

**COVENANT UNIVERSITY  
NIGERIA**

*TUTORIAL KIT  
OMEGA SEMESTER*

**PROGRAMME: POLITICAL  
SCIENCE**

**COURSE: POS 423**

## **DISCLAIMER**

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## **POS 423: CIVIL MILITARY RELATIONS**

### **Lecturers: Dr. M. Duruji and Mr. K. Shodipo** **QUESTIONS**

1. What is Civil-Military Relations?
2. Contrast Samuel Huntington and Morris Janowitz views on factors responsible for military intervention?
3. Write short notes on the reasons for military intervention in politics?
4. Discuss two major theories of civil-military relations.
5. Examine Samuel Huntington's institutional theory of Civil-Military Relations.
6. Critique Deborah Avant Principal Agent Theory and the Peter Feaver Agency Theory.
7. The military institution is unarguably the most important state institution. Do you agree? Critically discuss and support your argument with relevant examples.
8. The classic liberal approaches to military affairs are extirpation that reduced the military to the lowest possible level. Discuss.
9. Analytically assess the historical foundation Nigerian Military institution.
10. Using the democratic administrations of Olusegun Obasanjo and Late Yar Adua's civilian administrations in the fourth republic as yardsticks, do you think these former military rulers pursue policies that consolidated democracy. Support your answers with germane instances.
11. Examine Nigeria's Civil-Military Relations since independence.
12. To what extent do you think Obasanjo, military professionalism reform in the fourth republic brought about the consolidation of democracy in Nigeria?
13. Discuss Janowitz argument on CMR as espoused in his book titled 'Professional Soldier'.
14. As students of CMR (POS 423), propose ways for reforming CMR in Nigeria for sustainable democracy.
15. Examine CMR in Nigeria under military rule.
16. With the present level of political decay in numerous democratic states in Africa, the military has an opportunity for an expanded political role. Discuss.
17. Discuss the following variables of CMR: Coup, Military Influence, Civil-Military Friction, Military Compliance and Military Effectiveness

18. To what extent has a cordial or negative CMR affected the development of Nigeria since independence?

19. Discuss the Civil-Military Relations in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Republic.

20. With the current security situation in the Nigerian state, what are the challenges confronting civil-military relations in Nigeria's fourth republic?

### **MODEL ANSWERS IN ALTERNATE SEQUENCE (ODD NUMBERS)**

1. What is Civil-Military Relations (CMR)?

Students are expected to give a conceptual meaning of the military.

Students are expected to discuss what Civil-Military Relations means.

Furthermore, in addressing the question, efforts should be directed at addressing the following question.

- What the military's mission is?
- How the military is organized, equipped, manned, and trained?
- What military qualifications and standards should be?
  - Whether, when, and how to use the military?
  - Whether and when to commit the military to hostilities?
  - How much to spend on the military and for what?
  - Who leads the military?

3. Write short notes on the reasons for military intervention in politics?

Students should define what a coup d'etat is.

Reasons for military involvement in politics include:

- The intractable socio-economic problem that often bedevil developing countries.
- Ideological inclination of military officers has also been cited as a factor to compel the military to take over governance.
- Weakness of civilian regimes is also said to encourage military institution to intervene.
- Ethnic Loyalty is another factor that propels some elements within the military to strike on behalf of their ethnic group ie the counter coup in Nigeria of July 1966, Paul Kagame in Rwanda in 1994, Samuel Doe coup in Liberia
- Influence of external actors such as world power are said to have sponsored or directly participated with third world collaborators in the military to overthrow governments.

5. Examine Samuel Huntington's institutional theory of Civil-Military Relations.

Students should discuss the historical antecedent that necessitated the propagation of the theory.

He postulated the concept of Objective Civilian Control. These concepts should be discussed.

They are also expected to enumerate and discuss other issues in his arguments.

Students are expected to critique his view on how the civilians can achieve objective control of the military.

7. The military institution is unarguably the most important state institution. Do you agree? Critically discuss and support your argument with relevant examples.

Discuss what is the military institution is.

What are the roles of the military?

Discuss the make-up of modern military institutions e.g. the army, navy, air force, marine etc.

To what extent is the military institution still relevant today?

9. Analytically access the historical foundation Nigerian Military institution.

Students are expected to trace the Nigerian Military institution to the colonial era, paying attention to the factors that instigated the establishment of the West African Frontier Force (WAFF) as well as the organisation of the force, the performance of the regiment at various battles, the patterns of recruitments into the force. They should also address the various evolution of the Nigerian army till date.

11. Give a historical overview of Nigeria's Civil-Military Relations since independence.

Students are expected to discuss the civil military in the colonial times as well as

Discuss the civil military in the post independent era

Compare the CMR in the two eras.

They should also discuss instances of various tensions between the military and the civilians in these two eras.

13. Discuss Janowitz argument on CMR as espoused in his book titled 'Professional Soldier'.

State the underlying premise of his argument in which he stated civilian control and the military's ability to fulfil its responsibilities in meeting the security needs of the state.

Critically discuss his theory of convergence laying emphasis on his argument that the military and civilians are in separate world and that the linkage between the military institution and the political system is most especially through the meaningful integration of the military with civilian values. He also stated that the way of ensuring civilian control of the military is by increasing legislative oversight.

15. Examine CMR in Nigeria under the various military rules in Nigeria.

Students should discuss the various factors that led to military take-over of the governments.

The CMR of the immediate post-independent era was fundamentally altered under the first phase of military rule that lasted between January 1966 and October 1979.

In the first phase, four different military rulers governed Nigeria whose action were responsible for the expansion of the federation from four regions to nineteen states

The military had decided to move the federal capital, change the country's anthem and do away with the parliamentary system of the first republic, for a Presidential system of government and a new constitution.

The country had gone through brutal ethnic decimations of the January and July coups, the civilian pogroms and adhoc constitutional meetings of 1966.

The breakdown of ethnic trust, led the regionalization of the military high command after the Aburi conference, followed by failure of various efforts to resolve the crisis.

The Eastern region under Lt. Col Ojukwu declared secession and renamed itself Biafra.

A civil war was fought for 30 months during which the military expanded twenty-three (23) fold to over 230,000 indigenous men in arms. Death of civilians

The coups after the civil war altered the character of the Nigerian military as well as the State's ethnic security map.

The discovery of oil and the expansion of military barracks, building of a Command and Staff College.

Soldiers who used to be rarely seen in the sixties were now mixing freely with civilians in town, sometimes refusing to pay rent for properties rented.

In a throwback to the dark days of the civil war it was a common sight to observe signposts in front of military facilities that read "Military Zone; Keep Moving".

Civilians could not even drive personal cars that were painted green.

The military imposed 1979 constitution created new structures for supporting the proposed new civil-military relationship.

There would now be a simplified command flowing from the elected President who would be C-in-C, ceremonial head and head of government all wrapped into one

In the run up to the 1979 elections, soldiers were banned from joining or openly associating with party politics although they had the right to vote but could not be voted for.

Old rules dating back to the first republic forbade political speech making, writing articles, without approval, or political campaigns in barracks.

17. Discuss the following variables of CMR: Coup, Military Influence, Civil-Military Friction, Military Compliance and Military Effectiveness.

Students are expected to discuss each of these concepts and examine to what degree each military institution weigh on these scale and how that determine the level of civilian control of such a military.

Students should also use relevant theories to explain these dependent variables of the CMR.

19. Discuss the Civil-Military Relations in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Republic.

Discuss the events that led to the emergence of the second republic.

Discuss the salient issues in the CMR in the 2<sup>nd</sup> republic. They include but not limited to the following:

- None of the political class who took over from the military in 1979 had military service experience. None of them had served in an oversight role over defence and security matters since 1966.
- This is complicated by the fact that the military had become more organizationally differentiated, soldiers and officers now had more skill diversity while authority structures and professionalization had evolved alongside changes in weapon systems and doctrine.
- Military government of General Obasanjo appointed a new Army Chief for the incoming civilian government, but left the position of Chief of Defence Staff vacant.
- A new position of "Deputy Chief of Army Staff" was also created. Thus, Generals Alani Akinrinade and Gibson Jalo became the first Chief and deputy-Chief of Army Staff to the

new government.it was the military's decision that the President retain the defence portfolio, rather than appoint a civilian defence minister.

- Fairly early in the government's life Shagari found that the military had retained certain direct lines of access to the President, bypassing the council of ministers and even the legislature for approval of certain items under the pretext of "security reasons".