

THE BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

By

Chelang'a James

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, POLITICAL
SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

THE BA LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. To provide theoretical, methodological and practical knowledge about society and governance
2. To foster integrated utilization of knowledge for the betterment of society
3. To produce whole round students who are well equipped to work in all areas of government including state enterprises, managerial positions in the private sector, non-governmental organizations, research and policy institutions

OVERVIEW

- The original plan of Moi University was to teach science and technology but it was later realized that liberal sciences was necessary to be taught in order to produce a whole round student.
- The School of Social Cultural and Development Studies was therefore established to meet this objective.

Cont..

- The School of Social Cultural and Development Studies that was recently changed to be School of Arts and Social Sciences to reflect changes that have since occurred due to curriculum changes, restructuring and general needs of stakeholders.

Cont..

NOTE:

- As evidence of the objectives of the programme and learning outcomes, graduates find jobs in Provincial Administration, Immigration, Foreign Affairs, Local authorities, Private sector, International and local NGOs among others.
- Other graduates pursue post graduate studies and later get absorbed in the above mentioned sectors.

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

- The programme has course descriptions approved by the departmental and school boards, committee of deans and senate. The course descriptions are published in the University Calendar, the School prospectors, and a summary on the web.
- The Calendar is made available to staff, students, and external stakeholders (where applicable)

Programme specification cont..

- Each lecturer uses specific course description to design a course outline which contains detailed topics to be covered in the course; course books and other references; and the time schedule.

Progamme content

- The teaching of the courses involve theory and practice.
- Theory is taught in class lectures and student presentations
- Practical courses are taught as field courses where students visit learning sites and write reports

Progamme content cont..

- Practical courses are augmented by an internship programme at the end of third year for three months
- Field courses and internship/ attachment are taken after students have been taught prerequisite theoretical courses

Organization of the programme

- The BA programme is organized to enable students take Common School of Arts and Social Science courses (SAS), the BA degree programme courses (BAS).
- In addition, students take prescribed core courses, field courses, attachment, and elective courses

Student Assessment

- Students are assessed using a variety of methods including:
 - ✓ At least two Course Assessment Tests per course (sit in exam)
 - ✓ Take away assignments
 - ✓ Student presentations in class
 - ✓ Field assessment reports
 - ✓ Research projects (where applicable)

Student Assessment cont..

- ✓ End of semester examination set by lecturers and internally moderated by departmental boards; and also moderated by external examiners to ensure quality and international standards.

Quality of academic staff

- All teaching staff have a minimum of a Masters degree. Currently we have eight with PhDs
- Recruitment of teaching staff is based on academic qualifications and publications
- Courses are allocated to staff according to areas of specialization
- Students are encouraged to report any problems related to teaching to the Head of Department or/ and Dean

Quality of academic staff cont..

- Staff are employed either on permanent or contractual terms and their terms are specified in a terms of service document which acts as a contract document.
- Staff range from Professor; Associate Professor; Senior Lecturer; Lecturer; Assistant Lecturer; Tutorial Fellow; and Research Fellow.

Selection of students

- Students are selected to join the programme according to government criteria (C plus and above) in addition to the school and departmental criteria in particular subjects
- The intake policy is very clear to students and stakeholders

Selection of students Cont..

- Note:
 - ✓ Students take between 42 and 48 units (between 126 and 144 hours of lectures) per year
 - ✓ Students take a minimum of 168 units (504 hours) to graduate

Curriculum design and evaluation

- The BA curriculum is designed through discussions by lecturers in Departmental Boards, School Boards, Committee of Deans, and Senate. Student representation exist at every level in the discussions. Comments from other stakeholders for example, employers, are considered.
- The curriculum is reviewed at least every four years, as per Senate regulation; but minor reviews are done annually

Achievements

- The pass rate in the BA programme is over 99 percent.
- Students graduate on time – at the end of their 4 year period.
- Graduates find jobs easily in Government-Office of the President (Provincial Administration).
- Foreign Affairs.

Achievements cont..

- Immigration
- Local government
- NGOs
- Research Institutions
- Private sector
- International organizations

FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDERS

- The department receives constant feedback from government and other stakeholders. Some of them include the need to start specific courses, for example in Penology, Correction Administration, Diploma in Public Administration, and MA in Political Science, MA in Public Administration- Executive (all these have been launched), and Post Graduate Diploma in Public Administration

Student advice and support

- Students get counseling services from the Dean of Students.
- All lecturers provide academic advice to students. The Dean of the School and Head of Departments co-ordinate this.

Challenges and areas for improvement

- How to meet the high demand for university education.
- ICT/ Facilities.
- Student support and advisory services.
- Student evaluation- resources, infrastructure, curriculum, teaching methodology, and teaching staff.

THANK YOU

THANK YOU !