

Uganda Martyrs University

School of Arts and Social Sciences
Department of Governance, Peace and International Studies
MRPP 3104: Governance and Politics in Public Policy

Final Assessment (Open-book Exam)

Date: Friday 08th/12/2023

Time: 05.00 – 09.00 pm

Venue: UMU Lubaga Campus

Instructions

Answer **ONLY TWO** of the following question-statements. The first question (Q.1) is however **compulsory**! Submit your responses in form of well-argued essays (introduction, body and conclusion), each starting on a fresh page of the answer-sheet:

- Please write legibly;
- Endeavour to back up all your claims with authoritative sources;
- Feel free to consult all resources (including e-resources in audio or audio-visual) within your reach, but in strict observance of silence;
- Any exchange of resources or answer-sheets between examinees is strictly prohibited; doing so will be penalized with summary dismissal from the exam room!

Q.1 In his essay entitled 'Colonial and Postcolonial Global Governance' Himadeep Muppidi postulates in a world with a multiplicity of imaginable globalities, any governance of the global must necessarily involve the politics of difference. The latter, Muppidi (2005, p. 274) notes, can be defined as "the negotiation and regulation of difference at the level of imaginations, social powers, identities, and interests". He further posits two polar models of global governance: colonial and postcolonial. A colonial global governance, according to Muppidi, consists of one in which anti-democratic and authoritarian processes dominate the politics of difference. A postcolonial global governance, by contrast, is one characterized by the predominance of democratic procedures.

Drawing insights from all core readings on the subject of liberal democracy covered in this course, demonstrate the extent to which Muppiddi's critique of 'colonial global governance' meets with and departs from Dennis Masaka's essay titled 'challenge of Western-style democracy in Africa'. Justify all your answers in a well-structured and substantiated essay **[50 marks]**

Q.2 Is popular vote a major political challenge of democratic governance in contemporary Africa? Justify your response drawing insights from the merits and demerits in the arguments put forth in Claude Ake in his

Democracy and Development in Africa (1996), on the one hand, and Kassahun Berhanu's essay titled "Constitutional Engineering and Elections as Sources of Legitimacy in Post-Cold War Africa" (2007), on the other. **[50 marks]**

Q.3 In his commentary titled 'What is governance?' Francis Fukuyama claims that studies of non-democratic countries, since the onset of the third wave of democratization, focus a great deal on issues of authoritarian persistence, but hardly is sufficient attention paid to the institution that accumulates and uses power, namely the state. Respond to Fukuyama's claim, while juxtaposing his overarching argument to the arguments advanced in Lanciné Sylla's essay titled "Succession of the Charismatic Leader: The Gordian Knot of African Politics" (1982), on the one hand, and those in Ernest Wamba-dia-Wamba's essay titled "Africa in Search of a New Mode Politics" (1994), on the other. **[50 marks]**

Q.4 Devolution as a form of decentralised power has been hailed as the remedy to much of the governance problem in contemporary Africa. What is your take? Substantiate your answer drawing insights from Søren Villadsen's essay titled "Decentralisation of Governance" (1996), on the one hand, and from Roberts Muriisa's article titled "Decentralisation in Uganda: Prospects for Improved Service Delivery" (2008), on the other. **[50 marks]**

■ Best wishes