

PERCEPTION OF THE SUITABILITY OF THE WEST AFRICAN SENIOR SCHOOL CERTIFICATE (WASSCE) SYLLABUSES IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCE SUBJECTS IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The study investigated the suitability of the West African Senior School Certificate Examination Syllabuses in four social science subjects namely, Economics, Geography, History and Government. Using a survey design, a questionnaire was used to elicit responses from 455 teachers, 288 students and 26 subject specialists.

The same set of questions guided the Focus Group Discussants who were made up of 17 teachers, 11 students and 6 staff of Council. Chi-square tests were performed to test for any significant difference in the views of the respondents. Results of the analyses showed that all the four syllabuses were considered suitable for the intended level by majority of the respondents. Paradoxically, majority of the respondents equally considered the four syllabuses as highly loaded and therefore suggested that they would require more time for teaching and learning while some topics should be expunged.

Following a discussion of the findings, it was recommended, among others, that the teaching syllabuses should be reviewed to make room for the review of WASSCE syllabuses while their implementation should be monitored by the appropriate authorities.