

**DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**  
**FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**LAGOS STATE UNIVERSITY, OJO**

**DIPLOMA IN PHILOSOPHY**

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Candidates with four (4) credits at not more than **Two** sittings to include English Language at the Senior Secondary School Certificate, West African School Certificate, General Certificate of Education or National Examination Council (NECO) Certificate.
2. Candidates with merits in four (4) subjects including English Language at not more than **two** sittings in Grade II Teacher's Certificate.
3. Mature candidates who are thirty years old and above with three (3) credits which must include English Language.
4. Candidates with five credits passes in WASC, NECO or GCE or TCII with at least a pass in English.

There shall be a qualifying examination and interview for all applicants to be conducted by the University through the Department of Philosophy.

**DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME**

The course duration shall be two (2) academic sessions of four semesters. Where a student fails to meet the requirements for the award of the Diploma within the period, he may be permitted by the Senate, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board, to repeat the examination in the appropriate courses during the following academic year only.

**1. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE DIPLOMA IN PHILOSOPHY**

The current wave of technological advancement in the world as well as the issues of governance and public policy, and many other issues require that people should think about how they are either negatively or positively affected. Other prevalent issues such as whether the world was created by the fiat of a spiritual Being or whether the world evolved through some cosmic chance that can be explained by science; also require certain rigorous philosophical thinking. Parts of what philosophy teaches are to ask questions about life in general and to attempt to find answers to some of the fundamental issues affecting human kind.

With the current social, economic and political problems facing the World, where increasing demand is on finding answers to many of the issues bedeviling people all over, moral, epistemological, metaphysical or logical solutions are necessary. Access to information about these aspects of philosophy require that they are taught to political leaders, business people, religious leaders, economists, and various other professionals who may be interested in philosophy.

In view of the importance of philosophy to the provision of knowledge on many fundamental issues of the world, it is quite imperative that philosophy is taught at different levels of enquiries in the society. This is why in spite of the Degree programme in Philosophy that currently exists in Lagos State University, it is considered very purposeful and ideal to establish a Diploma in Philosophy that take care of those who may not have the immediate qualification to study philosophy at the degree

level, or those professionals who wish to acquire a Diploma in Philosophy just for the purpose of acquiring basic knowledge in Philosophy.

The proposed programme promises to be viable because there is a strong yearning from those individuals who wish to have basic understanding of what philosophy is about, as well as those who would want to pursue a degree in philosophy but currently lack the prerequisite o/level qualification to do so.

## **2. DURATION OF COURSE**

The course duration shall be two (**2**) academic sessions of four semesters. Where a student fails to meet the requirements for the award of the Diploma within the period, he may be permitted by the Senate, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board, to repeat the examination in the appropriate courses during the following academic year only.

## **3. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME**

- a. The Diploma in Philosophy is a rigorous academic course of study in theoretical and applied philosophy.
- b. The programme is intended to facilitate the interests of candidates in the art of reasoning.
- c. The programme is designed to train middle-level, senior-level cadre of staff, business people, professionals and others who may be interested in acquiring basic knowledge of philosophy.
- d. The programme is designed to provide candidates who may be interested in pursuing further studies in philosophy at undergraduate levels.

## **4. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

- a. Candidates with four (4) credits at not more than **Two** sittings to include English Language at the Senior Secondary School Certificate, West African School Certificate, General Certificate of Education or National Examination Council (NECO) Certificate.
- b. Candidates with merits in four (4) subjects including English Language at not more than **two** sittings in Grade II Teacher's Certificate.
- c. Mature candidates who are thirty years old and above with three (3) credits which must include English Language
- d. Candidates with five credits passes in WASC, NECO or GCE or TCII with at least a pass in English
- e. There shall be a qualifying examination and interview for all applicants to be conducted by the University through the Department of Philosophy

## **5. MODE OF LEARNING**

The course which is of four (4) semesters shall be on Part- time basis and Distance Learning Programme (DLP).

## **6. REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE COURSE AND AWARD OF DIPLOMA**

### **I. Course Status**

There shall be the following categories of courses:

- a. **Compulsory (C):** Courses which a student must take and pass.
- b. **Elective (E):** Courses which a student can take in order to make up the required additional units for the award of the Diploma. A student may not register for an Elective Course if only he/she is sure of making up the required number of units for a session from the Compulsory Courses.
- c. For the calculation of Grade Point Aggregate (GPA) all courses taken must be passed.
- d. To earn a Diploma, all compulsory courses must be taken and passed.
- e. All courses shall be examined during the semester in which they are taken and candidates will be credited with the number of course units assigned them.

- f. Students shall normally be required to register for the number of units in each academic year (minimum of 34 units in the 1<sup>st</sup> year and 30 units in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year). Students can register a maximum of 36 units per session.
- g. All students must pass a minimum of 64 units to be eligible for graduation
- h. The total number of units taken along with the grades obtained in each course shall be recorded for the purpose of calculating the Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA).

## II. **Course Units, Codes and Outlines**

Courses shall be evaluated in terms of course units. A course unit is defined as a series of 15-one-hour lectures. All courses are assigned as three units.

There shall be two levels of courses for the 2-year Diploma Programme numbered as follows:

- 001 – 019: Year One Courses
- 020 – 039: Year Two Courses

The Course code shall be **PHI**. For the course outlines, see **APPENDIX I**

### **7. STUDENT'S WORKLOAD**

A student shall normally be required to register for a minimum of 30 unit courses in the first year and 30 unit courses in the second year. Students can register for a maximum of 34 unit courses per session. Attendance is compulsory in all the courses for which a candidate is registered.

### **8. COURSE ASSESSMENT (CA)**

- (a) All courses shall be evaluated by continuous assessment (CA) and examinations.
- (b) Continuous assessment is being regarded as part of course examinations. It shall account for not more than 30 percent of the total mark obtainable for courses, which are primarily theoretical.

### **9. EXAMINATION**

- (a) Each course shall normally be completed and examined at the end of the semester in which it is offered/taught.
- (b) A written examination shall last a maximum of two hours for a 3-unit course.
- (c) In order to be admitted for an examination, a student must have:
  - Attained a minimum attendance of 70% at lectures including practical, demonstrations and tutorials (if any);
  - Paid all the prescribed fees with proof of payment.

### **10. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

- (a) To be considered for the award of the Diploma on the completion of the two sessions, a student must have been credited with 34 and 30 units in the first and second year respectively.
- (b) Therefore, the student must be credited with **64 units**.

### **11. PASS MARK**

The minimum pass mark in any course shall be **40%**

#### **(a) Grading of Results**

70 – 100	(A)
60 – 69	(B)
50 – 59	(C)
45 – 49	(D)
40 – 44	(E)
0 – 39	(F)

#### **(b) Classification of Diploma**

4.0 – 5.0	Distinction
3.50 – 3.99	Credit
2.0 – 3.49	Merit
1.0 – 1.99	Pass
Less than 1.0	Fail

## **12. CURRICULUM FOR 2 YEAR DIPLOMA IN PHILOSOPHY**

### **COURSE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT**

#### **FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

<b>COURSE CODE</b>	<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<b>UNITS</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>CONTENT</b>
DIP 001	Introduction to Philosophy	3	C	A study of the meaning, nature, scope and branches of philosophy. Various examples from metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics, social and political philosophy will be discussed.
DIP 003	Ancient Greek Philosophy	3	C	A survey of philosophical thinking in ancient Greece from the time of Thales to Aristotle.
DIP 005	Introduction to Epistemology	3	C	Meaning, types, sources, scope and justification of human knowledge. Relation of knowledge to belief, truth and justification
DIP 007	Philosophy and Development	3	E	Definitions of philosophy and development; the relevance of philosophy of development, types of development-physical, social, metaphysical, scientific, spiritual; some development problems- environmental pollution, degradation, abortion, corruption, students' unrest and social crimes
DIP 009	Introduction to Logic	3	C	A general introduction to logic. Arguments, induction and deduction. The notions of truth, falsity, validity and soundness, sentences, statements and propositions.
DIP 011	Introduction to Ethics	3	C	Definition of ethics. Some of the fundamental principles of ethics.
DIP 013	Introduction to Philosophy of Education	3	E	The meaning, nature, forms and the concepts of education. Theories of education; idealism, realism, naturalism, pragmatism. Philosophy and pedagogy
DIP 015	Medieval Philosophy: Christian	3	E	The study of the major philosophical doctrines of Christian philosophers of the medieval period. Emphasis on the metaphysical, logical and epistemological doctrines

## FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER

DIP 002	Introduction to Metaphysics	3	C	The nature and definition of metaphysics. An outline of the major concerns of metaphysics
DIP 004	Critical Thinking	3	C	An examination of the basic tools of Philosophy. Clarification of basic philosophical terms: <i>a priori</i> , reason, empiricism, <i>a posteriori</i> , faith, myth and dogma, is-ought dichotomy, facts and values. Formal and informal fallacies.
DIP 006	Introduction to African Philosophy	3	C	A study of what African philosophy is. The appropriate method of doing African philosophy. Is there a unique African metaphysics or epistemology?
DIP 008	Philosophy of Non-violence	3	E	The nature and philosophy of non-violence; study of some non-violent theorists such as Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther-King; pacifism, civil disobedience
DIP 010	Introduction to Philosophy of Mind	3	E	An examination of the mind-body problem. Materialism and idealism. Dualist solutions to the mind-body problem. Monist solutions to the mind-body problem.
DIP 012	Philosophy and Society	3	E	Meaning and nature of philosophy; branches of philosophy; relevance of each of the branches of philosophy to society, meaning of society; theories of society
DIP 014	Western Social and Political Philosophy	3	C	A study of the subject matter of political philosophy; the relationship between the individual and the state. Exposition and evaluation of major political contributions of proponents like Plato, Aristotle, Thomas Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Machiavelli,

## SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

DIP 021	Philosophy and Management	3	E	Theories, principles and features of civil disobedience in social and political environment; the corresponding political harmony that may ensue in time, depending upon the operators of the system; moral issues in leadership
DIP 023	African Social and Political Philosophy	3	C	Social and political thoughts of Africans and the Blacks in the Diaspora as a recent intellectual study. The issue of colonialism as it affects the emergence of contemporary African political philosophy. Liberation and revolution in as they relate to the social and political thoughts of Walter Rodney, Marcus Garvey, Sheik Anta Diop, Frantz Fanon
DIP 025	Philosophy of Human nature	3	E	Definitions of human nature; theories of human nature; Plato, Marxism, psycho-analysis, behaviorism, egoism and freedom
DIP 027	Business Ethics	3	E	Moral issues connected with market economy. Ethics in production and distribution. The

				relationships and obligations of employers and employees, producers and distributors, consumers. Management of business and society with economic justice and fair trade in focus
DIP 029	Philosophy of Religion	3	E	A philosophical scrutiny of religion; origin of religion, analysis of the concepts of God, spirit, eternity, sin, redemption, the sacred etc. faith and reason, examination of arguments for the existence of God.
DIP 031	Introduction to Philosophy of Science	3	C	Study of the meaning and concept of science; history and philosophy of science, nature of scientific research methodology
DIP 033	Medieval Philosophy: Islam	3	E	The study of the major philosophical doctrines of Islamic and Jewish philosophers of the medieval period. Emphasis on the metaphysical, logical and epistemological doctrines

## SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER

DIP 022	Environmental Ethics	3	E	Ethical issues in environmental problems involving human relationship with nature-plants, animals etc. environmental population control
DIP 024	Introduction to Philosophy of Law	3	E	Nature and concepts of law; relationship between law and moral philosophy, law and punishment
DIP 026	Introduction to Feminism	3	E	Philosophy and feminism. Feminism as a critique of patriarchy. Eco-feminism. A distinction between 'sex role' and 'gender role' as they affect issues of justice, ethics and knowledge acquisition.
DIP 028	Introduction to Aesthetics	3	E	Study of the subject matter of aesthetics, its brief history and some of its central problems, such as, the nature of art and aesthetic experience
DIP 030	Problems in Contemporary African Philosophy	3	C	The nature, scope and characteristics of African philosophy; the various schools of thought; problems inherent in the study of African philosophy
DIP 032	Introduction to Philosophy of Social change	3	E	The revolutionary trends in world politics, philosophy as it affects the social, politics and economic order; concepts such as radicalism, revolution, anarchism, capitalism socialism, communism, terrorism, fanaticism, democracy, despotism, and liberalism will be discussed.
DIP 034	Introduction to Philosophy of Social Sciences	3	E	Comparison of the social and natural sciences. Objectivity, law and theories, hypothesis and explanation. Causation and human action.



**Dr. Philomena Aku OJOMO**

A Senior Lecturer, teaches Philosophy at the Lagos State University (LASU), Nigeria. As an alumnus of the university, she earned her B.A. (Hons.) in Philosophy in 1997. She obtained her M.A. and PhD in Philosophy from the University of Lagos (UNILAG), Nigeria in 2000 and 2016 respectively. Ojomo is a specialist in environment ethics. Her research interests are in theoretical ethics, applied ethics, environmental ethics, philosophy of education and social philosophy. She has published in local and international outlets. Ojomo is an ecosocialist and the author of a well-discussed paper in African Environmental Ethics titled “Environmental Ethics: An African Understanding” published by Thought and Practice in 2010 and African Journal of Environmental Science in 2011. One of her most recent publications is "Niger Delta Environmental Crises and the Limitations of Africanizing Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic: Towards an Earth-Eco-Socialist Model," in *African Environmental Ethics: A Critical Reader*, edited by M. Chemhuru (Switzerland: Springer Nature, 2019). Ojomo has presented papers at national and international conferences. She has served on different committees and in numerous leadership positions. Ojomo was the Managing Editor of *LASU Journal of Philosophy* (LAJOP) and now the Business Editor of same; the current Coordinator of Diploma Programme in the Department. In December, 2021, she emerged the first Vice President of the African Environmental Ethics Association (AEEA). Ojomo enjoys fellowship with, and counseling of, vulnerable students and youths within and outside the university setting.

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**Philomena Ojomo, PhD.**  
Programme Coordinator