



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA

# AFS 202



## Introduction to Food Science and Technology **Course Guide**

# AFS 202 (Introduction to Food Science and Technology) Course Guide

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## Working Through This Course

This course involves that you would be required to spend a lot of time to read. The contents of the course are very dense and require you spending great time to study them. This accounts for the great effort put into their development in the attempt to make them very readable and comprehensible. Nevertheless, the effort required of you is still tremendous. I would advise that you avail yourself the opportunity of attending the tutorial sessions where you would have the opportunity of comparing knowledge with your peers.

## Course Materials

You will be provided with the following materials:

- Course guide
- Study Units.

In addition, the course comes with a list of recommended textbooks which though are not compulsory for you to acquire or indeed read but are necessary as supplements to the course material.

## Study Units

The following are the study units contained in this course:

### Module 1

- Unit 1 Principles of Food Science and Technology
- Unit 2 Food and its Functions
- Unit 3 The Role of Vitamins in Nutrition
- Unit 4 The Role of Minerals in Nutrition
- Unit 5 Food Poisoning

### Module 2

- Unit 1 Deterioration and Spoilage of Foods
- Unit 2 Food Contamination and Adulteration
- Unit 3 Food Processing and Preservation Operations I: Temperature Based Processes
- Unit 4 Food Processing and Preservation Operations II: Use of Irradiation and Moisture Reduction
- Unit 5 Food Processing and Preservation Operations III: Use of Additives, Modified Atmosphere and Fermentation

### Module 3

- Unit 1 Composition and Structures of Nigerian/West African Foods
- Unit 2 Processing Traditional Food Products in Nigeria I: Roots, Tubers, Cereals and Legumes

### Unit 3 Processing Traditional Food Products in Nigeria II: Fruits, Vegetables, Milk, Meat and Fish

The first unit under module one discusses the essential disciplines of Food Science and Technology, embracing Food Chemistry, Processing, Quality Control, Engineering, Preservation, Packaging Marketing and Storage.

The second unit introduces food groups, including cereals, legumes, starchy roots and tubers, sugar and preserves, meat, fish and eggs, fats and oils, fruits and vegetables, milk and milk products and beverages. The relationship of these groups to macro and micro nutrients are also discussed.

The third unit concentrates on the micronutrients that are called vitamins. These are divided into two major groups: The fat soluble and the water soluble. Among the fat soluble are vitamins A, D, E and K while the water soluble includes thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, pyridoxine, pantothenic acid, cyanocobalamin, ascorbic acid, biotin, choline and inositol. The vitamins are derived mainly from food sources.

The fourth unit deals with the other group of micro nutrients called minerals. These are divided into two major groups: the major elements and the trace metals. Among the major elements are calcium, phosphorous and magnesium, stored in bones and teeth; sodium and potassium located in the intracellular fluids, controlling the ionic strength of the cellular fluids. The trace metals include iodine, iron, zinc, and fluorine. The deficiencies of these elements and trace metals result in severe growth loss and other specific symptoms.

The fifth unit discusses food poisoning. It identifies various factors responsible for food poisoning, types of organisms involved in food poisoning and the mode of control.

The first unit under module two identifies factors responsible for deterioration and spoilage of foods, namely: chemical, physical and biological factors. The impact of deterioration of foods on its quality and acceptability, as well as its control was reviewed.

The second unit discusses contamination and adulteration of foods. The causes of contamination, namely: bacterial, physical and chemical factors were reviewed. The unit also discusses mode of prevention of contamination in some field produce.

The third to fifth units discuss food processing and preservation operations, namely: I: Temperature Based Processes; II: Use of Irradiation and Moisture Reduction; III: Use of Additives, Modified Atmosphere and Fermentation. These units identify the advantages and disadvantages of each process as well as food items suitable for each procedure.

The first unit under module three concentrates on the structure and composition of major Nigerian/West African food crops, namely: Roots, tubers, cereals, legumes, meat and fish.

The second to fourth units review traditional food processing of various food commodities, namely: Roots, tubers, cereals, legumes, meat and fish in Nigeria. The review highlights the basic operations and problems involved in processing of commodities in each food group

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## Assessment

There are two components of assessments for this course. The Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and the end of course examination.

## Final Examination and Grading

The examination concludes the assessment for the course. It constitutes 70% of the whole course. You will be informed of the time for the examination. It may or not coincide with the University semester examination.

## Summary

This course intends to provide you with some basic knowledge of Food Science Technology dealing with food components and their functions. By the time you complete studying this course, you will be able to answer the following type of questions:

1. Define Food in terms of macro and micro nutrients. Suggest sources for the major macronutrient and micronutrients
2. Discuss the effects of food processing on the nutritive values of cereals and legumes
3. Differentiate between animal fats and vegetable fats. Why are vegetable fats essential in human foods?
4. Compare and contrast the functions of Vitamin A and Vitamin C.
- 5(a) Name two vitamins that are derived only from animal sources.
- (b) Name two vitamins that are available mainly in plants and cereals.
6. Discuss the role of minerals in enzyme activities
7. Classify foods into perishable and non perishable and show characteristics for each group.
8. List the advantages and disadvantages of Food Irradiation.
9. Discuss methods employed in achieving concentration of Moist Foods.
10. Discuss the different methods of food preservation by Freezing.
11. Differentiate between Pasteurization and Sterilization.
12. Enumerate the type of foods usually subjected to each method of Pasteurization and Sterilization.
13. Choose 2 farm produce and explain the techniques for the prevention of contamination during post harvest storage.
14. What are the advantages of Vacuum packaging and gas packaging commonly used in the beverage industries?

We wish you success in this course. In particular, we hope you will be able to appreciate the importance of energy, proteins, fats, the micro elements of vitamins and minerals. Food preservation, processing and packaging ensure the wholesomeness of foods against bacteria, moulds, fungi and other contaminants. Healthy foods are ready for storage, sales and marketing.

We sincerely hope you enjoy the course.

With the Best wishes.