

## 7.0 The Semester & The Course Unit Systems

### 7.1 Semester System

The semester system and the course unit system as approved by the Academic Board have been in operation in the College since the 1988.89 Session.

The semester system breaks an academic session into two periods of lectures of 15-17 weeks. A normal academic session usually commences in October and ends in July of the following year giving a total of some 37 weeks.

The break down is usually as follows:

- i. First Semester
  - 17 weeks (say)
  - 2 weeks - Registration/orientation
  - 13 weeks - Lectures
  - 2 weeks - 1st semester examinations
- ii. Second Semester
  - 16 weeks (say)
  - 1 weeks - Registration
  - 13 weeks - Lectures
  - 2 weeks - 2nd semester examinations

### 7.2 The Course Unit System

The Course Unit System (CUS) is a credit system based on the premise that fields of knowledge can be broken down into small components called courses/modules that can be arranged in some convenient pedagogical way.

Although it is now the usual practice to operate the CUS with the Semester System, It is to be noted that the combination is not necessarily imperative.

One of the objective of the CUS is the provision of flexibility through a variety of combination of approved courses.

Among its advantages are the following:

1. because courses are broken down into modules with examinations given at the end of each semester, the former practice of conducting one



**A cross section of students of Yaba College of Technology, during orientation programme for new students**

comprehensive examination at the end of the session is eliminated.

- ii. students transfer from one institution to another or from one programme to another is more easily facilitated.
- iii. students can progress at their own pace.

#### 7.2.1 DEFINITION OF TERMS

a. A course

Subject offered for a number of honours per week

b. Course Unit

- 1. Course Unit = 1 Lecture hour per week  
= 2 tutorial hours per week  
= 2/3/4 Laboratory/Workshop practice hours per week

A Course carries a minimum of one course unit and a maximum of four course units.

The maximum number of course units a student can offer per semester is 24 and the minimum is 15 for full time students. The corresponding figures are 16 and 10 respectively for part-time students.

c. Core Courses

These are major courses required to be taken and passed by the student majoring in a particular field of study.

d. Compulsory Courses

These are courses required to be taken and passed by all students, e.g. General Studies is a compulsory course.

e. Elective Courses

These are not necessarily directly-relevant to the programme of study, but which a student decides to take. It is observed however that in a good number of the departments, students do not take any elective courses.

f. Optional Courses

These are major courses from which a student can select his specific area of interest.

g. Pre-requisites

Pre-requisite courses are courses which are essential to the understanding of another higher course and which must be passed before the student can take the higher course.

### 7.2.2 COURSE CODE

The code for each course is made up of three alphabets and three digits. e.g. STC 317, BAM 101, EEC 202 etc.

The letters represent the name of the programme, whilst the digits (depending on whether 1st, 2nd or 3rd) represent the level of the programme and also whether 1st or 2nd Semester course.

e.g.	STC	- Science Technology
	BAM	- Business Administration
	EEC	- Electrical Engineering
	PRT	- Printing Technology
	TRP	- Town & Regional Planning etc.

The first digit represents the level of the programme.

e.g.	0	- Certificate/Preliminary/Day Release Courses
	1	- ND 1
	2	- ND 2
	3	- HND 1
	4	- HND 2

The final digit

	i.	if odd represents 1st semester courses
	ii.	if even represents 2nd semester courses
e.g.	ACH 101	- This is a 1st Semester Course for ND 1 in the Department of Architecture
	SES 402	- This is 2nd Semester Course for HND 2 in the Department of Secretarial Studies.

### 7.2.3 GRADING

- i. Grading is done using the 4-points grading system and a student's performance in any semester is recorded as the Grade Point Average

(GPA) which is a function of the Course Units and the Weighted Grade Point (WGP)

The table below gives the letter grades in use and their corresponding percentage Scores and Weighted Grades.

Score %	Letter Grade	Weighted Grade (WGP)
80 and above	A1	4.00
70-79	A2	3.50
60-69	B	3.00
50-59	C	2.50
40-49	D	2.00
30-39	E	1.50
20-29	F	1.00
10-19	G	0.50
0-9	H	0.00

ii. Grade Point Average

A student's GPA in any semester is obtained by dividing his WGP by the total of the Course Units of the courses taken.

Consider the following table which shows a hypothetical case of a second semester performance of an HND 2, Science Technology student who has taken 6 courses

Course Code Point	Course Units Cu	Raw Score %	Letter Grade	WGP	Grade (CU * WGP)
STC 432	2	62	B	3.0	6.0
STC 414	4	57	C	2.5	10.0
STC 422	4	53	C	2.5	10.0
STC 424	2	61	B	3.0	6.0
STC 426	2	72	A2	3.5	7.0
STC 428	4	86	A1	4.0	16.0
					55.0

The grade Point Average (GPA) for this Student and for the semester in question

is given as:

$$\text{GPA} = \frac{\text{GP(Total)}}{\text{CU(Total)}} = \frac{55}{18} = 3.06$$

- iii. **The Cumulative Grade Point Average**  
The Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) is the weighted average of the GPA of all the semesters
- iv. **Absenteeism Grade**  
If a student absent himself from examination, where the student has not officially withdrawn from the course, a score ZERO will be entered for the student in that Course.

### 7.3 Classification of Diplomas

Diplomas and certificate are classified from distinction to ordinary pass according to the CGPA

The following table illustrates:

<b>Score %</b>	<b>CGPA</b>	<b>Grade</b>
70 and above	3.50 and above	Distinction
60-69	3.00-3.49	Upper Credit
50-59	2.50-2.99	Lower Credit
40-49	2.00-2.49	Pass
0-39	Below 2.00	Fail

CGPA below 2.00 constitution a FAILURE

### 7.4 Academic Standing

The following terms are used in determining a students academic standing at various stages of his course

- i. **PROBATION**  
A student is put under probation if at the end of the 2nd Semester, his GPA

fall below 2.00, provide his CGPA is not less than 1.50

ii. **WARNING**

If a student obtain a GPA less than 2.0 at the end of the 1st Semester, such a student would be issued with a LETTER OF WARNING

iii. **CARRY OVER**

In the system under operation there is no provision for RESIST of examinations or REPEAT of a class. In place of these is the Carry Over (CO) facility.

All failed courses (i.e grades E, F, G, & H) are treated as Carry Over provided the conditions under PROBATION is satisfied.

All such Carry-Over courses must be taken at the appropriate Semester; i.e. when such courses are available.

iv. **WITHDRAWAL**

At the end of the 2nd semester, a student with a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of below 1.50 will be asked to withdrawal from the College. "Withdrawal" does not apply after the 1st Semester examinations.



**The Rector, Chief (Mrs) F. A. Odugbesan, the Registrar Mrs. F. F. Taiwo and the Dean student's Affairs, Engr. A. I. Abiodun at the foundation laying ceremony of the New Science & Technology Complex**

## **7.5 Completion of Programme Requirements**

A programme is deemed to have been successfully completed if the following conditions have been met.

- i. CGPA is not less than 2.00
- ii. Project Work has been successfully completed
- iii. Attendance at classes is not less than 75%
- iv. Industrial attachment requirements successfully completed.

Candidate will be entitled to the College Diploma/Certificate if in addition to meeting the above requirements, the candidate has not been found wanting in character.