UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

BACHELOR OF ARTS (SOCIAL SCIENCE) YEAR 4

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: MAY 2005

TITLE OF PAPER:

PUBLIC FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

COURSE CODE:

PA 407

TIME ALLOWED:

THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS.

2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS

OF TWENTY FIVE (25) EACH

THIS PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR

QUESTION 1

What do you consider to be the essential or distinctive characteristics and values of the public sector?

QUESTION 2

What is the case for government involvement in the management of the economy? What is generally accepted to be the main functions of government in the economy? Discuss drawing from relevant sources.

QUESTION 3

What do you consider to be the main functions of the budget and the principal goals that governments aim to achieve through it?

QUESTION 4

Distinguish between the principles of Economy, Efficiency and Effectiveness. Assess the significance of these principles in the management of public finances.

QUESTION 5

What is the justification for the distribution function of government? How far may the government go in pursuing distributive goals especially in a market economy?

QUESTION 6

A number of principles of a desirable tax system are described in the literature, but which do you judge most applicable to income tax in your country?

QUESTION 7

Assess the importance, effectiveness and limitations of oversight bodies in the management of public finances. Illustrate your points with examples.