

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES  
BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES - LEVEL III  
FINAL EXAMINATION 2024/2025 (SEMESTER II)  
DSU3542 – POLITICS AND GOVERNANCE: AN INTRODUCTION  
DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS ONLY



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Date: 09.08.2025

Time: 09.30 am – 12.30 pm

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**Instructions:**

- Answer five (05) questions only.
- Read the questions very carefully and use examples where necessary to illustrate your answer.
- Please write in legible handwriting
- All questions carry equal marks (20 marks).

1. Examine the relationship between the state and government.  
(20 Marks)
2. Analyze the challenges faced by democratic governance in multi-ethnic societies.  
(20 Marks)
3. Discuss the concept of political power and analyze its functions in society and governance.  
(20 Marks)
4. Examine the concept of a political community and analyze its application within the context of Sri Lanka.  
(20 Marks)
5. Identify the challenges faced by women in participating in politics and suggest practical measures to improve their political involvement.  
(20 Marks)
6. Discuss some of the challenges faced by Liberal Democratic governments.  
(20 Marks)

P.T.O

7. Make your observations on the definitions of 'Power' by any two of the following philosophers: Antonio Gramsci, Michel Foucault, and Hannah Arendt.

(20 Marks)

8. Compare and contrast the Republican and Liberal traditions of democracy.

(20 Marks)

9. Write short notes on **two (02)** of the following,

- I. Governance
- II. Machiavelli
- III. State and Sovereignty
- IV. Limited Government
- V. Functions of the Government

(10 marks each)

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