

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE  
BACHELOR OF ARTS (SOCIAL SCIENCE), YEAR 4**

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: MAY 2012**

**TITLE OF PAPER: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION**

**COURSE CODE: PA 406**

**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 IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR HAS  
GRANTED PERMISSION**

### **QUESTION 1**

The popular remedy for centralisation is decentralisation, a term which is imbued with many positive connotations – proximity, relevance, autonomy, participation, accountability and even democracy. Discuss

### **QUESTION 2**

Examine the argument that the experience of decentralisation in less-developed countries has almost everywhere fallen short of expectations and the declared objectives of policy-makers.

### **QUESTION 3**

Explain *why* and *how* the national government, in most countries, exercises a degree of control over local government.

### **QUESTION 4**

Discuss, from an ecological perspective, how local government is shaped by its environment. Illustrate your answer with examples from countries of your own choice.

### **QUESTION 5**

Assess the role and relevance of traditional authorities in the modern governance structures of African states at both the national and local levels. Illustrate your answer with examples.

### **QUESTION 6**

Discuss the features, strengths and weaknesses of the following sources of revenue for local government:

- central grants
- local tax or rates

### **QUESTION 7**

Examine the functions and characteristics of a local government budget.

### **QUESTION 8**

From a historical perspective, discuss the Tinkhundla system of government in the Kingdom of Swaziland and assess its strengths and weaknesses.