

1ST SEM. 2006/2007

PAGE 1 OF 3

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

PROGRAMME:

BSc. IN HOME ECONOMICS (FRHD OPTION V)

COURSE CODE:

FRHD 502

TITLE OF PAPER:

PUBLIC POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND

IMPLEMENTATION

TIME ALLOWED:

TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTION:

ANSWER ALL THREE (3) QUESTIONS

DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR

PAGE 2 OF 3

QUESTION ONE

a. Clarify and critically comment on the statement that most lengthy debates in the formulation of public policies arise from differences in beliefs rather than differences in values.

(15 Marks)

b. Even when objectives are clear, when resources are available, when the environment is stable, and when there are few clearance points, the process of policy implementation will often alter the intended policy objective. Comment on this statement.

(15 Marks)

c. Fallacy of composition is an important economic concept that must always be in the minds of policy makers in the development of public policies. Describe this concept and give an example of a situation whereby lack of its application would lead to wrong public policy prescription.

(10 Marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a. Public choice theorists have changed the way we look at public policies, in part because they see the world in a way that is sharply different from that of policy analysts in the past.
 - i. What is unique about the public choice view of policy?
 - ii. What are the basic concepts of public choice theory?
 - iii. Cite an example of how the public choice view has (or has not) made an impact on procurement policies of this country.

(10 Marks)

b. Explain how the ambiguity of policy implementation reflects the complex symbiosis between theory and practice.

(10 Marks)

c. It is often mentioned that career civil servants have a far greater impact on policy implementation and alternative generation than agenda setting. Why is it so?

(10 Marks)

PAGE 3 OF 3

QUESTION THREE

Discuss the roles of institutions in the conceptualization of policy as well as the problems encountered with the institutional approach to public policy making.

(10 Marks)

Briefly detail the five stages of the policy cycle and elaborate on the advantages of the cycle.

(10 Marks)

Without the policy cycle, would it be possible to implement public policies effectively? Explain your answer.

(10 Marks)