

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES

FINAL EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER: MAY 2009

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE

COURSE CODE: DL 026

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

What is the Marxist conception of social classes? What are the conditions necessary for a revolution to occur and the outcome of that revolution? What does Marx see as the role of the state in the whole process prior to the revolution and after the revolution?

(50 marks)

QUESTION 2

What is the significance of a state? Compare and contrast the main components of the liberal view as against the Marxist view on the origins of the state.

(50 marks)

QUESTION 3

Discuss what you understand by the importance of a government. Outline the major organs of government and then highlight the significance of the doctrine of separation of powers.

(50 marks)

QUESTION 4

There is a distinction between power and authority in the political environment. Explain this and give examples of how power, in all its forms, is exercised in real life political situations taking South Africa and Swaziland as examples.

(50 marks)

SECTION B:

QUESTION 5

What is a constitution and what is its essential role in a society? Discuss the major similarities and differences in the operation of a constitution in a people's democracy versus a parliamentary democracy.

(50 marks)

QUESTION 6

What is the major distinction between political parties and interest groups? What are the different party systems and which party system is best suited to promote democracy and why?

(50 marks)

QUESTION 7

Define political culture and discuss the major determinants of political culture in Swaziland and the most influential agents of political socialization in Swaziland.

(50 marks)