

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
BACHELOR OF ARTS (SOCIAL SCIENCE) YEAR 4**

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: 2009

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 and distinctive values and characteristics of the public sector?

QUESTION 2

What is the theoretical rationale for government's intervention in the operations of the market? What is generally accepted to be the main functions of government in the economy? Discuss drawing from relevant sources.

QUESTION 3

In the 21st century the significance of the budget extends beyond accounting functions and the monitoring and control of expenditure. As the proportion of national income that is controlled at the various levels of government has increased, so has the importance of the budget for the general workings of the economy.

Assess the above statement.

QUESTION 4

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

QUESTION 5

Critically analyse the budget cycle in Swaziland and assess the role of main players.

QUESTION 6

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

QUESTION 7

Musgrave and Musgrave (1987) describe a number of factors that, in general, account for public expenditure growth. Which of these do you consider to be the most crucial in your country?

QUESTION 8

Discuss the procedures and principles associated with procurement in central government. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the procurement system with reference to a country of your choice.