

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
MA DEGREE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PUBLIC POLICY 2024/2025



DSP9413-EVOLUTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY IN SRI LANKA  
FINAL EXAMINATION – 2024

**DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS**

**Date: 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**Time: 1.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

- Answer four (04) questions. Each question carries 25 marks.
- Ensure that answers are well structured with an introduction, main argument and conclusion using critical imagination

1. Describe the content of public policy when studying it as an academic discipline.
2. “Public policy refers to the decisions made by the government to address public needs and interests.” Critically discuss this statement.
3. Do anthropologists and sociologists have a role in developing public policies in a given country? Explain your thoughts, citing relevant examples.
4. Critically assess a major theoretical perspective you have studied in the context of this module.
5. Discuss at least four major public policies that existed in Sri Lanka during the pre-colonial period, and justify why such frameworks were maintained by the rulers of that time.
6. The anthropologists and sociologists have more often observed that people participation is missing in public policy formulation. Elucidate this statement through your personal experiences.
7. Discuss the importance of local and foreign organizations and institutions in shaping public policies in Sri Lanka.
8. Write short notes on any **FOUR (04)** of the following themes.
  - a) The economic bankruptcy of Sri Lanka
  - b) The nature of public policy in Sri Lanka during the colonial period.
  - c) Participation of citizens in public policy-formulation in Sri Lanka.
  - d) Weaknesses in public policy formulation in Sri Lanka.
  - e) Key characteristics of public policies in Sri Lanka from 1948 to 1977.
  - f) Contribution of Sri Lankans in designing public policies at the global level.