: The science of politics: The scientific status of the discipline.

- The meaning of science
- Cannons of science
- The scientific nature of the study of politics
- Political scientist and the use of scientific patterns

Week 3: Relationship between Political Science and other discipline.

The relationship between political science and;

- History
- Philosophy
- Law
- Sociology
- Economics

Week 4: Sub fields of Political Science.

- Comparative Politics
- Public Administration
- International relations
- Political economy
- Political philosophy
- Political sociology
- Environmental politics

Week 5 & 6: Approaches to the study of Political Science.

- What is approach?
- Traditional approach to the study of politics
- Characteristics and Criticism of the traditional approach
- Behavioural approach
- Characteristics and main features of the Behavioural approach
- Criticism of the Behavioural approach

Week 7, 8 &9: Basic concepts in Political Science such as

- Concept of Power and Authority
- Authority, legitimacy and influence
- Separation of power and sovereignty
- State and nation
- Constitution and constitutionalism
- Rule of law
- Political participation, socialization and culture
- Political parties and pressure group
- Public opinion.

Week 10 & 11: Element, institution and functions of government.

- What is government
- Functions of government
- Organs of government

Week 12: Forms of government.

- Democracy
- Dictatorship
- Oligarchy
- Monarchy
- Socialism
- Unitary system

Reading Lists

Appadorai, A. (1986) *The Substance of Politics*. 10th Edition Oxford: Oxford University Press

Ekiugbo, A.E and Umukoro N (2010) *African Government and Politics*. Nigeria: Mindex Publishing Co Ltd

Ekpekurede, W and Umukoro (2010) *Political Science: An Introduction*. Nigeria: AMBIK

Heywood, A. (2007) *Politics*. 3rd Edition. UK: Palgrave Macmillan.

Ikelegbe, A. (2005) *Introduction to Politics*. Lagos: Imprint Services

Johari, J. C (1987) *Principles of Modern Political Science*. New Delhi: Sterling Publishers Private Limited

Mahagan, V. D. (1988) *Political theory (Principle of Political Science)*. New Delhi: Schand and Company Ltd.

Rodee, C. C.; Anderson T. J and Quimby, C. (1976) *Introduction to Political Science*. 3rd Edition. McGraw Hill higher Education

Roskin, M. G; Cord R. L; Medeiros J. A and Jones W. S (2010) *Political Science: An Introduction*. 11th Edition. Boston; Longman Pearson

LECTURE ONE

TOPIC: WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE?

Topic outline

1. The concept of politics.
2. What is science?
3. What is political science?

Expected learning outcome. At the end of the topic, students are expected to be able to:

1. Define what is politics;
2. Define and explain the cannons of science;
3. Give a working definition of political science; and
4. Explain the importance of studying political science.

Nature of Political Science

Political science is a discipline in the social sciences which studies governments, institutions, politics, ideas and political behaviour.

WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political science is a fluid concept. There is no universally accepted definition. Political science encapsulates two concepts (politics and science) that require careful clarification before attempting a definition.

What is politics?

The word politics is derived from the Greek word “POLIS”. Meaning “CITY-STATE”. To the Greeks, the polis was the most meaningful community above the family level. It was argued that any community larger than the family contains element of politics (Idahosa and Idisi 2005:3 in Ikelegbe ed.).

Ekpekurede and Umokoro (2010) there are many definitions of politics. The following are some of these definitions:

Aristotle viewed politics as a master science. Aristotle considered the state as the highest and most inclusive association fashioned by man where he can fully develop. Thus, politics deal with the state of the state. The criticism of Aristotle definition is that, the definition neglected an aspect of politics which is concerned with the interaction of state.

Max Weber defined politics as striving to share power or striving to influence the distribution of power either among states or groups or classes within a state. This is an improvement over Aristotle’s definition as it takes into consideration relations among states.

Otto Von Bismarck defined politics as the art of the possible. This definition view politics as having to do with maneuvering one’s way into power and manipulating people.

Vernon Van Dyke defined politics as the study of actors pursuing conflicting desires on public issues. This definition limited political activities to pursuing conflicting desires only.

Nnoli states that politics concerns itself with the allocation of scarce valuable resources in the society. Allocation of resources is only a part of what politics is. The definition did not engage the aspect of politics that deals with acquisition of power

Durdley B.J. posits that politics cannot be defined but can only be described. He described politics as;

1. Consciousness formation
2. Social mobilization
3. Contesting and decontesting
4. Institutionalized struggle
5. Transcendence

Dahl Robert posits that politics deals with the study of conflict which arises whenever people come together. He further defined political science as the study of politics through methods and procedures, which are designed to yield reliable knowledge about the world. This definition shows the distinction between the meaning of politics and political science.

Ola, R.F postulate that politics deals with power, its management within an existing setup. He further defined political science as the acquisition and allocation/distribution of scarce resources of the state.

David Easton defined politics as the authoritative allocation of values for a society. This definition did not address the process of power acquisition.

Harold Lasswell defined politics as the study of who gets what, when and how? This definition ignored aspect of power utilization as it concerns itself with power acquisition.

Working definition of politics

Base on Easton and Lasswell definition;

Politics can be defined as the process involved in acquisition of state power and utilization of state power.

What is Science?

Science is defined as the systematic observation of nature, events and conditions in order to discover facts about them and formulate laws and principles based on the facts.

CANNONS OF SCIENCE

1. Observation
2. Replication
3. Experimentation
4. Objectivity
5. Systematization
6. Quantification
7. Precision Ekpekurede and Umokoro (2010)

Political science is essentially a study of human behaviour through observation, data gathering and analysis. Using the cannons of science political scientist seek patterns in the reasons and outcomes for political events so that generalisation and theories can be made.

Working definition of Political Science

Political science can be defined as a systematic body of knowledge that deals with acquisition of state power and utilization of power.

References

Ikelegbe A. 2005 (ed) Introduction to Politics. Lagos: Imprints Services

Ekpekurede, W. and Umukoro (2010) Political Science-An Introduction. Nigeria: AMBIK Press



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LECTURE TWO

TOPIC: THE SCIENCE OF POLITICS

Topic outline;

1. The meaning of science
2. Cannons of science
3. The scientific nature of the study of politics
4. Political scientist and the use of scientific patterns

Expected learning outcome

At the end of the topic, students are expected to be able to:

1. Explain the scientific nature of political science and;
2. Demonstrate how political scientist uses scientific patterns in explaining social realities.

The Science of Politics

Questions have been raised over the years whether or not politics can be studied scientifically. The study of politics is generally regarded as scientific (Oyediran, 2003). The above make two questions pertinent. First, why is the study of politics described scientific? Secondly, how scientific is the study of politics.

Oyediran noted that Robert Dahl regards political analysis as both Art and science. According to him Political science is an Art when many aspects of political analysis are easily acquired by practice and training under the supervision of a person who is skilled in political analysis. Political science is a science when students of politics test their generalisations and theories against data of experience by means of observation, classification and measurement.

The meaning of science

The word science is derived from a Latin word “SCIRE” which means “TO KNOW”. Therefore science is a systematic method of knowing.

Definitions of Science

1. Science is the observation of facts.
2. It is the systematic observation of nature, events, and conditions in order to discover facts about them and to formulate laws and principles based on these facts.

3. It is an organized body of knowledge that is derived from observations and can be verified or tested by further investigations.

Canons of science as identified by Ekpekurede and Umukoro (2005) are;

1. Observation: the
2. Classification
3. Explanation
4. Quantification
5. generalization
6. Prediction, replication and objectivity.

Limitations to scientific findings

1. Limits of observation
2. Reactive effects of the experimental environment.
3. Reactive effects of pre-testing
4. Limits of knowledge and ability of the researcher.
5. Failure to interpret data correctly.
6. Moral and ethical consideration
7. The influence of values.

The scientific nature of the study of politics

Robert Dahl, David Truman and David Easton claimed that they can use the same methods as the physical scientist in the study of politics.

Political scientist employs the following scientific methods in their analysis in order to explain and predict.

1. Observation
2. Classification
3. Explanation
4. Quantification
5. Generalization

6. Prediction, replication and objectivity.

Political scientist and the use scientific patterns in the study of politics

Observation- political scientist begins his inquiry by observation and description of social phenomena. Then he classifies the subject matter before explanation .i.e. dependent and independent variables. In explaining why an event occurs, the political scientist tries to establish a link between the variables under study. Explanation seeks to identify the conditions that produced or account for, or lead to a particular situation. By so doing, we are stating a hypothesis. Then the political scientist employ quantification by looking for other contexts in which these conditions also appear. The larger the number of instances, the more acceptable is the hypotheses. Following from the logical explanation, the political scientist predict social reality.

Argument against the scientific nature of the study of politics

1. The political scientist
2. The subject matter

Summary

The study of politics is generally regarded as science because political scientist employs scientific procedures in their analysis in order to explain and predict social realities.

Political phenomenon can be observed, verified and quantified with a view to generating laws that can be used to explain or study political issues or situations.

Oyediran O. 2003 Introduction to Political Science. Ibadan: Daybis Limited

Ekpekurede, W. and Umukoro (2010) Political Science-An Introduction. Nigeria: AMBIK Press



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LECTURE THREE

TOPIC: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND OTHER DISCIPLINE

Topic outline;

The relationship between political science and;

1. History
2. Philosophy
3. Law
4. Sociology
5. Economics

Expected outcome; at the end of the topic

1. Students should be able to describe the relationship between political science and other discipline.
2. Relationship exist between political science and other discipline because in its inquiry political science uses methods, models, theories and selects facts from other discipline

According to Ekpekurede and Umokoro (2010), the following are the relationship between political science and other discipline

Political science and history: the study of history includes a survey of economic, religious, intellectual and social developments as well as a study of states, their growth and organization and their relationship with one another. Historical records are very useful in the study of political processes. Political scientist therefore selects facts from history and uses historical method in political analysis.

Political science and Law: Some aspects of political science are concerned with law making and implementation. Political activities in any political system are carried out within the framework of law. Aspects of law studied in political science are constitutional development, administrative and international law.

Political science and sociology: sociological theories and writings are useful for explanation and prediction of political phenomena. A sub field of political science is called political sociology which involves the application of sociological theories and concepts to political behavior and processes.

Political science and philosophy: The contribution of philosophy has greatly enriched the study of political science. The origin of the study of politics cannot be separated from philosophy. Political philosophy is one of the subfields of political

science. In political philosophy, the philosophical thoughts of classical, medieval and modern political philosophers are examined.

Political science and economics: aspects of economics such as public financial management and public sector economics are related to political science. Political economy is also a sub field of political that studies the social relations between people taking part in the process of production and the laws governing the production, distribution, exchange and consumption of material value at different stages in the society's development.

Reference

Ekpekurede W. and Umukoro, N. (2010) Political Science: An Introduction.
Lagos: AMBIK Press



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LECTURE FOUR

TOPIC: SUBFIELDS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

At the end of the topic, students are expected to

Explain the various subfields of political science.

Political science is a broad discipline with many subfields.

These subfields are;

1. Political theory or philosophy
2. Comparative politics
3. International relations
4. Political economy
5. Political sociology
6. Public administration
7. Environmental politics

Ekpekurede and Umukoro (2010) explain the subfields as follows;

Political theory or philosophy is a branch of political science which entails the examination of social and political thoughts of classical, medieval and modern political philosopher such as Plato, Aristotle, Rousseau, Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Saint Augustine, Niccolò Machiavelli amongst others.

Political sociology is concerned with the application of sociological theories and concepts to political behavior. Topics covered in political sociology includes; political culture, political socialization, political participation, political movement and political change.

Comparative politics is a subfield of political science that involves two elements (i) it is a subject of study comparing the nature of politics and the political process across different political systems. (ii) it is a method of identifying and explaining similarities and differences between countries. Comparison can be done on Institutions, constitutions, Laws, organizations, civil societies, and foreign relations, economic and political functions of different political systems.

Public administration deals with the study of and practice of public administration. Public administration deals with a broad range of theory designed to promote understanding of bureaucracy at national, regional and local government.

International relations is concerned with the study of the interactions or relationship between states and non-state actors such as non-governmental organisations. Such interaction can be political, economic, social, cultural or technology.

Political economy studies the social relationships between people taking part in the process of distribution of material values, and laws governing the production, distribution, exchange and consumption of material goods at different stages in the society's development.

Environmental politics also known as green politics focuses on the making and implementation of public policy in the area of the environment at international, national and local levels.

Reference

Ekpekurede, W. and Umukoro (2010) Political Science-An Introduction. Nigeria: AMBIK Press



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LECTURE FIVE

TOPIC: APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF POLITICS

At the end of this topic, you should be able to:

1. Identify the approaches to the study of Politics.
2. Differentiate between the various approaches to the study of politics.
3. Identify the main features of the approaches to the study of politics.
4. Explain the criticism against the various approaches to the study of politics.

Approach means different ways from which the study of social and political phenomena may be examined.

Political scientists have adopted several approaches to the study of politics. Approaches provide the political scientist with the conceptual framework in understanding political life. In the study of politics we have two major approaches. These are the traditional and behavioural approaches.

Traditional approach to the study of politics

Traditional approach involves the prescription and justification of political ideals or values, the historical description of governmental institutions and laws and observations of actions and activities. There are four approaches under the traditional approach.

1. The historical approach
2. Philosophical approach
3. Legal and institutional approach and
4. Primitive empirical approach.

The Historical approach

Historical approach relies mainly on facts from the past to explain the present and probable political development with political institutions and process. Traditional students of politics were concerned with the study of discovery and description of past political event. The studies were narrative and descriptive.

Philosophical approach

This involved a preoccupation with ethical prescriptive and normative questions reflecting a concern with what ought or must be brought about rather than what is. This approach was largely dominated by efforts of early student of politics/philosophers such as Plato, Aristotle etc. The activities of the philosophers was directed at and dominated by the normative approach that is the search and analysis of the ideals, what should be or ought to be.

Legal and institutional approach

This approach focus on constitutional and legal framework and developments as well as issues as the rule of law, law making, interpretation, administration and enforcement of the laws and their implication. The developments and application of laws and constitutions were narrated and described. Institutional approach focus on formal institution of government which provide the subject matter of comparison in terms of their powers, functions, roles and mutual relations. Institutional approach involves a relatively detailed description of analysis followed by an attempt to clarify which details are similar of different.

Primitive empiricism

Some aspect of the traditional studies was based on empirical subjects, observation, classification, comparison and explanation.

Characteristics and weakness of the traditional approach

1. Normative
2. Describes the characteristics of structures
3. Deals with formal properties
4. Ignores the behaviour of actors
5. Parochial in nature
6. Conservatives and static
7. Not scientific

Behavioural approach

The weakness of the traditional approach was compound by several developments. First, there were the radical changes in the 20th century political system. Second, there were the radical developments of the emerging post colonial states. Third, there were the developments of new frontiers of science and behavioural. Behaviouralism was developed by American political scientist as an alternative to the traditional approaches. Behavioural approach is regarded as the movement in political science,

which was founded on the belief that political phenomena could be better studied by scientific method of observation, quantitative analysis and verification.

Characteristics/ main features of the behavioural approach

1. The objectives is to make the study of political science scientific,
2. The focus is on observable behaviour.
3. The use of quantitative method is encouraged.
4. Research was aimed at providing solutions.
5. Adopting of multi-disciplinary approach.
6. Behavioural employed statistical techniques.

Criticism of the behavioural approach

1. Political behaviour cannot be quantifiable
2. Overt political behaviour tells only part of the story.
3. There has been discrimination in borrowing of concept and techniques
4. Anti behaviouralist argue that political issues involve moral and ethical issues.

Post behaviouralism

The post behaviouralist complained that most of the discipline scholarship was removed from the imperative of political life. The post behaviouralist emphasis substance rather than techniques, core realities rather than abstraction, social and political problem orientation and social and policy relevance.

Ikelegbe A. 2005 (ed) Introduction to Politics. Lagos: Imprints Services



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LECTURE SIX

TOPIC: BASIC CONCEPTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Expected outcome: At the end of the topic students should be able to demonstrate sound knowledge of basic concepts in political science

Readings:

Ekpekurede, W. and Umukoro (2010) Political Science-An Introduction. Nigeria: AMBIK Press

Ikelegbe A. 2005 (ed) Introduction to Politics. Lagos: Imprints Services

Concepts are constructions recognised as essential to knowledge which help to explain a piece of reality. Therefore, in order to have a clear understanding of politics, related concepts such as government, state, sovereignty, legitimacy, power, influence, authority, democracy, power, political participation, political system etc. However, concept such as power and authority, influence and legitimacy, nation and state are interrelated and has been subject to misinterpretation.

Concept of Power and Authority

1. Power the is relational
2. It is the ability of one person or group to control the actions of another person.
3. It is the ability to get things done, to make others do what you want, even if they do not want to do it.
4. A person is said to have power to the extent that he influence the behaviour of others in accordance with his own intentions.
5. Exercise of powers can be through the use of force or persuasion.

Types of power

1. Political power
2. Economic power
3. Military power
4. Religious power

How power is exercised

Power is exercised through;

1. Persuasion
2. Offer of rewards
3. Granting of rewards
4. Threat of punishment
5. Infliction of non-violent punishment

6. Command from a person in authority
7. The use of force
8. Domination
9. manipulation

Authority

Authority is the legitimate exercise or lawful exercise of political power. Authority is associated with a hierarchy of human relationships, which enables those higher to command those lower in the hierarchy, and which compels those lower in the hierarchy to obey the command of those higher up the hierarchy. Authority is vested in a person because of his role, position and his office within the organisation or society. Authority is often exercised through the use of persuasion.

Types of political authority

1. Traditional authority
2. Legal-rational authority
3. Charismatic authority

Difference between power and authority

Power

1. Ability to command and Influence behavior of another to command
2. It rests with person in their capacity
3. It doesn't follow any hierarchy
4. Power is personalized cannot be delegated
5. Power emerges because of personal factors
6. Power has no relation to position

Authority

- Authority is legal right
- It lies in position in an organization
 - It is hierarchical in nature
 - Authority is institutional
 - Based on superior-subordinate relationship
 - Authority is attached to position

Concept of influence

Influence is the ability to affect decisions through persuasion. Influence has the same relational attributes as power. However, the exercise of power depends upon potential use of sanctions, while influence depends largely on persuasion.

Concept of State and Nation

1. State	Nation
2. Political concept	Ethnic concept
3. It is a legal political entity	Ethnic cultural system
People organized by law within a definite territory	People joined by common will
4. A state must be sovereign	Nation might not be sovereign
5. Inhabited by heterogeneous group of people	Inhabited by homogeneous group
6. May be composed of several nations	May be made up of several states

Political culture

Gabriel Almond and Sidney Verba outline three types of political culture

1. Parochial : people who don't care about politics
2. Participant: people are active citizens and closely watch politics
3. Subject: people who are passive In the political process

Parochial political culture: citizens lack knowledge/ interest in political input/output

Subject political culture: there is awareness of the process, but citizens are less passive participant

Participant: there is awareness of the process, citizen's belief in the right to participate

POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION

Political socialization: process of shaping one's ideas and attitude about government

Agents/ factors that affect political view

1. Family
2. School
3. Government
4. Peers
5. Media
6. Religion
7. Ethnic background

Political participation is any activity which is designed to influence public opinion or decision

Types of political participation

1. Conventional- includes voting, letter writing, contact with representative, campaign, joining groups
2. Unconventional: boycott, demonstration, industrial strike

Citizenship

Citizenship refers to the status enjoyed by nationals of a country. A citizen owes allegiance to the state. A citizen is entitled to enjoy all civil and political rights.

Rule of law

Basic fundamental principles of government. The purpose is to ensure proper application of laws contained in a constitution of a country.

Basic tenets are;

1. The supremacy of the law
2. Equality of all before the law
3. Fundamental human right

Constitution

A body of fundamental rules and regulations which spells out the powers and functions of the organs and agencies of the government including the fundamental human rights of citizens. Sources of constitution are; Custom/conventions, Past historical experience and Judicial precedents, international treaties, constitutional conference and intellectual works.

Types of constitution; written, unwritten, rigid, flexible, unitary, federal and confederal.

Constitutionalism

Constitutionalism is the principle that governmental powers should be limited and controlled by enforceable rules of law as contained in the constitution. Constitutionalism or constitutional government exist where a country is governed in accordance with the laws of the constitution.

Relationship between constitution and constitutionalism

A constitution is the system of governmental laws and principles by which a country is governed.

Constitutionalism is governing according to constitutional provisions.

Reference

Ekpekurede, W. and Umukoro (2010) Political Science-An Introduction. Nigeria: AMBIK Press

Ikelegbe A. 2005 (ed) Introduction to Politics. Lagos: Imprints Services



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LECTURE SEVEN

TOPIC: ELEMENTS OF GOVERNMENT

What is Government?

Government can be defined as the body of persons who use different agencies or institution to carry out the political and administrative affairs of the state through continuous act of law making and law implementation in order to ensure orderliness.

Government as concept can be seen from three different perspectives;

1. As an institution of the state
2. As a process of governance
3. As an academic field of study

As an institution of the state

It regulates human interactions in the state so as to ensure orderliness. It regulates the state through the process of law making and implementation.

As a process of governance

It is a process of governance because it is a continuous activity which involves law making, implementation and interpretation. Government is continuous because absence of government in any state can lead to anarchy.

As an academic field of study

Government is a subject taught in schools, colleges in higher institutions.

Functions of government

1. Government helps to maintain law and order in the state.
2. Government formulate laws and policies
3. Government provides social services for the citizens

4. Government protect the lives and properties of the citizens
5. Government helps to defend the territorial integrity of the state.
6. Government helps to provide employment opportunities for the citizens.
7. Government helps to ensure cordial relationship between the citizens of the country. And citizens of order countries.

Organs of government

Organs of government are;

1. The executive
2. The legislature and
3. The judiciary

Legislature – makes laws in the country

Functions

1. Makes laws
2. Scrutinize and approves budget made by the executive
3. Scrutinize and approves the list of nominees for ministerial positions
4. Ratifies or take active part in the making of treaties.
5. They check the activities of the executive.

Types of legislature

1. Unicameral legislature- refers to only one legislative chambers. In Nigeria, the states of the federation operate unicameral legislature
2. Bicameral legislature- refers to the type of legislature in which there are two legislature chambers. The first is called the lower house while the second is called the upper house.

The executive- refers to the organ of government that enforces or implements laws.

Functions

1. Implement laws and policies
2. Formulate national budget or appropriation bills
3. The president who is the head of the executive in a presidential system makes ministerial appointments.
4. Appointment of diplomats or ambassadors.

Judiciary- interprets the law.

Functions

1. Interprets law
2. Settles dispute or disagreements between individual, government and corporate bodies in the state.
3. Interpret the constitution
4. Help to protect the fundamental human right of citizens
5. Makes laws called judicial precedents.

Reference

Ekpekurede, W. and Umukoro (2010) Political Science-An Introduction. Nigeria: AMBIK Press