COLLEGE OF BUSINESS, PEACE, LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

NPPG 501: PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS

NPSM 513 PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

NOVEMBER 2021

LECTURER: DR TAWANDA NYIKADZINO

TIME: 5 HOURS

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INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer one question.

2. Start each question on a new page.

3. Each question carries a weight of 100 marks.

4. You have 5 hours to complete and submit your answer to the University Moodle platform.

5. Anti-plagiarism tools will be used to assess your answer for any form of examination misconduct and plagiarised work will be punished in terms of University Regulations.

Question One

The Covid-19 pandemic is a classic example of a public problem that meets Rittel and Webber's (1974) characterisation of 'wicked problems'. Which policy instruments were applied in fighting the pandemic and how effective were they? What are some of the policy implementation lessons learnt during the pandemic and as a Policy Analyst, which strategies would you recommend for dealing with such a problem? Ground your arguments in empiricism.

[100 marks]

Question Two

Anchoring on examples from a policy field you are familiar with, apply the analytical tools of policy paradigm and policy community in explaining policy shifts from the colonial period to date. How useful are these concepts in understanding the world of public policy?

[100 marks]

Question Three

"We are raising the basic questions on where public-policy issues come from. We are concerned with how issues are created and why some controversies or incipient issues come to command the attention and concern of decision makers, while others fail. In other words, we are asking what determines the agenda for political controversy within a community. How is the agenda built (ie. how is an issue placed on it) and who participates in the process of building it?" (Cobb and Elder, 1971:905). You are engaged as a Policy Analyst by a Local Residents and Ratepayers Association in your locality to present a seminar paper addressing the concerns raised in the preceding excerpt. How would you respond? Use appropriate empirical evidence from any policy fields of your choice.

[100 marks]

END OF EXAMINATION

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