UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, DECEMBER 2018

TITLE OF PAPER

COMPARATIVE POLITICS

COURSE CODE:

POL 303

TIME ALLOWED:

TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

ANSWER TWO (2) QUESTIONS; ONE (1) FROM EACH SECTION

(ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS OF TWENTY FIVE (25) EACH)

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SECTION A

QUESTION 1

Compared to earlier attempts, the political systems approach is regarded as a much more comprehensive method of comparative politics. Do you agree? Support your answer with relevant arguments.

QUESTION 2

The issue of power distribution is critical to the understanding of political systems be they pluralist or corporatist. Discuss.

SECTION B

QUESTION 3

Both the USA and former USSR claimed to be in pursuit of democracy, even though from different ideological perspectives. Critically discuss.

QUESTION 4

"The key feature of the typical Third World state is a paradoxical combination of power and fragility." (Christopher Clapham, 1986). To what extent does the above statement serve to explain the challenges faced by Mexico in the contemporary period?