

Uganda Martyrs University

School of Arts and Social Sciences

Department of Governance, Peace and International Studies

Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and Diplomacy

Year Three: 2023/2024

END OF SEMESTER ONE EXAMINATION

(2023/2024 Intake)

IRD 33105: COMPARATIVE POLITICAL SYSTEM

Date: Tuesday 21st May 2024

Time: 9:30am-12:30pm

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Read the instructions very carefully.
 2. Answer four questions in all; One from section A and any other three from section B
 3. Question 1 is compulsory and carries 40 Marks, and all other questions carry 60 Marks.
 4. Each answer must start on a new page.
 5. Write clearly and neatly. Unreadable work attracts loss of marks.
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Section A

Question one

- a) With relevant examples, differentiate between the state and nation. (05 Marks)
- b) Using relevant examples, explain any five (05) features of democratic, totalitarian and authoritarian systems. (10 Marks)
- c) With relevant examples, explain any two (02) forms of sovereignty. (05 Marks)
- d) With reference to the concept of regional (e.g. EU and AU) integration, explain with relevant examples how the internal and external sovereignty of contemporary states has been challenged. (10 Marks)
- e) Briefly explain any five (05) components of a political system. (10 Marks)

Question two

Imagine you are invited to a conference to present a paper on the ‘state and formation of political party systems’ in post-colonial states of East Africa at Kolping Hotel, Kampala, Uganda. Based on this invitation:

- (a) While using relevant examples, explain the major factors that influenced the formation of political parties in Uganda. (10 Marks)
- (b) While referring to the regimes between 1962-2024, critically examine the challenges that political party politics in Uganda has faced. (10 Marks)

Question three

- a) With relevant examples, explain the formation of any two (02) states of your choice in east African Community. (10 Marks)
- b) With relevant examples, critically examine the colonial factors that have since independence undermined cohesive nation building in the two of the east African countries of your choice. (10 Marks)

Question four

The parliamentary structures and roles of the communist China are seemingly similar to that of Britain but different in roles performed: Based on the claim in the above:

- a) With relevant examples, discuss the functioning, structures, roles of actors in the parliamentary system of the British. (10 Marks)
- b) Using your authority from the study of comparative political systems, explain any five (05) reasons as to why you would prefer the adoption of the parliamentary system of government mentioned in (4a) in your country. (10 Marks)

Question five

The Research Council on Comparative Political Systems at the International Political Science Association (IPSA) in Montreal has invited you to deliver a key note address on ‘the relevancies of comparative studies in politics’. Based on this theme:

- a) With examples, briefly explain why political scientists in international relations and diplomacy compare political systems. (05 Marks)
- b) While referring to comparative challenges in politics, explain how scholars in diplomatic studies and political science compare political systems. (05 Marks)
- c) With relevant scientific examples, discuss any five (05) mechanisms through which scholars of international relations and diplomacy explain and predict events. (10 Marks)

Question six

Imagine the council of Common Wealth Ambassadors invited you to present a key note address on 'the structures of institutions and challenges in post-independent Uganda' (1962-2024). Based on this theme:

- a) Explain the structural evolvement of the administrative system between 1962 and 1995 regimes in Uganda. (10 Marks)
- b) Discuss the constraints that has faced the administrative system between 1962 and 2024 regimes in Uganda. (10 Marks)

Question seven

- a) With relevant examples, explain the differences between the power structures and roles in both parliamentary and presidential systems. (10 Marks)
- b) With relevant examples, explain any five (05) as to why you would opt for the adoption of one of the system of government in (7ab) above. (10 Marks)

Question eight

- a) Using relevant examples from countries around the globe, identify and explain any two types of electoral systems. (05 Marks)
- b) Using your knowledge of comparative political system, explain any five (05) reasons why you would adopt the use of one the electoral system mentioned in (8a) above in your country. (15 Marks)

Good luck.