

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES

MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER: MAY 2010

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE

COURSE CODE: DL026

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS, ONE FROM SECTION A AND THE SECOND IN SECTION B. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS OF FIFTY MARKS EACH

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR ON THE DAY OF THE EXAMINATION

SECTION A:

QUESTION 1

Discuss some of the key terms and or concepts that flow directly or indirectly from the different definitions of politics. To illustrate these, give two definitions of politics that you are convinced best describe politics and encapsulate these concepts.

(50 marks)

QUESTION 2:

There are two fundamentally opposed views regarding why and how the state emerged. These are the Marxist and liberal theories. Discuss the concept of the state according to these theories and explain the role of the state according to the two views.

(50 marks)

QUESTION 3:

Discuss the importance of government in modern society and its functions, using the structures of the three arms of government. Discuss the concept of the separation of powers in the operations of government.

(50 marks)

QUESTION 4:

Discuss the following concepts of social class(es) according to Marx:

- a) Production forces
- b) Means of production
- c) Exploitation
- d) Class consciousness
- e) Ideology

(50 marks)

SECTION 2:

QUESTION 5:

How would you distinguish between power and authority in the political environment? Explain the different types of power and authority.

(50 marks)

QUESTION 6:

Discuss the importance of a constitution and the important elements of a constitution. Whilst these elements are common, there are certain differences between Parliamentary Democracies and Peoples' Democracy. Explain.

(50 marks)

QUESTION 7:

What are the functions of political parties? Discuss the different party systems. Which of these systems apply to Swaziland and why?

(50 marks)

QUESTION 8:

Define political culture. Identify and discuss the factors that shape political culture in society. Which of these factors are more important in Swaziland and why?

(50 marks)