



**FACULTY OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT**  
**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS - APRIL 2025**

**PROGRAMME: BPA**

**YEAR/SEM: YEAR 1/SEMESTER 1**

**COURSE CODE: PAD 1102**

**NAME: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY**

**DATE: 2025-04-14**

**TIME: 9:00AM-12:00PM**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:**

1. Read the instructions very carefully
2. The time allowed for this examination is STRICTLY three hours
3. Read each question carefully before you attempt and allocate your time equally between all the Sections
4. Write clearly and legibly. Illegible handwriting cannot be marked
5. Number the questions you have attempted
6. Use of appropriate workplace examples to illustrate your answers will earn you bonus marks
7. Any examination malpractice detected will lead to automatic disqualification.

**DO NOT WRITE ANYTHING ON THE QUESTION PAPER**

**Section A This section requires all the students to analyze a case study and provide comprehensive responses to the associated questions. The case study will test your ability to apply theoretical knowledge to practical scenarios, critically evaluate information, and propose evidence-based solutions. Carefully read the case study provided, ensuring you understand the context and key issues before answering the questions. Each response should be structured, concise, and supported by relevant concepts, examples, and/or references where applicable. Ensure clarity and coherence in your answers, as this section contributes 40% to your total marks.**

**Question 1:**

**Case Study Two**

**Concepts and Theories in Politics**

This case study explores into the essential concepts and theories of politics, emphasizing their definitions, applications, and contemporary relevance. It examines the intersection of language, ideologies, and theoretical frameworks while exploring the evolving challenges and opportunities political theory faces in the 21st century, including globalization, technological progress, and environmental crises. In an increasingly interconnected world, political decisions profoundly shape societies, highlighting the critical role of politics in fostering governance, equity, and social cohesion. Political theories provide a foundation for understanding and addressing pressing issues such as inequality, conflict, and development. Language serves as a powerful instrument in political discourse, influencing public opinion and mobilizing support. Politicians frequently rely on rhetoric and propaganda to advance their agendas, raising ethical concerns about the boundaries of language use in political campaigns.

The concepts of power, authority, and legitimacy are vital to comprehending political systems, while debates surrounding freedom and equality underpin much of modern policy and ideology. These interconnected ideas play a significant role in shaping governance and societal norms. Political theory provides structured approaches to analyzing governance and social organization. It encompasses normative theories, which explore ideal frameworks ("what ought to be"), and empirical theories, which focus on observable realities ("what is"). Differentiating these categories underscores their practical and philosophical significance.

The contemporary era introduces new challenges for political theory, including globalization, advancements in technology, and environmental sustainability. Political theorists must adapt to these dynamics, redefining core concepts like justice, equality, and governance. Legitimacy remains a pivotal concept in evaluating the authority of governments, particularly during periods of crisis. Global events, such as disputed elections and uprisings, underscore the importance of a nuanced understanding of legitimacy within political systems. Classical thinkers such as Plato and Aristotle laid the groundwork for political thought, while modern theorists address a broader range of issues. Traditions like liberalism and Marxism offer contrasting perspectives on concepts such as freedom and equality, reflecting the evolution of political ideas over time.

Political speeches and the media play a crucial role in shaping ideologies and influencing public opinion. Leaders and movements strategically use language to advance their narratives, often with significant societal consequences. Justice and sovereignty are fundamental to understanding political systems, addressing questions of power distribution and governance both within nations and on a global scale. These concepts remain critical in tackling contemporary challenges, including climate change and

cybersecurity. Emerging global issues, such as artificial intelligence, climate change, and persistent inequality, present unprecedented challenges for political theory. Addressing these complexities requires innovative approaches to maintain the relevance and effectiveness of political thought.

### **Questions**

- 1) Define politics and evaluate its role in addressing contemporary issues such as inequality, conflict, and development in an interconnected world. **[10 MARKS]**
- 2) Analyze the ethical implications of using rhetoric and propaganda in political campaigns, providing recent examples to support your argument. **[5 MARKS]**
- 3) Explain the interplay between power, authority, and legitimacy in political systems, and assess their relevance to governance in times of crisis. **[10 MARKS]**
- 4) Differentiate between normative and empirical political theories, and discuss their contributions to understanding modern political institutions. **[5 MARKS]**
- 5) Discuss how political theory has adapted to address global challenges, such as climate change and technological advancements, in the 21st century. **[10 MARKS]**

[TOTAL 40 MARKS]

**Section B This section comprises a series of structured questions designed to evaluate your comprehension of fundamental concepts and your ability to apply them effectively. You are required to respond to any three questions of your choice, with each question contributing 20% to the total score. Your answers should be well-structured, clearly articulated, and demonstrate a deep understanding of the subject matter. Support your responses with relevant examples, theoretical concepts, and appropriate references. The quality and depth of your responses in this section will collectively account for 60% of the overall marks. Each response should be presented in a short essay format, with a minimum length of 300 words.**

#### **Question 1:**

- A) Identify the challenges political theories face due to technological advancements and globalization. **[10 MARKS]**
- B) Propose solutions for political theorists to address environmental and societal issues effectively. **[10 MARKS]**

#### **Question 2:**

- A) Differentiate between normative and empirical political theories. **[10 MARKS]**
- B) Assess how these frameworks contribute to analyzing societal structures and governance. **[10 MARKS]**

#### **Question 3:**

- A) How do emerging issues like artificial intelligence challenge traditional political theories? **[10 MARKS]**
- B) Propose innovative approaches to ensure political thought remains relevant in addressing global inequalities. **[10 MARKS]**

**Question 4:**

- A) In what ways is language employed as a political tool in campaigns and governance? **[10 MARKS]**
- B) Discuss the ethical implications of using rhetoric and propaganda in political communication. **[10 MARKS]**

**Question 5:**

- A) In what ways is language employed as a political tool in campaigns and governance? **[10 MARKS]**
- B) Discuss the ethical implications of using rhetoric and propaganda in political communication. **[10 MARKS]**

**Question 6:**

- A) Examine the concepts of justice and sovereignty and their importance in political systems. **[10 MARKS]**
- B) How can these concepts address global challenges like climate change and cybersecurity? **[10 MARKS]**