FEEDBACK TUTORIAL LETTER

2ND SEMESTER 2019

Assignment 2

Governance and Politics in Africa

GPA621S
Course Name: Governance and Politics in Africa
Course Code: GPA621S
Department: SOCIAL SCIENCES
Course Duration: LEVEL 6; 12 CREDITS
NQF Level and Credit: NQF Level: 6

Dear student,

You are advised to refrain from copying and pasting information as it is and pretend as your own. Students are encouraged to paraphrase. Direct copy and paste, even when sources are acknowledged, constitute plagiarism which is an academic dishonesty. Students are reminded once more to type their assignments and also to maintain the page requirements. Pay special attention to the statement on academic honesty and integrity on the next page.

Regards,
STATEMENT ABOUT ACADEMIC HONESTY AND INTEGRITY

All staff and students of Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), upon signing their employment contracts and registration forms, commit themselves to abide by the policies and rules of the institution. The core activity of NUST is learning and in this respect academic honesty and integrity is very important to ensure that learning is valid, reliable and credible.

NUST therefore does not condone any form of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating on tests and assessments, amongst other such practices. NUST requires students to always do their own assignments and to produce their own academic work, unless given a group assignment.

Academic Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- Using the ideas, words, works or inventions of someone else as if it is your own work.
- Using the direct words of someone else without quotation marks, even if it is referenced.
- Copying from writings (books, articles, webpages, other students’ assignments, etc.), published or unpublished, without referencing.
- Syndication of a piece of work, all or part of an assignment, by a group of students, unless the assignment was a legitimate group assignment.
- The borrowing and use of another person’s assignment, with or without their knowledge or permission.
- Infringing copyright, including documents copied or cut and pasted from the internet.
- Asking someone else to prepare an assignment for you or to write or sit an assessment for you, whether this is against payment or not.
- Re-submitting work done already for another course or programme as new work, so-called self-plagiarism.
- Bringing notes into an examination or test venue, regardless of whether the notes were used to copy or not.
- Receiving any outside assistance in any form or shape during an examination or test.

All forms of academic dishonesty are viewed as misconduct under NUST Student Rules and Regulations. Students who make themselves guilty of academic dishonesty will be brought before a Disciplinary Committee and may be suspended from studying for a certain time or may be expelled. All students who are found guilty of academic dishonesty shall have an appropriate endorsement on their academic record, which will never be erased.
FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENT TWO

Most papers lack originality and poor technical structure.

1. First and foremost, you need to compose a suitable main heading/topic from the given problem statement.

2. Next you must have a Table of Content (to guide your discussion) consisting of:

   1. Introduction,

   The introduction should provide a brief overview and general description of the study. It also needs to provide the paper approach and logic of interpretation.

   2. A relevant heading

   Students should at all-time provide transitional statements connect the heading to the sub headings.

   2.1 Relevant Sub-headings

   2.2 Sub-headings

3. Conclusion – The conclusion is a summary of the discussions’ findings. No citation is used in the conclusion and no new information should emanate in the conclusion.

4. Recommendations – Recommendations are your own suggestions and the preferred solutions based on identified shortcomings. It can be in bullet format.

   References

   Must not be numbered.

Al sources cited in the text must be listed. You are reminded to comply with the APA style format both in-text and listing. Only sources cited in the text must be listed. Students are also encouraged to make use of recommended academic search engines such as Google Scholar Sage, Ebscohost, Francis and Taylor, Science Direct, Springer Link, Jstor among others. Avoid using Wikipedia as it is not recommended for academic use.
1. Introduction

In the introduction you are expected to briefly introduce the concern and how it will be discussed in your submission. Key concepts are also defined here.

You are expected to indicate your analysis of the assignment by being specific about what the assignment will address and what will be covered. The introduction should cover the general description of the study. The introduction should provide a brief overview and also to provide the paper approach and logic of interpretation.

2. Discussions

Your discussions should be guided by sub-headings as reflected in the Table of Contents. Students should thus refrain from using “Body” or “Discussion” as their headings, rather tailor their headings in accordance with the question.

Students are however challenged by the ability to paraphrase and instead the majority still copy directly from sources. It is important to note that this act constitutes plagiarism which is an academic offence, it constitute academic theft and have serious consequences in the assessment of the assignment. Students are thus encouraged to embrace own work and to paraphrase. Those who used their own words, congratulations. Lastly, students should comply with the set instructions as contained in the tutorial letter.

3. Conclusion

A conclusion should be a brief summary of findings. Students are advised not to use quotations in the conclusion or to come up with new information. Also avoid copying conclusions from other sources.

4. Recommendations

Recommendations should be based on shortcoming as solutions. Avoid being vague. The solutions should be your own that you see fit to address identified challenges.
References

Must be on a separate page

All sources cited-in text must be listed using the APA referencing format, unnumbered, alphabetically arranged and aligned text left. Students are expected to use the APA correctly and consistently to avoid being suspected for engaging yourself in serious academic dishonesty. Visit this link for APA guide available on nust website: http://library.nust.na/sites/default/files/NUST%20Library%20Brief%20APA%20Guide%202016.pdf

COMMON MISTAKES/SHORTCOMINGS

Common mistake/shortcomings observed are:

Disregarding technical requirements; (writing a submission that does not have the Table of Contents, Main heading, Subheadings, numbering of bother papers and headings and subheadings etc,). Students are encouraged to use the assessment sheet as a guiding tool in this regard throughout.

Many submissions are done without this sheet. The sheet is useful in assessing and grading and without it; marker-tutors are challenged and student consequently may not know where they have done well or underperformed areas of improvement. Students are urged to comply with this instruction - equally as to others – and attach the assessment sheet for either hand or electronically submitted assignments.

Finally, some students appear to have not taken time to read and understand the question before answering. Thus, instead of focusing on the given assignment question they concentrated on discussing other issues not asked. Indeed, not focusing on the question is a serious academic mistake and will not earn you marks. Please be careful about these.
I wish you all the best with your preparation for the examinations.

Yours sincerely,

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