THE COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS
Course Outline

Title: Bahamian Civics
Abbreviation and Number: CIVS001
AB Paper No.: 13-129
Unit: Continuing Education and Extension Services
Department: Academic Upgrading
Credits: 0
Course Sequence: ( ) Fall ( ) Spring (X) Fall and Spring
Hours Per Week:
( 2 ) Lecture ( 1 ) Seminar ( ) Laboratory ( ) Studio ( ) Kitchen
( ) Other (Specify)
Pre-requisite(s): None
Co-requisite(s): None

COURSE DESCRIPTION
In this course students examine the structure and function of Bahamian Government, the election process, the development and achievements of political parties in The Bahamas and the duties and responsibilities of citizens.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to
1. explain the evolution of the Bahamian government system;
2. discuss the roles, development and achievements of political parties;
3. explain the election process and parliamentary procedures;
4. evaluate the duties and responsibilities of citizens;
5. explain the processes of government financing;
6. examine industrial relations, social and environmental issues; and
7. evaluate the role of The Bahamas in international organizations.

COURSE CONTENT
I. Structure and Functions of the Bahamian Government
   A. Legislative Branch
   B. Executive Branch
   C. Judicial Branch
   D. Local Government

II. Government and Democracy
   A. Types of Governments
   B. Purpose and Goals of Government
   C. Public Service System-Westminster/Whitehall Characteristics
   D. Bureaucracy
   E. Management and Leadership

III. Political Parties and Politics in The Bahamas
   A. Role of Political Parties
   B. Progressive Liberal Party (PLP)-Development and Achievements
   C. Free National Movement (FNM)-Development and Achievements
   D. Other Political Parties
   E. Political Systems
   F. Role of Opposition Parties
IV. The Constitution and Nation Building
   A. Definition
   B. Evolution – First Written Constitution (1964);
   C. Independence - 1973
   D. Constitutional Amendments
   E. Constitutional Reform Commission

V. Citizenship
   A. Nationality
   B. Birth, Nationalization and Constitutional Parameters
   C. Civil Rights
   D. Role of citizen

VI. Elections
   A. Evolution of the franchise
   B. Registration
   C. Nomination Day
   D. Campaign
   E. Voting procedure
   F. Special elections

VII. Government Financing
   A. National budget
   B. Taxation including Value Added Tax (VAT)
   C. Central Bank
   D. The World Bank
   E. International Monetary Fund (IMF)

VIII. Industrial Relations
   A. Interest Groups
   B. Unions
   C. Labour Board
   D. Industrial Unrest

IX. Issues
   A. Social
   B. Legal
   C. Environmental

X. International Relations
   A. Commonwealth of Nations
   B. United Nations
   C. Caricom - The Caribbean Community
   D. Free Trade Areas of the Americas (FTTA)
   E. European Economic Community (EEC)
   F. Organization of American States (OAS)
G. World Trade Organization (WTO)
H. European Partnership Agreement (EPA)

ASSESSMENT
Assignment......................15%
Mid-Semester Test.............20%
Oral Presentation.............15%
Term Paper........................20%
Final Examination...............30%
Total.............................100%

REQUIRED TEXT

SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS/MATERIALS

JOURNAL
Journal of The Bahamas Historical Society

WEBSITES
www.thenassauguardian.com
https://www.tribune242.com
http://www.jonesbahamas.com/
https://www.bahamas.gov.bs