GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) syllabus in Geography is to prepare the candidates for the Board's examination. It is designed to test their achievement of the course objectives, which are to:

1. handle and interpret topographical maps, photographs, statistical data and diagrams and basic field survey;

- 2. demonstrate knowledge of man's physical and human environment and how man lives and earns a living on earth surface with special reference to Nigeria and Africa;
- 3. show understanding of the interrelationship between man and his environment;
- 4. apply geographical concepts, skills and principles to solving problems;
- 5. understand field work techniques and the study of a local area in the field.

DETAILED SYLLABUS

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
I. PRACTICAL GEOGRAPHY A. Maps	Candidates should be able to: Ai. define and identify different types and uses of maps
 B. Scale and measurement of distances, areas reduction and enlargement, directions, bearings and gradients with reference to topographical maps. 	 Bi. apply the different types of scale to distances and area measurement; ii. understand conversion of scales iii. apply the knowledge of scale to gradients, map reduction and enlargement; iv. apply the knowledge of directions and bearings to geographical features.
C. Map reading and interpretation; drawing of cross profiles, recognition of intervisibility, recognition and description of physical and human features and relationship as depicted on topographical maps.	Ci. illustrate the relief of an area through profile drawing;ii. interpret physical and human features from topographical maps.

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
D. Interpretation of statistical data; maps and diagrams	 Di. Compute quantitative information from statistical data, diagrams and maps, ii. interpret statistical data, diagrams and maps.
E. Elementary Surveying; chain and prismatic, open and close traverse, procedure, problems, advantages and disadvantages.	Ei. analyse the principle and procedure of each technique;ii. compare the advantages and disadvantages of the two techniques.
F. Geographic Information System (GIS): components, techniques, data sources, applications	 Fi. understand GIS and its uses. ii. understand the basic concepts and components; iii. express locations through the use of latitudes, longitudes, zipcodes etc; iv. understand land surveying, remote sensing, map digitizing, map scanning as sources of data; v. explain areas of use: Defense, Agriculture, Rural Development etc; vi. identify problems with GIS in Nigeria.
 II. PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY A The earth as a planet The earth in the solar system, rotation and revolution; The shape and size of the earth Latitudes and distances, longitudes and time; 	 Candidates should be able to: Ai. identify the relative positions of the planets in the solar system; ii. understand the effects of the rotation and revolution of the earth; iii. provide proof for the shape and size of the earth; iv. differentiate between latitudes and longitudes; v. relate lines of latitude to calculation of distance; vi. relate lines of longitude to calculation of time;

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
B The Earth Crust	Bi. compare the internal and external
i. The structure of the earth (internal	components of the earth;
and external) Relationships among the	ii. understand the existing relationship among
four spheres.	atmosphere, biosphere and hydrosphere in
	terms of energy balance and water cycle;
ii. Rocks: Types, characteristics, modes of	iii. differentiate between major types of rocks
formation and uses	and their characteristics;
iii. Earth's movement: Tectonic forces	iv. analyse the processes of rock formation and
iv. Major Landforms: Mountains, Plateau,	the resultant features;
Plains, Coastal landforms, karst	v. indicate the uses of rocks;
topography and desert landforms	vi. differentiate between tensional and
	compressional forces and the resultant
	landforms;
	vii. identify and describe the major landforms;
C. Volcanism and Earthquakes	Ci. explain the processes of volcanic eruptions
i. Landforms associated with volcanic	and earthquakes;
activities	ii. describe the different landforms associated
ii. Landforms of Igneous Rocks	with both volcanic eruptions and earthquakes
iii. Origin and types of Volcanoes	iii. give examples of major volcanic eruptions
iv. Some volcanic eruptions and earthquakes.	and earthquakes in the world.
D. Denudation processes in the tropics	Di. identify the agents of denudation (water,
i. Weathering	wind and waves);
ii. Erosion	ii. identify the landforms associated with each
iii. Mass movement	process and agent.
iv. Deposition	
E. Water Bodies	Ei. locate oceans and seas on the globe;
i. Oceans and seas (world distribution,	ii. examine the characteristics and uses of
salinity and uses)	oceans and seas;
ii. Ocean currents: types, distribution, causes	iii. classify the types of ocean currents;
and effects;	iv. account for the distribution of ocean
iii. Lakes: types, distribution and uses.	currents;
iv. Rivers: Action of running water.	v. evaluate the causes and effects of ocean currents;

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
	vi. identify the types and location of lakes;
	vii. indicate the characteristics and uses of lakes;
	viii. identify the landforms of the different stages
	of a river course.
F. Weather and Climate	Fi. differentiate between weather and climate;
i. Concept of weather and climate	ii. identify the elements of weather and climate;
ii. Elements of weather and climate	iii. identify the factors controlling weather and
iii. Factors controlling weather and climate	climate;
(pressure, air mass, altitude, continentality	iv. compare Koppen's and Greek's classifications;
and winds)	v. identify the major types of climate according
iv. Classification of climate (Greek and Koppen).	to Koppen;
v. Major climate types (Koppen), their	vii. relate the weather instruments to their uses;
characteristics and distribution.	viii. define climate change;
vi. Measuring and recording weather	ix. understand the causes of climate change;
parameters and instruments used.	x. understand the effects and remedies of
vii. The basic science of climate change.	climate change.
G Vegetation	
i. Factors controlling growth of plants	Gi. trace the factors controlling the growth
ii. The concept of vegetation e.g.plant	of plants;
communities and succession	ii. analyse the process of vegetation
iii. Major types of vegetation, their	development;
characteristics and distribution,	iii. identify the types, their characteristics
iv. Impact of human activities on vegetation.	and distribution;
	iv. assess the impact of human activities
	on vegetation;
	v. identify the importance of vegetation.
H Soil	
i. Definition and properties	Hi. classify soils and their properties;
ii. Factors and processes of formation	ii. identify the factors of formation;
iii. Soil profiles	iii. differentiate between the different types
iv. Major tropical types, their	of soil horizons and their characteristics;
characteristics, distribution and uses;	iv. compare the major tropical soil types and
v. Impact of human activities on soils.	uses of soils;

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
	vi. assess the impact of human activities on soils.
 I Environmental Resources; i. Types of resources (atmospheric, land, soil, vegetation and minerals) ii. The concept of renewable and non-renewable resources; 	 Ii. interpret the concept of environmental resources; ii. relate environmental resources to their uses; iii. differentiate between the concepts of renewable and non-renewable resources.
 J Environmental interaction: i. Land ecosystem ii. Environmental balance and human interaction iii. Effects of human activities on land ecosystem 	 Ji. identify the components of land ecosystem; ii. establish the interrelationship within the ecosystem; iii. interpret the concept of environmental balance; iv. analyse the effects of human activities on land ecosystem.
 K Environmental hazards: i. Natural hazards (droughts, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, flooding) ii. Man-induced (soil erosion, deforestation, pollution, flooding and desertification) 	 Ki. identify the natural hazards and their causes; ii. relate the human-induced hazards to their causes; iii. locate the major areas where environmental hazards are common and their effects; iv. recommend possible methods of prevention and control.
L Environmental Conservation:	 Li. explain with examples environmental conservation; ii. identify the resources for conservation; iii. discuss the different methods of environmental conservation; iv. explain the need/importance of environmental conservation.

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
III. HUMAN GEOGRAPHY	Candidates should be able to:
A. Population	Ai. define different concepts of population;
i. World population with particular	ii. identify the characteristics of
reference to the Amazon Basin, N.E.	population (growth rates and structure);
U.S.A., India, Japan and the West Coast	iii. determine the factors and the patterns of
of Southern Africa.	population distribution;
ii. Characteristics – birth and death rates,	iv. identify the factors and problems of
ages/sex structure.	population growth;
iii. Factors and patterns of population	v. relate the types of migration to their
distribution;	causes and effects;
iv. Factors and problems of population	vi. account for the ways population constitute
growth.	a resource.
B Settlement with particular reference to	Bi. differentiate between types of
Western Europe, the USA, Middle East	settlements; (rural and urban);
and West Africa:	ii. classify the patterns and functions of
i. Types and patterns: rural and urban,	rural settlements;
dispersed, nucleated and linear;	iii. classify the patterns and functions of
ii. Rural settlement: classification, factors of	urban settlements;
growth and functions;	iv. identify the factors of settlement location
iii. Urban settlement – classification,	v. identify the problems of urban centres;
factors of growth and functions.	vi. establish the interrelationship between rural
iv. Problems of urban centres	and urban settlements.
v. Interrelationship between rural and	
urban settlements.	
C Selected economic activities	
i. Types of economic activities: primary,	Ci. identify the types of economic activities;
secondary, tertiary and quartnary;	ii. differentiate between the types of
ii. Agriculture: types, system, factors and	economic activities;
problems	iii. assess the importance and problems of
iii. Manufacturing industries, types,	agriculture as an economic activity;
locational factors, distribution and	iv. compare the types of manufacturing
socio-economic importance and problems	industries;
of industrialization in tropical Africa.	v. identify the factors of industrial location;

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
 iv. Transportation and Communication types, roles in economic development and communication in tropical Africa. v. World trade:-factors and pattern of world trade, major commodities (origin, routes and destinations). vi. Tourism: definition, importance, location, problems and solutions. 	 vi. examine the socio-economic importance of manufacturing industries; vii. give reasons for the problems of industrialization in tropical Africa; viii differentiate between the modes of transportation and communication; ix. assess the economic importance of transportation; x. give reasons for the problems of transportation in tropical Africa; xi. relate the factors to the pattern of world trade; xii. classify the major commodities of trade in terms of their origins, routes and destination; xiii. analyse tourism as an economic activity; xiv. identify the problems of tourism and their solutions.
 IV. REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY A Broad outline of Nigeria Location, position, size, political division (states) and peoples; Physical setting: geology, relief, landform, climate and drainage, vegetation and soils; Population: size, distribution, migration, (types, problems and effects); Natural resources: types (minerals, soils, water, vegetation, etc.) distribution, uses and conservation. 	 Candidates should be able to: Ai. describe the location, size and political divisions of Nigeria; ii. identify the boundaries and neighbours of Nigeria; iii. identify the ethnic groups and their distributions; iv. relate the components of physical settings to their effects on human activities; v. account for the pattern of population distribution; vi. examine the types of migration, their problems and effects; vii. identify the types of natural resources and their distribution; viii. indicate the uses and conservation of natural resources.

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
B. Economic and Human Geography:	Bi. compare the farming systems practised in
i. Agricultural Systems: the major crops	Nigeria;
produced, problems of agricultural	ii. identify the crops produced and the problems
development in Nigeria.	encountered;
ii. Manufacturing Industries: factors of	iii. identify the types and location of the major
location, types of products, marketing	manufacturing industries;
and problems associated with	iv. determine the factors of industrial location and
manufacturing;	the problems associated with the industries;
iii. Transportation and Communication:	v. establish the relationship between transport
modes of transportation and	and communication;
communication and their relative	vi. relate the modes of transportation and
advantages and disadvantages;	communication to their relative advantages
iv. Trade: Regional and International	and disadvantages;
Trade, advantages and disadvantages;	vii. classify the major commodities of
v. Tourism: definition, importance,	regional and international trade;
problems and solutions.	viii. identify the importance of tourism and
	tourist centres;
	ix. account for the problems of tourism and
	their solutions.
	Ci. State the meaning, purpose and objectives;
C. ECOWAS	ii. identify and locate the member countries;
i. Meaning and objectives	iii. understand the purpose/mandate of the
ii. Member states	organization;
iii. Advantages and disadvantages	iv. evaluate the prospects and problems of the
iv. Problems and solutions.	organization.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

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Nimako, D.A. (2000) Map Reading of West Africa, Essex: Longman.

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Waugh, D. (1995) Geography an Integrated Approach (Second Edition), China: Nelson.

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