



**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEOLOGY, HUMANITIES & EDUCATION**

**NHIR 424: GENDER AND THE STATE**

**END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS**

**NOVEMBER 2025**

**LECTURER: DR K.T. ZENGENI**

**DURATION: 3 HRS**

---

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Answer **THREE [3]** questions in all

---

**Answer Compulsory question in Section A**  
**Answer any Two (2) questions from Section B**

---

Start **each** question on a new page in your answer booklet

---

Credit will be awarded for logical, systematic and neat presentation

---

Write legibly

---



## **SECTION A: COMPULSORY**

### **Question 1**

As the Government Advisor on gender relations, draft a policy position paper on gender relations and women's political representation and decision-making in SADC member states. Your response should focus on women's representation in parliaments, women's representation in political party leadership, and women's representation in top executive positions. **(40 Marks)**

## **SECTION B**

### **Question 2**

How do feminist theories explain the contemporary gender relations and political dynamics in African states? **(30 Marks)**

### **Question 3**

'Electoral systems and quotas/TSMs have a key bearing on the extent of women's political participation' (Africa Barometer, 2024, p. 17). How justified is this **(30 Marks)**

### **Question 4**

Women had enormous political power in their various African societies until the imposition of European colonial rule, when such power was undermined and degraded entirely. Comment on how much political power and control African Women had in the pre-colonial era. **(30 Marks)**

### **Question 5**

Provide an appraisal of historical and institutional conditions that open political space for women's participation in the Government **(30 Marks)**

**The END**