

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
BACHELOR OF ARTS (SOCIAL SCIENCE) YEAR 4
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: APRIL-MAY 2008

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 outstanding characteristics of the public sector that distinguishes it from the other sectors of the economy?

QUESTION 2

What is the justification for the government's involvement in the economy? What is generally accepted to be main functions of government in a market economy? You must draw from relevant sources.

QUESTION 3

A number of principles of a desirable tax system are described in the literature. Which do you judge to be most applicable to income tax in your country?

QUESTION 4

Critically examine the issue of procurement in the public sector with respect to procedures and principles that must be observed.

QUESTION 5

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

QUESTION 6

Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of Line-Item Budgeting. What are the prospects for its reform?

QUESTION 7

Discuss the budget cycle with special reference to Swaziland highlighting the functions of the major role-players in the budgetary process.

QUESTION 8

With reference to corporate governance, discuss the following in relation to public sector organizations:

- Role of Governing Boards
- Internal auditing and external auditing
- Risk
- Conflict of interest
- Ethics