

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
MA IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PUBLIC POLICY – LEVEL 9
FINAL EXAMINATION 2024/2025
DSP9413 – EVOLUTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY
IN SRI LANKA**



DURATION: THREE HOURS (03 HOURS)

Date: 23/08/2025

Time: 01.30 p.m. - 04.30 p.m.

Answer four (04) Questions only. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Explain what public policy means to you as a student in Development Studies. Refer to the relevant examples in the discussion. (25 marks)
2. What are the factors that contributed to shaping public policy in Sri Lanka during the pre-colonial era? Describe. (25 marks)
3. (a) Make a list of anxieties about their futures that the locals would have had by the time Sri Lanka gained independence. (10 marks)

(b) Discuss two anxieties from the above list with a special focus on how they have contributed to shaping the development strategies from the first government in post-independent Sri Lanka onwards. (15 marks)
4. Explain the factors that compelled Sri Lankans to think about changing Sri Lanka's development strategies from 1977 onwards. (25 marks)
5. Analyze with reference to case studies from Sri Lanka how anthropology and sociology contributed towards evaluating and influencing public policy development. (25 marks)
6. Anthropological and sociological approaches make a distinct contribution in analyzing public policies. State how they differ from other fields like economics or political science in understanding policy development and impacts. (25 marks)
7. Critically assess the impact of international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) on Sri Lanka's rehabilitation and reconstruction policies. Explain with examples how global interventions influenced local policy making and governance structures. (25 marks)
8. While multiple actors are involved in public policy formulation, scholars in anthropology and sociology frequently highlight the lack of grassroots involvement. Reflect on this with examples from your own observations or experiences. (25 marks)