



# **MASENO UNIVERSITY**

## **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2017/2018**

### **FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN RESEARCH AND PUBLIC POLICY**

#### **CITY CAMPUS**

#### **DPP 805: SOCIAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OF PUBLIC POLICY**

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2018

Time: 8.00 - 11.00am

---

#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer ANY THREE Questions.



1. Drawing on examples from Kenya and Tanzania, discuss the ways in which public policies have been shaped by:
  - (i) Marxism (10 marks)
  - (ii) Competing epistemologies of positivism and humanism (10 marks)
2. Explain the importance of generating public policy based on multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches as opposed to relying on only one discipline. (10 marks)
3. Examine how the critical turn in social sciences was influenced by the realities in Africa and other global contexts. Use contemporary paradigms of post-positivism, postmodernism and constructionism to illustrate your answer. (20 marks)
4. Discuss the contribution of any **ONE** social science discipline to the public policy process. (20 marks)
5. Explain the contribution of African thought and research to social sciences. Draw examples from the works of Chinua Achebe, Kwame Nkrumah, Kofi Annan, Wangare Mathai, Tom Mboya, Julius Nyerere or any other African scholar to illustrate your answer. (20 marks)
6. Examine how the Western world has shaped public policies in Africa to illustrate the historical and global dimensions of African problems. (20 marks)