FEEDBACK TUTORIAL LETTER

2ND SEMESTER 2020

ASSIGNMENT 1 & 2

Introduction to Political Science
ITP521S
Course Name: Introduction to Political Science
Course Code: ITP521S
Department: Social sciences
Course Duration: One Semester
NQF Level and Credit: Level 7; 15 Credits

Students are strongly advised to visit the eLearning MOODLE site and MS Teams to have access to course materials, course outlines and PowerPoint presentations.

Moodle Enrollment Key: itp521s

Marker-tutor Details
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Ms N.N. Puleinge would like to use this opportunity to thank all Introduction to Political Science students for submitting Assignment 1. The overall performance is good but there is great room for improvement.

The following are common mistakes identified during marking:

- Most of the materials/sources listed under the reference page do not feature anywhere in the body of assignment.
Some students did not use neither the American Psychological Association (APA) nor Harvard referencing style, in text citation is not done correctly. Please all students must acquire the APA referencing manual.

Some assignments papers do not contain a table of contents, introduction, Conclusion or Reference page.

Practical and relevant examples were not provided by many students; therefore, general information about the topic was presented.

ASSIGNMENT 1 (MEMO)

Conservatism is derived from the Latin word “conservare” which means to save or preserve. Conservatism was developed at the same time as liberalism and it advocates for resisting change and defending the status quo.

Elements of conservatism

Tradition- Conservatism is concerned with preserving the tradition through the established norms and values. Tradition can promote stability and security by giving people a sense of social and historical standing.

Pragmatism- Conservatism doubts human rationality. Hence, conservatism places faith in experience and history. For conservatives, actions should be based on what works best, which is known.

Human imperfection- According to conservatism, human beings are normally corrupt who are tainted by selfishness, greed and the hunger for power and are therefore not perfect.
**Organicism**- Conservatism views society as a group. Hence, society is structured by natural necessity with its various institutions contributing to the stability of society.

**Hierarchy**- According to Conservatism, social positions and status are natural and inevitable in society. This indicates different roles members of society have. These different roles and responsibilities ought not to lead to conflict because society is bound together by mutual obligations and reciprocal duties.

**Authority**- Conservatives advocate for authority to be exercised from above to provide guidance and support to those who lack knowledge, experience, or education. Authority is seen as a source of social cohesion, giving people a clear sense of who they are and what is expected from them.

**Property**- Under conservatism, property ownership is very important because it gives people a sense of security and independence form the government. In addition, it encourages people to respect the law. Conservatism also has modern and classical conservatism. This is the original idea of Edmund Burke. Modern conservatism blended the ideas of Adam Smith (laissez -faire capitalism) and Edmund Burke (preserving power, and traditions). Modern conservatives were concerned with tradition, especially religion. In America, modern conservatives want prayers in public schools. They condemn abortion and gay marriages. Modern conservatism supports a strong and minimal state. Modern conservatism is what is called the New Right which consists of Neoliberalism and Neoconservatism.

**Note:** Students are required to provide relevant and practical examples as they discuss features of Conservatism.
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Ms N.N. Puleinge would like to thank all Introduction to Political Science students for submitting Assignment 2. The overall performance is good comparing to the first assignment. Well done dear students!

The following are common mistakes identified during marking:

- Improper in text citation and incorrect use of the American Psychological Association (APA) referencing styles
- Some assignments do not contain a table of contents, introduction, Conclusion or Reference page.
• Practical and relevant examples were not provided by many students; therefore, general information about the topic was presented.

ASSIGNMENT 2 (MEMO)

Challenges of the 21 Century are as follow:

Economic challenges- A harsh climate marked by the shortages and recurring drought, as well as floods during some years, forces the government to spend money on food and diseases caused by climate change. The high rate of unemployment: Namibia is characterized by high unemployment, especially among the youth. In 2012, unemployment was said to be as high as 51%. The 51% was however disputed and a different methodology was used which found that unemployment rate was at 27%.

Low economic growth: since getting her independence, Namibia has witnessed modern growth of an average of 4.1% per annum. This growth is, however, not enough to reduce unemployment and poverty.

Unequal distribution of income: Namibia is one of the countries with the highest unequal distribution of income.

Foreign Direct Investment: Foreign direct investment is the source of employment in many countries. However sometimes it is damaging to the environment and people’s health with pollution.

Social challenges- high prevalence of HIV/AIDS: Namibia is one of the countries that is highly affected by HIV/AIDS. The situation has improved with the introduction of anti-retroviral drugs. There are also prevention programmes aimed at reducing the infection among the Namibian population. A lot still needs to be done to further reduce the infection rate.
1. Social problems are biggest problem in Namibia. They are also called social issue, like every society, great and small. Even in relatively isolated, sparsely populated areas, a group will be suffering social problem. Developing nations have many problems, many of which are connected to poverty. Developing nations often have underdeveloped infrastructure systems. This leads to an inability to attract businesses to expand there unless the government of the developing nation agrees to relax worker and environmental protections. Many developing nations also lack reliable internet—this is another factor that can drive off businesses.

2. Social problems are related to the fabric of the community including conflicts among the interests of community. Social issue include poverty, violence, pollution, injustice, suppression of human right, gay marriage.

Economic and political challenges- Namibia, like all newly African countries, is faced with the challenges of keeping tolerant democratic institutions. There are also lack of transparency and accountability. It is claimed that the government is not transparent in its dealings. Many leaders are involved in actions which can be viewed as signs of conflict of interest. Leaders are also not accountable to citizens.

3. Businesses who do move to developing nations often take advantage of the situation by paying workers low wages for long hours. Factory conditions are often unsafe, and the corporation pollutes the nation at will. This leads to poor conditions within the country as the tax base remains low, thus making it harder to fund local governments. Education suffers from a lack of funding; this makes the poverty generational in many developing nations. Pollution, combined with a lack of steady food and clean water, leads to lower life expectancy for the people who live in these countries.

4. Developing nations are often poor due to a lack of investment. This lack of investment is caused by a lack of initiatives for businesses to move their interests there. Those organizations that do often take advantage of bad situations by paying low wages and taking advantage of a nation with no business regulations. In many circumstances, a few people who can make the country better immigrate to richer countries.
5. All these things plague the developing world and continue a cycle of poverty that dates to the colonial era.


7. Bad policies: This is usually an effect of corruption. Once inept people are appointed, they end up suggesting useless policies. For instance, Nigeria is in recession, and the government wants to put tax on phone calls. Keep in mind that the telecoms sector is one of the few industries who has been favourable to citizens in recent years.

8. External 'help': Aid, advice and what not from the West and East has had some inverse effects on developing countries. They may solve a short-term issue, but in months and years, mess everything up.

9. Lack of infrastructure: If basic infrastructures like power, water, housing, etc are in place, SMEs will spring up and grow. In a place like Sub-Saharan Africa, where almost 400 million people live in extreme poverty in dozens of countries, SMEs are key. Aid should be spent on this.

10. Conflict: Many developing countries are hugely diverse. Ethnic and religious crisis exist, and they militate against development. Nigeria, Rwanda (years back), Sudan (before the secession) are common examples.

**NOTE:** Relevant examples are required.

**ASSIGNMENT 2:** 100

**END OF FEEDBACK TUTORIAL LETTER**