



LEAD CITY UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Social and Management Sciences
Department of Sociology and Psychology

COURSE PARTICULARS

Course Code: PSY 316
Course Title: Political Psychology
No. of Units: 3
Status: Compulsory
Semester: Second
Session: 2016/2017

LECTURER'S DETAILS

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Area of Specialization: Personality and Social Psychology

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Political psychology is an interdisciplinary discipline concerned with understanding politics, politicians and political behavior from a psychological perspective.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to assist students in the following areas:

- understanding of voting behaviour, political behaviour and political conflicts in Nigeria.
- exposure to the personality of political leaders, leadership styles and leaders' power bases.
- knowledge on the political psychology of terrorism.
- the relationship between psychology and political science.

LECTURE PLAN

Week	Topic
Week 1	Introduction to Political Psychology.
Week 2	Theoretical Perspectives to the Study of Political Psychology.
Week 3	Frameworks for Assessing the Personality of Political Leaders
Week 4	The Relationship between Psychology and Political Science.
Week 5	Quantitative Research Methods in Political Psychology.

Week 6	Qualitative Research Methods in Political Psychology.
Week 7	Political Conflicts in Nigeria.
Week 8	Voting Behaviour
Week 9	Political Psychology of Terrorism and De-Radicalization Methods
Week10	Leadership.
Week 11	Leadership and Management
Week 12	Group Development and Behaviour

ASSESSMENT

Class Attendance 5%

Tests and Assignments 25%

Final Examination 70%

READING LIST:

- (a) Introduction to Political Psychology by Martha Cottam, Beth Dietz-Uhler, Elena Masters and Thomas Preston.
- (b) Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology by David Osears, Leonie Huddy, Robert Jarvis.
- (c) Revitalizing political psychology: The Legacy of Harold D. Lasswell by William Ascher, Barbara, Hirschfelder-Ascher

TUTORIAL QUESTIONS

1. (a) Discuss the personality approaches to the study of political psychology?
(b) What are the frameworks for assessing the personality of political leaders?
2. (a) Explain the various dimensions of political conflicts in Nigeria?
(b) What are the implications and costs of conflicts in Nigeria?
(c) Enumerate the reasons why conflicts re-occur in Nigeria?
3. (a) Describe the experimental methods of research used in political psychology, listing the advantages and disadvantages of each method?
(b) Explain Large Scale Survey method, mentioning its strengths and limitations?
4. (a) Content Analysis Approach is an indispensable method in the study of political leaders. Explain?
(b) Discuss the qualitative methods used in political psychology and the advantages and disadvantages of each method?
5. (a) What are the factors affecting voting decisions?
(b) Explain the impacts of emotion on voting?
6. (a) According to Horgan (2009), people who are more open to terrorists recruitment and radicalization have some tendencies, mention these tendencies?

- (b) Discuss Moghaddam and Pyszczynski's positions on the motivation for terrorism?
- 7. (a) What are the methods used in de-radicalization programmes?
(b) Describe the reasons stated by other researchers for joining radical groups?
- 8. (a) Give the various definitions of leadership known to you?
(b) Make a distinction between leaders and managers?
- 9. (a) What are the signs of defective leadership?
(b) Explain the functions of leaders?
- 10. (a) What is the affinity between psychology and political science as stated by prominent political psychology writers?
(b) Which areas of political psychology have been subjected to the greatest influence of psychology?
- 11.(a) What are the reasons for joining groups?
(b) Describe the essential components of groups?
- 12.(a) Explain the stages of group development?
(b) Write short notes on (i) social facilitation (ii) social loafing and (iii)de-individuation?